

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Around the World	2
Upcoming Events and Book Clubs	3
Global News Briefs	3
A Survivor Speaks	4
Advocacy Initiatives	4
Summer Institutes	5
Give a World Gift	6

ABOUT WORLD WITHOUT GENOCIDE

World Without Genocide works to protect innocent people around the world; prevent genocide by combating racism and prejudice; advocate for the prosecution of perpetrators; and remember those whose lives and cultures have been destroyed by genocide.

We envision a future in which genocide and other mass atrocities, perpetrated against innocent people based solely on who they are, will disappear from the earth.

World Without Genocide is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

TENTS OF WITNESS RECEIVES \$15,000 GRANT

Tents of Witness : Genocide and Conflict is a multi-media, intergenerational, interactive exhibit about the causes and consequences of genocide. The exhibit was recently awarded \$15,000 from the Minnesota Idea Open foundation to bring the show to colleges and universities, faith communities, and other organizations throughout the region.

The exhibit, ten 8' x 12' tents that resemble those used in some refugee camps, represents genocides -including the Holocaust, Cambodia, Argentina, Bosnia, Rwanda, Darfur, Sri Lanka, North Korea, Congo, and Native Americans. The tent interiors have photos and text describing the communities prior to the violence; the conflict; and challenges faced by survivors. The exteriors highlight the cultures of each community.

The exhibit includes activities to raise awareness about child soldiers; children as victims of genocide; legislation to keep innocent people safe; and ways to memorialize those whose lives and cultures have been affected by genocide.

People with personal connections to the conflicts created the exhibit. Photographer **Sylvia Horwitz** was the lead artist on the Argentina tent. On a recent trip to Argentina, she says, "I encountered activist women who have been part of weekly protest marches on Plaza de Mayo for 30 years. They are the mothers of children who were made to disappear during the military dictatorship from 1976-83. I was moved and inspired by the Madres and wanted to make a visual record of what I was experiencing." Her subsequent photo exhibit, "**DESAPARECIDOS: Mothers of the Disappeared,**" will appear at William Mitchell College of Law from April-June 2013. This connection inspired her to design the Argentina tent.

Renee Schwartz, art student at the St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists, designed the



Volunteers preparing the Cambodian tent.

Holocaust tent. She studied the Holocaust in eighth grade and told her parents, "I need to see Dachau." They traveled to Germany on the next school vacation. Renee took extensive photographs at Dachau and subsequently held an exhibit at her church. She participated in World Without Genocide's summer institute for high school students in 2011 and 2012.

Cambodian refugees and activists, pictured above with Brigitte Norby, World associate, prepared the beautiful exterior designs on the Cambodian tent. Sophie Muta from Congo, Elmira Lilac and Dragana Vidovic from Bosnia, and many others from Minnesota's richly-diverse immigrant and refugee communities shared their time, talents, and stories to create the exhibit.

The exhibit production was funded by grants from Rimon: The Minnesota Jewish Arts Council, St. Joan of Arc Church, the Minnesota Interfaith Darfur Coalition, the Laura Jane Musser Family Foundation, Minnesota Campus Compact, and Friends of World Without Genocide.

To bring *Tents of Witness* to your location, contact admin@worldwithoutgenocide.org or 651-695-7621. The exhibit is free while funds are available.

AROUND THE WORLD: FROM THE DIRECTOR



Marriage, Blood, Juries – and Sexual Orientation

Ellen J. Kennedy,
Ph.D.

The Third Reich, the German regime that perpetrated the Holocaust, passed laws that deprived Jews of all of their rights and freedoms. The first of these 'Nuremberg Laws,' passed in 1935, stated that marriages between Jews and "subjects of the state of German or related blood are forbidden."

It's shocking that the very first law to restrict Jews' rights had to do with marriage. More than a decade later, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, passed by the United Nations in 1948, stated that marriage is a human right. "Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution" (Article 16.1). The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1976, also tells us that marriage is a basic human right.

