

The Wiener Library - Educational Workshops (last updated 2015)

Each of these workshops:

- is designed to take approximately two hours to deliver
- makes use of primary source material from the Library's collections
- works best with groups between 8 and 15 in number
- is aimed at students over 14 years of age with some prior subject knowledge

The above points are supposed to act as guidelines only as the Library is able to be flexible to your needs in most cases. If what you require falls outside of these guidelines please contact us as we may be able to adapt or signpost you to another provider.

Workshop 1 - Propaganda and Genocide

The Wiener Library has a varied and extensive collection of propaganda from the Nazi era, including rare original books, games and posters. This workshop looks the role that propaganda played within families during the Nazi era, particularly focusing on propaganda targeted at young people. In the course of the workshop students will discuss the concepts of propaganda and genocide in a group discussion. Through engaging with primary source material they will gain an understanding of different types of propaganda, the importance of propaganda as an element of modern genocides, and consider the specific characteristics of Nazi antisemitic propaganda.

Workshop 2 - The Jewish Refugee Experience

The Wiener Library's collections include a large range of material which documents the experiences of Jewish refugees arriving in Britain after fleeing from Nazi Germany. This workshop considers the nature of the refugee experience, with a focus on the experience of women who came to work in domestic service, and men who came to Britain after being release from Nazi concentration camps. They will engage with primary source material such as the pamphlet *The Mistress and the Maid*, which provided guidelines to refugees who were given visas as domestic servants, and *The Kitchener Camp Review*, which documented the cultural life of the refugee camp in Sandwich, Kent, which housed thousands of former concentration camp prisoners. Students will gain an understanding of the challenges, tragedies and personal triumphs of the Jewish refugee experience, and also of the contribution of Jewish refugees to British society and culture.

Workshop 3 - Resistance and Rescue

The Library's collections are well-suited to grappling with the question of why a small minority chose either to resist the Nazi regime or to rescue others, and Jews in particular, from harm. In addition to exploring the motives behind these actions this workshop asks what, if anything, these people had in common. While several different types of rescue and resistance will be examined, the workshop looks especially at the Kindertransport as a case study of a large-scale rescue effort involving large numbers of people. Primary sources examined include camouflaged anti-Nazi pamphlets and index-cards matching child refugees to host families. Students gain an understanding of the diversity of rescuers and rescue efforts, learn the risks involved in resisting and rescuing others, and consider why most people did not respond to the rise of Nazism by becoming resisters and rescuers.