



Holocaust Memorial Video Streaming Collection Film Guide

Movie: Gisi

Time: 1 hour 1 minute

In Slovak & Hebrew w/English subtitles

Theme: Perseverance and Selflessness

Summary: This film depicts the story of **Gisi Fleishmann** who worked tirelessly to stop the transports of Jews in Slovakia. She formed a “Working Group” who sent letters to leaders and Jews all over the world to ask for their assistance in stopping the transports by sending money to buy their freedom. Her account is told through a theater ensemble putting together the play of her story interweaving her letters along with insights of historians and some of her living relatives as they search for traces in her hometown of Bratislava.

Summary Questions:

1. What was the historical building they visited in the film?
2. How many Jewish children did Gizi want to save when she started out?
3. What are Gizi’s aunt and her children trying to find?
4. Where did Gizi send her two daughters?
5. What was the name of the group she created?
6. What were Gizi’s letters requesting?
7. What was the only way to get the transports to stop?
8. How much money did “Willy” want to save European Jews?
9. What were “Willy’s” instructions by the Nazis regarding negotiating with the Working Group?
10. What document did Gizi request several days before her arrest?
11. What did the R.U. next to Gizi’s name mean when she would reach Auschwitz?

Reflective Questions:

1. What was the Nazi propaganda which led thousands of Jews to be transported?
2. What was “Willy’s” intention while he was negotiating with Gizi?
3. Why did dissident members of the Jewish Council meet in Gizi’s office?
4. Explain how Gizi utilized the letters that she wrote?
5. Describe some of the challenges that the ensemble group faced while rehearsing the play.
6. How does the actress feel about portraying Gizi?
7. Notwithstanding the bribery, what were the actual reasons the deportations stopped?
8. After the first set of deportations from Slovakia ceased, what became Gizi’s “big plan?”
9. What did Gizi believe the Argentinian passport would do for her?
10. Describe your impressions of the final dance scene of the movie.



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STANDARDS:

Middle School

Subject: Social Studies

Strand: *SS.6.W: World History*

Standard 1: *SS.6.W.1 – Utilize historical inquiry skills and analytical processes.*

Benchmark: *SS.6.W.1.6 Describe how history transmits culture and heritage and provides models of human character.*

High School

Subject: Social Studies

Strand: *SS.012.G: Geography*

Standard 2: *SS.,912.G.2 Understand physical and cultural characteristics of places.*

Benchmark: *SS.912.G.2.1 Identify the physical characteristics and the human characteristics that define and differentiate regions.*

Strand: *SS.912.W: World History*

Standard 7: *SS.912.W.7 Recognize significant causes, events, figures, and consequences of the Great War period and the impact on worldwide balance of power.*

Benchmark: *SS.912.W.7.5 Describe the rise of authoritarian governments in the Soviet Union, Italy, German and Spain, and analyze the policies and main ideas of Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin, Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler and Francisco Franco.*

Strand: *SS.912.S: Sociology*

Standard 4: *SS.912.S.4 Social Groups/Explore the impacts of social groups on individual and group behavior.*

Benchmark: *SS.912.S.4.11 Discuss how humans interact in a variety of social settings.*

Standard 5: *SS.912.S.5 : Social Institutions/Identify the effects of social institutions on individual and group behavior.*

Benchmark: *SS.912.S.5.1 Identify basic social institutions and explain their impact on individuals, groups and organizations within society and how they transmit the values of society.*

Standard 6: *SS.912.S.6: Social Change/Examine the changing nature of society.*

Benchmark: *SS.912.S.6.2 Examine various social influences that can lead to immediate and long-term changes.*

Standard 9: *SS.912.P.9: Sociocultural Context Domain/Social Interactions*

Benchmark: *SS.912.P.9.4 Describe the power of the situation.*

Benchmark: *SS.912.P.9.7 Discuss how an individual can influence group behavior.*



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