

Part 3: Print Media and Genocide

In this lesson, students will be evaluating how print media affected both the Rwandan genocide and The Holocaust.

Print Media in Rwanda

During the 1990's, the most influential print media was the bimonthly newspaper *Kangura*. It adamantly condemned and spouted hatred against the Tutsi people, as well as any Hutu who expressed any need for change. It's most well-known anti Tutsi publication is known as the "Hutu Ten Commandments."

HUTU TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Every Hutu should know that a Tutsi woman, whoever she is, works for the interest of her Tutsi ethnic group. As a result, we shall consider a traitor any Hutu who
 - Marries a Tutsi woman
 - Befriends a Tutsi woman
 - Employs a Tutsi woman as a secretary or a concubine.
2. Every Hutu should know that our Hutu daughters are more suitable and conscientious in their role as woman, wife and mother of the family. Are they not beautiful, good secretaries and more honest?
3. Hutu women, be vigilant and try to bring your husbands, brothers and sons back to reason.
4. Every Hutu should know that ever Tutsi is dishonest in business. His only aim is the supremacy of his ethnic group. As a result, any Hutu who does the following is a traitor:
 - Makes a partnership with Tutsi in business
 - Invests his money or the government's money in a Tutsi enterprise
 - Lends or borrows money from a Tutsi
 - Gives favors to Tutsi in business (obtaining import licenses, bank loans, construction sites, public markets, etc.)
5. All strategic positions, political, administrative, economic, military and security should be only to Hutu.
6. The education sector (school pupils, students, teachers) must be majority Hutu.
7. The Rwandan Armed Forces should be exclusively Hutu. The experience of the October 1990 war has taught us a lesson. No member of the military shall marry a Tutsi.
8. The Hutu should stop having mercy on the Tutsi.
9. The Hutu, wherever they are, must have unity and solidarity and be concerned with the fate of their Hutu brothers.
 - The Hutu inside and outside Rwanda must constantly look for friends and allies for the Hutu cause, starting with their Hutu brothers.
 - They must constantly counteract Tutsi propaganda.
 - The Hutu must be firm and vigilant against their common Tutsi enemy.
10. The Social Revolution of 1959, the Referendum of 1961, and the Hutu ideology, must be taught to every Hutu at every level. Every Hutu must spread this ideology widely. Any Hutu who persecutes his brother Hutu for having read, spread and taught this ideology is a traitor.

Published in Kangura, December 1990
(Kangura: The Hutu Ten Commandments)

Print Media in The Holocaust

In 1940, Joseph Goebbels, the head of the Ministry of Propaganda, began a weekly newspaper called *Das Reich*. He wrote the lead article every week, generally attacking the Jews. Below is an excerpt from an article which was published on December 16, 1941, titled “The Jews are Guilty!” (Full text of the speech is available at www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/goeb1.htm)

Therefore, we must say again and yet again:

1. The Jews are our destruction. They started this war and direct it. They want to destroy the German Reich and our people. This plan must be blocked.
2. There are no distinctions between Jews. Each Jew is a sworn enemy of the German people. If he does not make his hostility plain, it is only from cowardice and slyness, not because he loves us.
3. The Jews are to blame for each German soldier who falls in this war. They have him on their conscience, and must also pay for it.
4. If someone wears the Jewish star, he is an enemy of the people. Anyone who deals with him is the same as a Jew and must be treated accordingly. He earns the contempt of the entire people, for he is a craven coward who leaves them in the lurch to stand by the enemy.
5. The Jews enjoy the protection of our enemies. That is all the proof we need to show how harmful they are for our people.
6. The Jews are the enemy’s agents among us. He who stands by them aids the enemy.
7. The Jews have no right to claim equality with us. If they wish to speak on the streets, in lines outside shops or in public transportation, they should be ignored, not only because they are simply wrong, but because they are Jews who have no right to a voice in the community.
8. If the Jews appeal to your sentimentality, realize that they are hoping for your forgetfulness, and let them know that you see through them and hold them in contempt.
9. A decent enemy will deserve our generosity after we have won. The Jew however is not a decent enemy, though he tries to seem so.
10. The Jews are responsible for the war. The treatment they receive from us is hardly unjust. They have deserved it all.

It is the job of the government to deal with them. No one has the right to act on his own, but each has the duty to support the state's measures against the Jews, to defend them with others, and to avoid being misled by any Jewish tricks.

The security of the state requires that of us all.

Have students review both sets of decrees and complete the following chart.

	Hutu Ten Commandments	“The Jews are Guilty!”
Who is considered the good group of people?		
Who is considered the enemy of the good people?		
What are some specific faults of the enemy?		
What are some things the enemy is trying to do to corrupt the good people?		
What are some specific things the good people need to do to stop the enemy?		
What propaganda techniques are used?		
Do you consider this hate speech? Why or why not?		

Why do you think people followed these guidelines?		
--	--	--