It is critical to note that these international documents **do not specify that marriage is restricted to one man and one woman**. If marriage is restricted, that action becomes a slippery slope down which other limitations can follow – limitations that cast a shadow back to that first Nuremberg law that mandated imprisonment for Jews who married non-Jews.

If marriage becomes restricted, what else might follow, or what else, indeed, already exists? In the United States, there are two examples of restrictions based on sexual orientation that are particularly unjust.

There is often a shortage in the supply of blood available for transfusions. Yet men who have sex with men have not been allowed to donate blood since 1977. This

prohibition exists despite the fact that the American Red Cross, the American Association of Blood Banks, and America's Blood Centers told the FDA in 2006 that "that the current lifetime deferral for men who have had sex with other men is medically and scientifically unwarranted." This "indefinite deferral" was upheld in June 2010 by the Department of Health and Human Services in direct opposition to the policy change urged by the Red Cross and others. This restriction appears to exist only to further institutionalize discrimination against gay men.

Discrimination based on identity issues is a problem in our legal system as well. Women historically were banned from serving on juries in many states until laws changed in the twentieth century. Blacks were excluded until 1986, when finally the case *Batson v. Kentucky* banned excluding people from a jury on the basis of race. However, it is legal in the US today (except in California as of 2000 and Oregon, 2007) to strike members of the LGBT community from juries, even though it is illegal to discriminate on the basis of other identity variables of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, economic status, or disability.

We are concerned about this slippery slope – excluding people from marriage, donating blood, and serving on juries based on their sexual orientation. What might be next?

We encourage Minnesotans to vote 'no' to the upcoming Constitutional amendment in November defining marriage as only between one man and one woman. Join us also in advocating that the Department of Health and Human Services eliminate the 'indefinite deferral' for gay men as blood donors. And finally, please support Senator Scott Dibble and other Minnesotans in making it against the law to exclude LGBT people from juries.

GLOBAL NEWS BRIEFS

United Nations appoints new Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide

Adama Dieng of Senegal has been appointed the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. Dieng, who is currently the Registrar of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), will replace Francis Deng of Sudan, who has occupied the post since 2007. Dieng has a distinguished career in contributing to the strengthening of rule of law, fighting impunity and promoting judicial and democratic institutions.

International Criminal Court

The ICC, a permanent world tribunal to adjudicate individuals accused of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, has celebrated its 14th birthday.

The first verdict was announced in spring 2012 at the ICC's headquarters in The Hague, Netherlands; a 14-year prison sentence was given to Thomas Lubanga Dyilo for the recruitment and use of child soldiers in the Congo.

The ICC is currently investigating situations in Cote d'Ivoire, Libya, Kenya, Darfur, Uganda, Central African Republic, and Congo. Preliminary examinations are being conducted in conflicts in Afghanistan, Georgia, Guinea, Colombia, Honduras, Korea, Nigeria, and Mali.

The United States has not yet ratified participation in the ICC, although 121 nations of the world have done so.

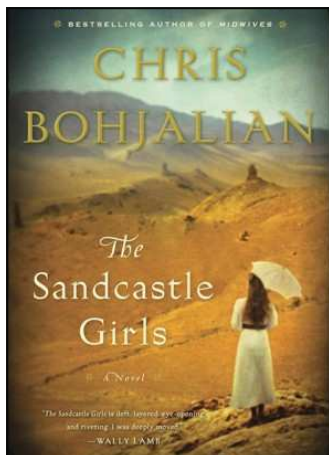
Rwanda and Congo

In July 2012 the UN condemned all aid to the M23 rebel movement in eastern Congo and holds Rwanda complicit for some of the violence. Rwanda denies any support to M23, which has recently forced 200,000 civilians from their homes. In response to the UN's concerns, the US State Department announced on July 21 that it would cut \$200,000 of military funding to Rwanda, which, though a small amount, signals a direct response to Rwanda's alleged support of DRC rebels.

