

Lesson 7 **RESCUERS AND NON-JEWISH RESISTANCE**

Part 1. Reflect and Respond

Either in class or as homework, have students reflect and respond to one or more of the topics below or have them develop a topic that has meaning for them based on the material covered in the lesson.

- Think about the people you met in Part 1 of this lesson—Leslie Banos, Arie Van Mansum, and Miep Gies. All of them see themselves as “ordinary” people and yet they all did extraordinary things. How might this be explained? Why do you think some people became rescuers during the Holocaust while most remained bystanders? What moral choices were made by rescuers during the Holocaust and what were the ongoing challenges they faced?
- Think about someone whom you would describe as a hero. Write about this person and identify the reasons why you would call him or her a hero. The person can be a public figure, a historical figure, or someone in your personal life.

Part 3. Reflect and Respond

Either in class or as homework, have students reflect and respond to one or more of the topics below or have them develop a topic that has meaning for them based on the material covered in the lesson.

- Write a letter to someone that you learned about in this lesson. Tell the person what you are thinking and feeling after learning about his/her experiences.
- Reflect on the meaning of the statement from the Talmud, “He who saves one life, it is as though he has preserved the existence of the entire world.”
- Write about a time when you made a conscious decision to help someone in a difficult situation or about a time when someone came forward to help you. Describe the event in detail and tell how you felt during the situation. What were some of the complications or difficulties that you faced? Were there any moral or ethical dilemmas that needed to be addressed? What were your feelings after the situation ended?