

Facing History and Ourselves has equipped middle and high school educators in Canada with teaching strategies and professional development since 1981, opening an office in 2008. As communities across Canada become increasingly diverse, educators are asking for tools to promote empathy, respect, and create a safe classroom environment that encourages conversations about difficult issues.



Teaching the Holocaust in Contemporary Classrooms

"Facing History provides the real-world context that is often glossed over. It increases one's access to the world while improving a students' ability to learn."

—TRENT DICKSON
FACING HISTORY STUDENT ALUMNUS



Facing History provides 3,230 Canadian educators with our programs and services.



The Canadian office has trained teachers representing 238 schools.



An estimated 183,700 students are reached by these educators each year.

For 40 years, Facing History's core resource, *Holocaust and Human Behavior*, has provided educators with the content and tools to teach about the Holocaust and its relationship to the present. After more than five years of scholarly research, digital infrastructure building, and multimedia content production, there is a new interactive edition of *Holocaust and Human Behavior* available online, to accompany the release of the hard copy edition in the spring of 2017. The resource contains a vast array of new scholarship, primary source material, and a wealth of images, videos, and audio never before compiled in a single resource on the Holocaust.

Newly Revised: *Holocaust and Human Behavior*

New information and insights about key features of the history from recent scholarship. Topics revised in light of new scholarship include the Eastern Front, Weimar Republic era (1919-1933), the role of women, and the role of protest in Nazi Germany.

There are more testimonies including from ordinary Germans at the time that illustrate the many everyday choices people made.

Revised emphasis on the role of ideology, propaganda, and conformity as factors behind the rise of the Nazi regime, World War II, and the Holocaust. The choices individuals made during the rise of the Nazi regime become more complex, and less black-and-white for students.

Updated and recent examples of individuals and groups who have chosen to speak out or take action to make a difference in the world. Their stories encourage students to think about the ways they can participate as caring, thoughtful citizens in the world.

Educators Across Canada Teaching the History of Indian Residential Schools

For just over a year, Facing History's educator resource, *Stolen Lives: The Indigenous Peoples of Canada and the Indian Residential Schools (Stolen Lives)* has been in the hands of educators. In classrooms across Canada, it is inspiring young people to work towards reconciliation.

Educators have turned to us determined to weave Indigenous history and the voices of Indigenous Peoples into their teaching. However, many feel ill-equipped to do so having had limited exposure to the Indigenous perspective or the history of the Indian Residential Schools in their own schooling.

Using *Stolen Lives* and Facing History teaching strategies, one educator, Kristen, changed her students' negative perceptions of Indigenous Peoples. She identified the Indigenous voices and testimonies in the resource as being particularly significant in helping her students engage honestly with this painful era in Canadian history.

After learning about the impact of the Indian Residential Schools on Indigenous communities, several students in Kristen's class petitioned their Member of Parliament for change using the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's *Calls to Action*. The students got over 250 signatures and received an invitation from their MP to discuss their petition.

Through classrooms of students learning about the Indian Residential Schools, the hope is that young people will be telling their children a different story about Indigenous Peoples.

Facing History and Ourselves reaches over 4.8 million students worldwide every year through our network of 48,000 teachers. Our mission is to create future generations of engaged, informed, and responsible decision-makers. When faced with injustice, misinformation, and bigotry, they will stand up to work for justice and equality. Using the lessons of history – and history in the making – Facing History equips teachers with tools to help students think critically and wrestle with difficult issues.

We can't do it without you. Here's how you can get involved.

Make a gift online at
give.facinghistory.org/give-canada
or by mail:

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Charitable Registration Number: 821814019
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Introduce us to a teacher
or school

Host a Facing History
Learning Session in your
home or workplace

Our Impact

- Students display less racist attitudes, more empathy, and improved critical thinking
- Educators experience higher job satisfaction and show increased confidence in their teaching
- Schools foster more inclusive, engaged and respectful learning communities

97% of Canadian Facing History teachers agreed that Facing History helped their students become aware of their own civic responsibilities.

94% of Facing History students were more likely than other students to be motivated to learn.

81% of students agreed that Facing History increased their capacity to recognize racism, antisemitism, and other forms of bigotry.

Learn more about our impact at:
facinghistory.org/impact



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