

RESISTANCE, AGENCY, AND EMPOWERMENT

Legacy

Standards:

CA CCSS for ELA Literacy: RH.9-10.2 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text.

CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy: RH.11-12.2 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.

CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy: RH.9-10.6 Compare the point of view of two or more authors for how they treated the same or similar topics, including which details they include an emphasis in their respective accounts.

CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy: RH.9-10.9 Compare and contrast treatments of the same topic in several primary and secondary sources.

CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy: WHST.9-10.2 Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.

CA CCSS for ELA/Literacy: WHST.11-12.2 Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.

Lesson Objectives / Student Outcomes

- Students will analyze the long term impact of denial on genocide survivors and descendants.
- Students will analyze the impact of present-day antisemitism to anti-Armenian prejudice.

Materials

- [Resistance, Agency, and Empowerment Unit Slide Deck](#) Day 10
- Article: *FBI Offers \$50K Reward in Arson Fire at Armenian Church in SF*

Differentiation

Have students reflect verbally instead of in written form.

Lesson Plan: 50 minutes

Define and explain what antisemitism is (the hatred of Jewish people) and how it contributed to the Holocaust (most students will have some understanding of these.)

Have students watch the video in the slide deck about anti-semitism (slide 10.) Lead a discussion:

- Why has anti-semitism continued even after the Holocaust?
- Why do people hate others?
- What are ways people may engage in anti-semitism without even realizing it?
- Have you witnessed/experienced anti-semitism? (teachers should use judgment regarding this question as it may be triggering.)

Move on to the next slide, The Holocaust-Aftermath (slide 11). Lead a discussion with students about post-Holocaust Germany. Stress that deNazification was a longer process than what is represented here, but that Germany began making reparations to Holocaust victims within a few years after the war, as required by international agreements .

Examine Slide 12 and compare what happened after the Armenian Genocide with the end of The Holocaust. Have students predict problems that may arise.

Discuss genocide denial using slides 13-15. How is denial a continuation of genocide?

Watch the news clip on slide 16 together and read the article, *FBI Offers \$50K Reward in Arson Fire at Armenian Church in SF*. Discuss how denial has contributed to anti-Armenianism even in the US.

Read the quote from Hitler and Alijev, slides 17 & 18. Ask students to break down and analyze the quotes, checking for understanding and context.

Formative and/or Summative Assessment

Students should write a reflection on the following prompt:

- If Hitler's second quote encourages anti-semitism today, what might Alijev's quote encourage? What is the world's responsibility to this kind of language and to actions that may come from that language?

Glossary:

Diaspora: The part of a national population that has been dispersed from its ancestral home or lands

Nationalism: Loyalty and devotion to a nation, especially a sense of national consciousness exalting one nation above all others and placing primary emphasis on promotion of its culture and interests as opposed to those of other nations or supranational groups.



FBI Offers \$50K Reward in Arson Fire at Armenian Church in SF

By Bay City News • Published December 18, 2020 • Updated on December 18, 2020 at 1:00 pm

FBI officials in San Francisco are asking for the public's help to solve an arson fire that badly damaged an Armenian Church -- offering a \$50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the arsonist.



St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church was set on fire in September. (Dec. 18, 2020)

The early morning fire on Sept. 17 at St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church at 51 Commonwealth Ave. caused extensive damage to the church's office, library and Sunday school, among other facilities.

Despite the damage, no was injured.

The fire drew outrage from members of the city's Armenian community and District Attorney Chesa Boudin, who called the act "cowardly" and "hateful."

"This act of violence was not just an attack on a building, but on a congregation. This was an attack on a community," FBI Special Agent in

Charge Craig Fair said in a statement. "We are counting on members of the community to keep our city safe. Every lead will be thoroughly investigated." Separately from the arson, investigators are also looking into two vandalism incidents that have occurred at an Armenian school.

In July, suspects were seen on surveillance video breaking into the Krouzian-Zekarian-Vasbouragan Armenian School at 825 Brotherhood Way and vandalizing its walls with graffiti that conveyed anti-Armenian messages. Then, just four days after the Sept. 17 arson, officers found a sign outside the school was riddled with bullet holes. No one was injured in the shooting, police said.

No suspects have been arrested in the two school-related incidents, but the FBI is also asking witnesses or anyone with information on those cases to come forward as well.

Police have classified the arson and the two incidents at the school as hate crimes.

Anyone with information is being asked to contact the FBI's San Francisco Division at (415) 553-7400 or at <https://tips.fbi.gov> or the San Francisco Police Department's anonymous tip line at (415) 575-444 or to text TIP411 with "SFPD" at the start of the message.

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