

## *The Power of Children: Making a Difference*

### Glossary

**Advocate**—A person who speaks on behalf of others or their interests or works for a cause.

**AIDS Memorial Quilt (NAMES Project Memorial Quilt)**—The quilt officially started in 1987 in San Francisco as a way for people to honor, celebrate, and memorialize those who died from AIDS. It is an enormous quilt weighting approximately 54 tons and consists of more than 48,000 individual memorial panels for over 94,000 people.

**Allies**—National alliances, typically associated by a treaty, that provide friendly assistance to one another. Countries that were united against Germany and its allies during World War I and against the Axis powers—Germany, Italy, and Japan—during World War II.

**Annex**—An addition to or extension of a main building.

**Anti-Semitism**—A hatred or dislike of Jews.

**Assumptions**—Ideas taken for granted as being true, even if they may be false.

**Axis Alliance**—National alliances between Germany, Italy, and Japan during World War II who were interested in territorial expansion and foundation of empires based on military conquest and the overthrow of the post-World War I international order and the destruction or neutralization of Soviet Communism.

**Bill of Rights**—The Bill of Rights is the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

**Brown v. Board of Education**—This was a United States Supreme Court Case in which five families from Kansas, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Virginia, and South Carolina disputed the claim that segregated schools could be made equal. The case disputed the earlier ruling in 1896 (*Plessy v. Ferguson*) of “separate but equal.” The families argued that separate schools for black and white students were not equal to each other and that they could never be equal. The families’ chief lawyer Thurgood Marshall said that separating people made them feel inferior.

**Bystander**—A spectator of an event rather than a participant.

**Call-up notice**—A government order to report to the police.

**Citizen**—A member of society with rights in and responsibilities to it, such as political participation and obeying the law.

**Civic Action/Engagement**—These are individual and collective actions designed to address issues of public concern and making a difference in a community to improve the quality of life.

**Civil rights**—Equal treatment of all people with respect to personal rights guaranteed and protected by the U.S. Constitution, such as freedom of speech and freedom from discrimination.

**Civil Rights Act of 1964**—This piece of legislation was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson July 2, 1964, and banned segregation in public places and made discrimination against race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in the workplace illegal. The bill was originally called for by President John F. Kennedy in 1963.

**Civil Rights Movement**—The Civil Rights Movement encompasses various social movements in the United States and was led by several individuals between 1954–68 whose goals were to end racial segregation and discrimination against black Americans.

**Civil War**—The American Civil War was fought 1861–65 between the Confederate States of America (the eleven states that declared their secession from the United States and that are collectively known as the South) and the Union or North—the states remaining in the United States of America. The issue of slavery was the primary point of the conflict—primarily the northern states’ anti-slavery efforts to block southern states from expanding slavery into western territories.

**Concentration camp**—These were the “work camps” Hitler and his collaborators sent Jews to, which in actuality were prisons and extermination camps. Prisoners at these camps were kept in close quarters, concentrated together. The Nazis sent Jews, political opponents, and other innocent people they believed to be inferior to concentration camps where many died.

**Constitution**—A written document establishing the fundamental rules and principles by which an organization is governed such as the U.S. Constitution, which establishes the powers and duties of the government as well as the rights and responsibilities of the citizens.

**D-Day**—June 6, 1944 was the day the Allied Forces, which included American, Canadian, British, and Polish soldiers invaded Normandy, in France during World War II to try to capture Europe from the Nazis.

**Democracy**—Government by the people or by their elected representatives, with policies decided by majority vote.

**Deportation**—This is the forced exile of people from their homeland. The transportation of the Jews from Nazi occupied countries to concentration camps illustrates deportation.

**Dictatorship**—A government by one person with absolute power not restricted by laws or a constitution is known as a dictatorship.

**Diary**—A written account of daily life that describes the experiences of the author.

**Discrimination**—The unfair treatment of a person or a group based on prejudice.

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929–68)**—King was an American pastor, activist, humanitarian, and a leader of the Civil Rights Movement. He is known for his use of nonviolent disobedience based on his Christian beliefs. He organized and led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, protests in Birmingham, Alabama, and the 1963 March on Washington. He was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968.

**Empathy**—The feeling that you understand and share another’s experiences and emotions; to “walk in someone else’s shoes.”

**Factor 8**—Factor 8 (sometimes referred to as Factor VIII) is a protein that helps clot blood—hemophiliacs are unable to produce this protein themselves. In the 1980s some Factor VIII blood products were contaminated with the HIV virus.

**Genocide**—The systematic murder of an entire racial, national, or religious group.

**Great Depression**—From 1930 to the middle 1940s a severe worldwide economic depression happened. In some countries, the negative effects of the Great Depression lasted until after the end of World War II. High unemployment, the stock market crash of 1929, and other hardships characterized this period.

**Hemophilia**—A genetic illness that is passed from mother to son that results in an impairment of the body’s ability to stop bleeding or clot blood.

**Adolf Hitler (1889–1945)**—The leader of the Nazi Party who rose to power on a platform of anti-Communism, anti-Semitism, and nationalism following Germany’s defeat in World War I.

**Hitler Youth**—This was the Nazi Party’s young person’s organization that served as a paramilitary group and indoctrinated young Germans with Nazi racist propaganda.

