

Online Module: Transitional Justice - Reconstructing Self and Society

***Name of organisation:* Facing History and Ourselves**

Excerpt from the website overview:

More than thirty years ago, Facing History and Ourselves classrooms first began examining the case study of the rise of the Nazis and the horror of the Holocaust. Using our resource book *Holocaust and Human Behavior* as a guide, students explored such topics as conformity, obedience, resistance, propaganda, perpetrators and bystander behavior. The discussions were rich as students reflected on the range of choices individuals had made during that period in history, and then looked at themselves and the choices they were making in their own lives. But after studying this history, students still had questions--essential ones about justice and judgment: "Who is responsible? What happens to people who do these terrible things? What happens to people who do nothing?"

In response to these questions, we first created resources on the Nuremberg trials following the Holocaust; the first time in history that "crimes against humanity" were being tried in a court of law. But events in the world and our students' questions inspired us to look deeper and wider. Years later we began to explore the work of truth commissions as we studied post-apartheid South Africa. We looked at reconciliation initiatives, reparations and remembering. More questions emerged: "How can a society rebuild after such a horrific history?" And ultimately, "how can we prevent these atrocities from happening again?" This website is an attempt to address these questions as we further examine issues of justice and judgment.