READING FOR A WORLD WITHOUT GENOCIDE

World Without Genocide has organized book clubs in the Twin Cities. Members read books that correspond with our programs; genres include history, fiction, analysis, and memoir. Participation is free and open to the public (over age 16, please). No reservations are necessary; join the conversations!

All are held at William Mitchell College of Law from 7-8:30 pm.



September-December, 2012

Thurs, Sept. 20: *The Sandcastle Girls*, by Chris Bohjalian
(fiction, the Armenian genocide)

Mon, Oct. 15: *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, by Mary Ann Schaffer and Annie Barrows
(novel, World War II)

Tues, Nov. 13: *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea*, by Barbara Demick
(nonfiction, North Korea)

Wed, Dec. 12: *Strength in What Remains: A Journey of Remembrance and Forgiveness*, by Tracy Kidder
(nonfiction, genocide and conflict in Rwanda and Burundi)

UPCOMING EVENTS

September

Film, "Imaginary Witness: Hollywood and the Holocaust"
Documentary about films' impact on perceptions of the Holocaust
Monday, September 24, 7-9:00 pm

October

Film, "From Swastika to Jim Crow: Refugee Scholars at Black Colleges"
Documentary on German refugees from the Holocaust who taught at historically black colleges
Wednesday, October 10, 7-9:30 pm

Film, "Not My Life" and speaker
Documentary about sex trafficking
Wednesday, October 24, 7-9:00 pm
Co-sponsored with the United Nations Association of Minnesota

November

Film excerpts, "The Ritchie Boys" and remarks by 'Ritchie Boy' Dr. Guy Stern
World War II and the Holocaust
Tuesday, November 13, TBA

***Symposium, "Genocide in North Korea"**
Thursday, November 15, 7-9:00 pm

Film, "Inside North Korea"
Documentary on life in North Korea
Wednesday, November 28, 7-9:00 pm

December

Film, "Long Night's Journey into Day" and Speaker
Documentary about South African truth and reconciliation
Tuesday, December 11, 7-9:00 pm

Exhibit, "Tents of Witness: Genocide and Conflict"
Ongoing in cities throughout the Upper Midwest

All events are held at William Mitchell College of Law, 875 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, unless noted.

*** Please register in advance to attend the asterisked events. All other events are free to attend and do not require pre-registration. Please see our website for further details.**

CLE, CEU, and PLP credits are available for many events; check the website.

INTERNSHIPS

Sixteen law students completed internships at World Without Genocide this past year. Projects included the following:

- ◆ The book ***Genocide and the Law: Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Darfur***
- ◆ Talk and website materials on the current genocide of the Hmong in Laos
- ◆ Conference on LGBT issues
- ◆ Symposium, clinic, and programs on preventing violence against women locally and globally
- ◆ Programs to raise support for the International Criminal Court
- ◆ Research on human trafficking in Minnesota
- ◆ Designation of April as Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month
- ◆ The Conflict-Free Campus Initiative to combat violence in Congo

Opportunities in the 2012-2013 academic year will support World's major advocacy areas. Law students from the four area law schools (William Mitchell, Hamline, St. Thomas, and the University of Minnesota) are eligible for these positions.

Internships for students in areas other than law are occasionally available. Please visit the website for more information.

A SURVIVOR SPEAKS



Elmira Lilic

My name is Elmira Lilic. I was born in Sarajevo, Bosnia in 1987. When I was five years old, my family and I escaped from Sarajevo because of the Bosnian War, which lasted from 1992-95. We left behind our family members, our home, important assets, and much more that can never be fully reclaimed. Those who stayed endured daily bombardments, killings, systematic rape, and starvation.

My family and others who left Bosnia as refugees faced the hardships of immigration and, most importantly, the inability to help our loved ones who remained behind. I have lived with my family first in Slovenia, then in Germany, and finally we

came to Minnesota in 1998. Our Bosnian community in Minnesota is growing every year. We have a Bosnian supermarket in Fridley and completed the renovation of a mosque in northeast Minneapolis. The Bosnian community of Minnesota is very caring, strong and successfully adapting to a new way of life, language, and culture.