**HIV/AIDS**—Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome is the most advanced stage of Human Immunodeficiency Virus, a virus that replicates within cells and disables the cells’ defense against infection. Children with HIV/AIDS are particularly vulnerable to illness from otherwise harmless or rare infections. HIV/AIDS is transmitted only through contact with other infected human body fluids: blood, saliva, etc.

**Holocaust**—A term from the Greek word *holos* plus the Greek word *kaustos*, meaning completely burned by sacrificial fire. The Holocaust became the name for the systematic persecution and murder of approximately six million Jews by the Nazis during World War II.

**Genocide**—The systematic murder of an entire racial, national, or religious group.

**Immune system**—A complex network of organs, tissues, specialized cells, and cell products, such as antibodies, that work together to protect the body from potentially infectious diseases.

**Jew**—Someone whose religion is Judaism, who is descended from Jewish people or who participates in the culture surrounding Judaism.

**Jim Crow**—This term reflects a series of rigid anti-black laws, beliefs, and a way of life in the segregated racial South based on racist assumption that whites were superior to blacks. This set of beliefs kept blacks separate and unequal in status from whites—they couldn’t eat in the same place, use the same drinking fountain, school, ride in the front of a car or bus etc.

**Little Rock Nine**—The Little Rock Nine were nine African American students enrolled in Little Rock’s Central High School in 1957 who were involved with desegregating Central High. The governor of Arkansas called the Arkansas National Guard to block their entrance to school in 1957 in defiance of the federal order to desegregate. President Eisenhower sent a U.S. Army division to escort the students to school for the entire school year.

**March on Washington**—This was one of the largest human rights rallies in the United States and took place in August of 1963 in Washington D.C. The rally was for economic

and civil rights for African Americans and was organized by religious, civil rights, and labor organizations under the theme of jobs and freedom. Dr. Martin Luther King spoke at the rally on the Mall in Washington.

**Myth**—A story that is often popularly believed but is not supported by facts.

**NAACP**—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is an organization that has sought equal rights for all men and women since 1909. The mission of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination. The NAACP was instrumental in lobbying for integration and passage of the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1964, and 1968.

**NSDAP (National Socialist German Worker’s Party)**—This acronym is commonly known as the Nazi Party and it emerged from post World War I Germany. The Nazis sought to exterminate people they considered degenerate that included Jews, homosexuals, blacks, gypsies, physically and mentally handicapped individuals and any political opponents (Communists and Social Democrats) to the Nazi party.

**Parliament**—A type of legislature, such as in the United Kingdom, made up of elected or appointment citizens who vote on laws for an entire country.

**Persecution**—The persistent mistreatment of a person or group of people based on race, religion, or politics.

**Power of Children Awards**—These awards were created in 2005 by The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis to align with the museum’s mission and in relation to the *Power of Children* exhibition. The awards recognize youth grades six through eleven that make significant contributions and create important projects to benefit others through public service and demonstrated social responsibility. The awardees receive a \$2000 grant to continue their work, and a four-year post-secondary scholarship to a participating institution of higher learning.

**Prejudice**—An unfair feeling or bias that prevents objective consideration of an issue or person; a pre-judgment or dislike made without benefit of knowing all the facts often based on issues of gender, religion, or race.

**Promise**—A pledge or commitment to do or not do a particular thing in the future.

**Propaganda**—Persuasive but not necessarily factual information spread for the purpose of promoting a specific idea or cause.

**Racism**—A belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and abilities; Racial discrimination and prejudice.

**Rights**—The benefits of participation and security guaranteed to a citizen in a group or society.

**Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act**—Congress passed a bill in 1990 which helps people with AIDS pay their medical bills and President Obama reauthorized the bill in 2009 (now known as the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program).

**SS**—This acronym stands for Hitler’s Special Squadron (*Schutzstaffel* in German) who were the large security organization for the Nazi Party. The SS enforced the law.

**Scapegoat**—A person who is unfairly blamed for something that others have done.

**School Integration**—In 1954, the Supreme Court overturned the 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson ruling of “separate but equal.” The 1954 Brown v. Board of Education court case declared that separate schools are inherently unequal and that schools must desegregate.

**Segregation**—The practice of keeping people of different races, religions, etc. separate from each other.

**Sharecropping**—This was a farming system that began in the South after the Civil War ended and lasted in the United States until the 1950s. Sharecroppers rented land from a landowner, and as a payment, the landowner would receive a share of the crop.

**Social responsibility**—This is an ethical framework that suggests individuals or organizations have a duty to be concerned with issues or act on behalf of society at large.

**Stereotype**—A stereotype is an unfair belief based on a particular characteristic; that all people or things are the same etc.

**Swastika**—This is an ancient symbol in the form of a cross with the end of the arms bent at right angles in the same direction that has been used for over three thousand years in many cultures. The name came from Sanskrit meaning “good” and represented power, life, the sun, and good luck. In Germany in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, various groups incorporated the swastika but the Nazi Party integrated it into its flag and it became their official emblem which changed its connotation—as it was then associated with hate, anti-Semitism, death, and murder.

**Synagogue**—A Jewish house of worship or congregation.

**World War II**—The Second World War (1939–45) was composed of two opposing military alliances the Allies (an anti-German coalition) and the Axis (Germany, Japan, and Italy).