

The HOLOCAUST in The SOVIET UNION



ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM
& EDUCATION CENTER

Activity: Resistance Through Music

GRADE LEVEL: 7th-12th Grade

SUBJECT: Multidisciplinary

SUGGESTED TIME: 45 minutes

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

How can music be a tool for resisting oppression?

RESOURCES: [Holocaust in the Soviet Union Educator Resources](#)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Explain that one form of resistance is through music. Ask students if they know of any resistance/protest songs, and consider if/why the use of music is an effective form of resistance.
2. Share the lyrics [Zog Nit Keyn Mol](#), The Jewish Partisan's Song, and listen to a recording of the song.
3. Analyze the lyrics, asking students:
 - a. What is the overall message of the song?
 - b. What imagery is used?
 - c. How does that help convey the message(s) of the song?
 - d. What is the mood or tone of the song?
 - e. Why do you think it was written?
 - f. For whom was this song written?
 - g. What do you think this song meant to those who heard/sung it?
4. Ask students to think about something that they are passionate about and would like to fight for.
5. Ask them to write their own version of The Jewish Partisan Song.