

Center for Teaching for Social
Justice

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WEB GUIDE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE SITES

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Our goal in developing a web guide for social justice is to have an inquiry-based approach to social justice sites available on the Internet. The web has clearly become, in the last 5 years, a key access point for information and communication on a myriad of issues. We are not just interested in compiling a list of sites that teachers can use when engaging their students in a study of social justice issues but in developing a rationale and logic that gives meaning to the use of relevant Internet sites. The Internet is a tool but not a neutral one. It is one that requires an underlying approach that is often not made visible to its users. We want to make the approach to the logic of the Internet visible, while establishing a methodology that will make the process more vital for teachers and students.

We begin this process by constructing a chart that will show what we have uncovered on the Internet thus far, how we analyze what we have found, and further questions that result from our beginning data. If we view Internet sites as data, it allows us to analyze them according to thematic approaches that we will develop through the course of this work. Instead of giving you a finished product to mirror, we are taking you

along on this journey of inquiry so that the logic of each step that we take will be steps that you take as well.

What is interesting to note as we proceed, is that the choice of words that are used for the search engine, impact the kinds of sites that unfold. This gives us a first clue to the underlying logic of the web. We are not just dealing with a technological method of collecting data but an epistemological one as well. The organization of sites appears to depend upon the underlying meaning of the words chosen in the search. As we look at the process of the search in a reflective and interactive way, we will be able to see how our approach to the web and the internal meaning of the web interrelate.

INQUIRY PROCESS CHART

WHAT I DID	WHAT I FOUND	PROBLEMS	WHAT I LEARNED
Search using words “social justice”	There are 1,559,985 web sites	Too many sites to look at	Need to narrow down the search
Search using words “social justice in education.”	There are 4,763,210 web sites in this category	The number of sites increased instead of decreased.	Need to try some other word configurations to narrow the search
Search using the words	There are	We’re back to	Keep trying

<p>“tolerance and social justice.”</p>	<p>1,603,780 web sites</p>	<p>the number of sites we had at beginning</p>	<p>different word patterns to focus search</p>
<p>Search using “tolerance and social justice in education.”</p>	<p>There are 4,745,095 sites</p>	<p>Expanded back to larger number of sites</p>	<p>Need to take different approach to words written in search engine and use of that search engine</p>
<p>Search using “social+justice+education”</p>	<p>Yahoo search results were 48 sites</p>	<p>Certainly narrowed down the number of sites but are they the ones we want?</p>	<p>Breakdown of words in search into components focused search but appeared to alter the meaning of site results- eg.lots of criminal justice sites.</p>

Search using “social+justice+education”	AltaVista search results were 66,345 sites	Wonder why there are so many more sites with this search engine.	Need to learn more about the difference between search engines. Here too found lots of criminal justice and religious sites.
Search using social+justice+education	Google search results were 854,000 sites	Largest number of sites of three search engines using same category words	Need to learn about different search engines and the use of category words broken into component parts

The next step in this process was to go in a very different direction. It seemed more fruitful and expedient to reach our goal by going to several excellent sites and examining their links. We know about these sites from several sources: someone we are working with at SHOAH suggested “March of the Living” site; a book entitled “Brave New Schools” recommended a site called “ I*EARN Holocaust/Genocide Project”; and I found several good ones by browsing through the first 200 or so sites under

“social+justice”. This led to the following list, which is by no means comprehensive but does offer a very good place to start. Teachers, students, and others interested in issues about the holocaust and social justice would be able to find both helpful information and interactive sites to work with from this list. It also includes sites created by students themselves that is interesting to explore. There are a couple that focus on oral histories from survivors done on a much smaller scale than SHOAH but in a similar vein. The focus on Holocaust sites was the result of a collaborative project with the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation. Although these sites focus on this particular period of history and events, the suggestions for working with students and addressing issues of terrorism and genocide can serve as a model for addressing other genocides and issues of terrorism.

The following list represents a composite sense or overview sites that are s available through the Internet that are interactive, involve actions by participants, and that address the subject in a respectful and responsible way.

