



**BIRMINGHAM
HOLOCAUST
EDUCATION
CENTER**

Keeping the History
and Lessons of the
Holocaust Alive

Debriefing Your Visit

FACILITATING DIALOGUE

Students might have different emotional reactions to the content they encounter. It is important to create an environment where students feel comfortable expressing their ideas, thoughts and emotions. When facilitating dialogue, keep in mind to:

- Ask your students to define the ground rules for open and respectful dialogue.
- Apply the ‘talking stick’ technique, which requires that only the person holding the stick (or any item chosen) can have the floor until the stick is passed on to the next person who wants to share.
- Encourage students to share their opinions using “I” statements.
- Allow students to discover meaning through open-ended questions such as “What happened?”, “Why?”, and “What do you think about it?” to promote varied and individual responses.
- Provide opportunities for both private (journaling) and public (group-sharing) reflection.

DEBRIEFING YOUR VISIT

The Birmingham Holocaust Education Center challenges students to connect the learning experience with their everyday lives. The following prompts may be used to help students process their responses to the information, their emotions and their questions following their experience:

- The one word that best expresses my reaction to the exhibit is...
- A part of the exhibit that really affected me was...
- What surprised me most about the exhibit was...
- On a personal level, I pledge to fight prejudice and hate by...
- I can make a positive difference in my world by...