Key Concept:

WHH: 10.8.5 Analyze the Nazi policy of pursuing racial purity, especially against the European Jews; its transformation into the Final Solution; and the Holocaust that resulted in the murder of 6,000, 000 million Jews.

APWH: 6.2, III, C Global Conflicts & their consequences, the proliferation of conflicts led to various forms of *ethnic violence* and the *displacement of peoples resulting in refuge populations*.

Big Picture Questions:

What factors account for the Nazis gross indifference to life?

What kind of general support for the extermination of the Jews does Himmler speech suggest?

Objective: To understand and explain the unforgivable, Genocide.

Steps:

1. Read the Introduction and briefly explain the point of this exercise in analyzing documents.
2. Read the Understanding the Documents section.
3. Next tell the students they will be writing down examples for each of the strategies in everyday life. Model the first example, Denial, so they understand the exercise.
4. For each strategy, ask the students to write the strategy then cite an example of either something they have witnessed another person do or experienced themselves. Ask for volunteers to share or call upon people. Once it gets rolling kids usually like disclosing their examples since this is real personal.
5. Follow directions 3 – 5.
6. Assessment: Ask students to imagine they are living in occupied France 1943 and have a very close friend who is Jewish. Somehow they were able to read a copy of Himmler’s speech. Instruct them to write a letter on the back side of the worksheet to their Jewish friend warning them of the danger that looms for the Jewish population of France and suggest a course of action to avoid the danger.