## Lernen aus der Geschichte e.V. http://www.lernen-aus-der-geschichte.de

# Der folgende Text ist auf dem Webportal http://www.lernen-aus-der-geschichte.de veröffentlicht.

Das mehrsprachige Webportal publiziert fortlaufend Informationen zur historischpolitischen Bildung in Schulen, Gedenkstätten und anderen Einrichtungen zur Geschichte des 20. Jahrhunderts. Schwerpunkte bilden der Nationalsozialismus, der Zweite Weltkrieg sowie die Folgegeschichte in den Ländern Europas bis zu den politischen Umbrüchen 1989.

Dabei nimmt es Bildungsangebote in den Fokus, die einen Gegenwartsbezug der Geschichte herausstellen und bietet einen Erfahrungsaustausch über historischpolitische Bildung in Europa an.

### Project Evaluation from the Perspective of the Students Involved

Statements of students written in preparation of the exhibition as an answer to the question what they thought about the project and whether they would recommend other classes to do something similar.

#### Stefan

I think it is very important that other classes go to Auschwitz, too. I still think of the things I saw and heard there. The things that happened there were very terrible. I think it was very good that Israel went there with us. The things that happened at Auschwitz must never happen again anywhere in the world. I commemorate the people who were murdered at Auschwitz.

#### Sascha

Our preparation was very good, but many things become only really clear if you see them in reality. It was good for us, but also for Mr. Loewenstein, for he could see that we are interested in the past. I think other classes should also get interested and make such a trip. For many still do not know how it was then, how terrible it was for the Jews and what they had to go through. After all, the Jews were also Germans who abided by the law. I think differently about Jews now. The trip was good for us, and maybe some people have changed now and think for a while before they talk.

#### Franziska:

I recommend other classes to make such a trip because all the pictures and films can't describe things as if you see them with your own eyes when you are there. For me it was a very emotional trip and I cried a lot because Israel's story has touched me deeply. The whole thing about the past has touched me because I can't understand how human beings can do such things to other human beings just because they think they are inferior.

I was impressed by Israel because he went with our class to the place where his friends died. That was very brave of him. We could always ask Israel whatever we wanted, he would always give us an answer. I always enjoyed speaking with him because he is such a nice person. When we were not at the Memorial but at the Youth Encounter Centre or in Krakow, the trip was really funny. We could do many things, play ping pong or meet in our nice rooms and talk... It was a very beautiful, but also very sad trip. I think other classes should also go to Poland and visit Auschwitz because they don't know what happened there. The guided tour of the Memorial at the concentration camp was very interesting. We could look at everything and ask questions. I learned a lot during our days at Auschwitz. I am astonished that Mr Loewenstein did all these things with us.

#### René

I found the entire project very good because it was very interesting and we finally got to see the reality and not just films that play things down. What impressed me most was Israel.

#### Kathi

I would say that other classes should also organise such a trip because what we saw there was simply terrifying. Many people should do such study trips so that it could never occur to them to repeat the things that happened then. The trip was very interesting and we learned a lot.

#### Lucie

I found the trip very good, even if there were a lot of sad moments. The tour through the Auschwitz museum was very shocking, what they did to the people, robbing their things, shaving off all their hair, tattooing numbers into their arms. Israel got number 104983, and he had to be able to say it in German and Polish.

At the museum, we could see some of the things that were found there after the liberation: dentures, shoes, spectacles, baby clothes, household equipment and items of practical use. In one of the shacks we saw pictures which had been taken when people were committed to the camp. Under each picture there was the name of the person, the date of committal and the death date. There were pictures of young and old men and women, some of them lived and worked for several years, others only a few days.

I think the trip was worth while and it is worth while going there in any case.

#### Danny

I found it interesting to see everything. Other classes should also go and see to get a picture of what happened then. What has been done to the Jews must never happen again. Jews are normal people like me and you. I think that the trip has been completely enlightening.