I began volunteering with World Without Genocide during the "Tents of Witness" project. Although I did this to acquire a better understanding of the Bosnian War, what came out of this project was more than I expected. I realized that much of our pain and suffering as survivors is shared with the victims from the Holocaust, Rwanda, Cambodia, Darfur, and all the other atrocities. Because of this experience, I plan to become a psychologist and work with victims of genocide and other atrocities.

REFLECTIONS FROM WORLD TRIPS

The 'Resource Curse' in Guatemala

By Rachel Beecroft, Program and Operations Coordinator

In July, Executive Director Ellen Kennedy and I went to Guatemala to explore issues relating to the 1980-1982 genocide and the problem of resource exploitation today. Guatemala's rich natural resources, primarily gold and silver, combined with an inexpensive labor force, make it a desirable location for mining companies such as Canada's Goldcorp, Inc.

Guatemala's indigenous people accuse outside mining companies of ignoring local interests in pursuit of corporate profits, destroying the social fabric of communities, and leaving hundreds of acres of land uninhabitable and local water sources contaminated.

Exploitation of the minerals under the land is not a problem unique to Guatemala. Resource extraction in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular, has created similar devastating effects on people and the environment, with more than six million people killed in conflicts over land and resources since 1996. The Enough Project in Washington, D.C. has developed the Conflict-Free Initiative to raise awareness about 'conflict minerals,' especially those used in small electronics. Similar to the 'blood diamonds' Kimberly process that certifies diamond purchases are made through socially-fair practices, The Enough Project has a list of companies with conflict-free supply chains. Before you purchase your next phone or computer, check our website and purchase only from those companies that are not complicit in ruining communities, lives, and the environment.

ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

"Knowledge is not power. Knowledge plus action equals power," says Mark Hanis, founder of the Genocide Intervention Network. Join us in the following action programs, and check the advocacy section of the website for details.



The Red Hands Project. There are more than 300,000 child soldiers in 30 countries around the world, boys and girls who are used as front-line soldiers, land-mine sweepers, sex slaves, and military support. People around the world are making 'red hands,' imprints of their hands, and sending these handprints to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon with letters urging greater global action to prevent the use of child soldiers and to prosecute the perpetrators.

Conflict-Free Initiative. More than 6,000,000 people have died in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since 1996 in horrific violence. The fighting is about 'conflict minerals,' tin, tungsten, gold, and coltan found in all of our small electronics. The Conflict-Free Initiative, designed by The Enough Project, rates electronics companies on the extent to which they buy minerals that are 'conflict-free' or whether they contribute to the violence through purchasing 'conflict minerals.' Schools and cities are asked to review their buying practices and to purchase only from those companies that are 'clear-sourcing' their own mineral purchases. We hope many Minnesota cities and schools will join the city of Edina, Minnesota in supporting the 'conflict-free' project.

Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month. Minnesota's legislature passed a resolution in 2011 designating April as Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month. Join us in advocating for a bill in the 2013 legislative session to make this designation permanent.

SUMMER INSTITUTES



Summer Institute for Educators and Leaders

Our first summer program for educators and leaders was held on June 20-21 at William Mitchell College of Law. Educators included teachers from six area middle and high schools and a pastor who teaches courses about the Holocaust at area colleges. Participants heard from Fred Amram, Holocaust survivor and emeritus professor at the University of Minnesota; human rights experts from the American Refugee Committee, Center for Victims of Torture, and the Human Rights Center at the University of Minnesota; and people who have taught in genocide education for many years. Participants viewed films, discussed 'best practices' in teaching these challenging topics, received extensive materials for classroom use, and developed advocacy programs for their schools and communities.

Participants were able to register for three graduate credits through World's partnership with the College of Education at the University of Minnesota. This credit program will continue in the fall and again next summer.