Selected Sites

1. <http://www.divesityweb.org> Diversity Web from University of Maryland. Links about 200 Colleges and Universities that address various diversity issues, including diversity courses.
2. <http://www.edjustice.org> An educational justice site based in San Francisco. Has forums, community dialogues, resources, and curriculum for educators concerned with equity, culture, and institutional racism.
3. <http://hills.ccsf.cc.ca.us/~tolerant/> Lessons in Tolerance. A collaborative web resource for teachers interested in “nurturing” tolerance. Has a student forum, resources for students and teachers, and a newsletter called, “Student Express” which publishes ideas and dialogue about tolerance.
- 4.
5. <http://www.people.memphis.edu/~genocide> Genocide Research Project. Has an annotated list of genocide-related web sites, including on-line bibliographies.
6. <http://www.facing.org/facing/fhaoz.nsf> Facing History and Ourselves. A rich resource that also includes an interactive tour.
7. <http://www.iearn.org/hgp> I*EARN’s Holocaust Genocide Project. Part of the International Education and Resource Network that has participating schools in 13 countries involving students from 12 to 17 years old and their teachers. An

- interactive web forum with a student magazine called, “An End To Intolerance” and excellent links to organizations and memorials, like the Anne Frank House and the El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center.
8. <http://www.bonder.com/march.html> March of the Living site. A very rich resource. You can take their virtual tour and find numerous links to other sites. Some examples of linked sites are: Holocaust Learning Links with a Cybrary on the Holocaust; Massuah, an Institute for the Study of the Holocaust; Nizkor Project which fights neo-Nazism on the web; and the Holocaust History Project, which responds to holocaust denial groups.
 9. <http://www.h-nef.msu.edu/~holoweb/> Holocaust Publications Reviews and Discussion Group. Enables Holocaust scholars to communicate with each other and provides research and teaching aids.
 10. <http://www.idot.aol.com/judy/causes/cosh.html> Resources for Children of Holocaust Survivors. This site has good links and references about “living with the legacy.”
 11. <http://www.webcom.com/penina/holocst/html> Holocaust Journey. A small group of Jews and Germans in 1985 (7 adults and four children) traveled to Germany and Poland to Holocaust sites. Written by a member of that group. A continuing journal.

12. <http://www.homepages.muenchen.org/bm374879/holocaust> Shoah-Projekt. A site in German that has many links, information on the concentration camp at Dachau, and resources on “White Rose” resistance group. Included here to give an example of a German site.
13. <http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/Holocaust/> Teachers Guide to Holocaust. An overview of people and events, student activities, teacher resources, and links.
14. <http://www.euronet.nl/users/jubo/holocaust.html> Books and Websites about the Holocaust for Young Adults. A joint project of a Chicago librarian and her colleague in Holland.
15. <http://www.Holocaust-trc.org> Holocaust Teacher Resource Center. Sponsored by the Holocaust Education Foundation, Inc. based in Newport News, VA. Has lesson plans, including videos, annotated videographies, and corporate sponsors.
16. <http://www.english.upenn.edu/~afilreis/Holocaust/holhome.html> Literature of the Holocaust. Has articles, news, testimonies, and links. Interesting example of ninth graders who visited the Holocaust Museum and created web sites.
17. <http://home.earthlink.net/~realvegas/holomain.html> Not to Be Forgotten-A Holocaust Page. Elisa Haugh is 12 years old and created this powerful web page.

18. <http://library.thinkquest.org/> The Holocaust: Humanity's Darkest Hour. Three students created this web site that is part of the ThinkQuest Library. They were asked to create this site using the Internet as a collaborative and interactive tool. Has links to other student created ThinkQuest sites.
19. <http://www.jew.shgen.org/databases/brest.html> Brest Ghetto Passport Archive. Part of the Phoenix project to computerize data on the Holocaust from the former Soviet Union. Can search their large database.
20. <http://holocaust.umd.umich.edu/> Holocaust Survivor Oral History Project based in the University of Michigan, Dearborn. A history professor, Sid Bolkosky, interviewed 150 survivors resulting in 330 hours of audio and 60 hours of video. Can access from the catalog of the Mardigian Library, the largest international catalog. Site has some interview segments.
21. [http://www.charm.net%7Erbennet/l'chaim.html](http://www.charm.net%7Erbennet/l%27chaim.html) L'Chaim-A Holocaust Web Project. This site includes photo essays, Holocaust survivor's stories, a virtual tour of Dachau, links, a glossary and many sites.
22. <http://www.geocities.com/Paris/5121> The Patrin Web Journal - Gypsy Culture and History. Very interesting site to learn about the Romani Gypsy culture.

23. <http://flock.mwci.net/%7Eedsdanzig/> Reach and Teach. A site where Holocaust survivors, their children and educators reach out to educate youth. Thus far they are working with 50 schools and 9,000 students and would like to add to that list. The founder is Ed Behrendt.
24. <http://www.bitlink.com/%7Eersl/responses/virtualauschwitz.html> Virtual Auschwitz-Exploration of a Death Camp. Run by the University of Virginia, this site gives a very realistic picture of Auschwitz.
25. <http://infotrue.com> International Association of Lesbian and Gay Children of Holocaust Survivors. The group that maintains this site has several hundred members in nine countries and has been in existence for over eight years.
26. <http://www.ushmm.org/index.html> US Holocaust Museum. This site has many teaching ideas to integrate Holocaust studies into curriculum.