CERTIFICATE FROM GOVERNOR DAYTON

Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton issued a Certificate of Commendation to World Without Genocide for raising awareness about genocide and for our actions that help protect innocent people, prevent genocide, support prosecution of those who are guilty, and remember those whose lives and cultures have been affected by genocide. Kathryn Godziek, William Mitchell College of Law alum and World associate and Dr. Ellen Kennedy, Executive Director, were presented with the certificate at the State Capitol, St. Paul.



Second Annual Institute for High School Students

World Without Genocide offers the only program in the region that builds the next generation of human rights advocates – high school students. Last year our participating teens from ten area high schools went on to do remarkable things. Katie Bowden received an award for an anti-bullying program she developed; Avalon Levey spent the summer in Kosovo studying post-conflict development; Isaac Marshall attended the Special Court for Sierra Leone at The Hague, Netherlands and heard the verdict against Charles Taylor; and more.

Students returning from the 2011 program joined us for a special half-day session before the 2012 Institute. They then mentored the new students for the next three days.

This year's program focused on children in genocide - refugees, soldiers, victims, orphans, and 'upstanders' – young people who acted with great bravery in the face of grave danger. Students heard from Holocaust and genocide survivors; learned about young resisters during the Holocaust; and investigated the situation for children in Darfur and Rwanda. Participants learned songs of resistance from Jevon Bindman, Mitchell law student and a former music teacher; they watched documentaries about genocide; and they shared their own 'Enough Moments,' the time in their lives when they knew they had to stand up for justice. Special guest speaker John Bagwell from The Enough Project in Washington, D.C. gave an update on the crises in Sudan, South Sudan, and Congo.

Many organizations and individuals support this important program; we especially thank Delta Kappa Gamma, our newest sponsor.

World Without Genocide at William Mitchell College of Law
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www.worldwithoutgenocide.org



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- Senator Sandra Pappas** (Minnesota Senator)
- Ex Officio:**
Brad Lehrman (Soffer Charbonnet Law Group, pro bono legal counsel)

GENOCIDE AND THE LAW: CAMBODIA, BOSNIA, RWANDA, AND DARFUR

Four law students, two from William Mitchell and two from the University of St. Thomas, have written chapters in an outstanding book that explores four genocides (Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Darfur) – the causes and consequences of the conflicts, the legal tribunals established to prosecute the perpetrators, and the significance of the subsequent court cases in advancing human rights and genocide prevention.

Brianna Kranz and Dan Schmitt (William Mitchell) and Bridget Finn and Amanda Mortwedt (St. Thomas) each had significant experiences in this field. Brianna and Amanda both worked at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, the United Nations tribunal established to prosecute the perpetrators of the Cambodian genocide from 1975-1979. Bridget was very involved in raising awareness about the Darfur genocide as an undergraduate, and Dan served in Bosnia in the National Guard.

The book, edited by Dr. Ellen Kennedy, Rachel Beecroft, and Chelsea Matson of World Without Genocide, can be used in high school, college and law classrooms, and by the general public. Copies can be ordered for \$10 apiece; contact admin@worldwithoutgenocide.org or 651-695-7621.

SUPPORT WORLD WITHOUT GENOCIDE



Give a Gift from World

World Without Genocide raises awareness and supports our work through various items that can start a conversation, inspire us to action, or honor those among us who have lost their lives, families, or cultures to genocide.

Gifts can be ordered by sending a check with your return address to World Without Genocide at William Mitchell College of Law, 875 Summit Avenue St. Paul, MN 55105. We also have gifts available for purchase at our events throughout the year.

Items:

- Mugs** - \$10
- T-Shirts** - \$15
- “Children of Genocide: Five Who Survived” DVD** - \$10
- 2013 Upstanders Calendar**- \$15

Give a Gift to World

World Without Genocide depends on your support to continue educating about global atrocities, advocating for the prosecution of perpetrators, and protecting innocent civilians.

World is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit corporation. All contributions are tax-deductible. To donate, please visit our website or mail a check to World Without Genocide at William Mitchell College of Law, 875 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105.