ACCESS THE FEATURE

www.unsilence.org/i-saw-everything

SUMMARY

*I Saw Everything* and *Remembering Together* are photography exhibits that shed light on stories of Roma Holocaust survivors and their recent struggle for reparations.

AUDIENCES

*I Saw Everything* and *Remembering Together* are recommended for ages 15 and up. The feature is suitable for students and the general public.

TIMING

*I Saw Everything* takes approximately 6 minutes to complete. *Remembering Together* takes approximately 4 minutes to complete. If discussion is integrated within the experiences, more time will be needed.
**CONTENT OVERVIEW**

**I Saw Everything**
In the photography exhibit *I Saw Everything*, we come face-to-face with Roma Holocaust survivors living in Romania at the turn of the 21st Century. We read fragments of their testimonies as they remember their experiences, including in the camps run by the Romanian authority in alliance with the Nazi regime. And we learn about their struggle for recognition and reparations.

**Remembering Together**
In the photography exhibit *Remembering Together*, Dr. Michelle Kelso, an American sociologist and filmmaker, introduces us to her unique approach for collecting Roma survivor testimonies.

**Themes & Topics**
Roma Holocaust experiences; Concentration camps; Reparations; Denial of victimhood; Sexual violence; Cannibalism; Community memory; Intergenerational memory; Testimony; Silencing; Grief and loss; Survival and resilience

**Connections to Today**
While *I Saw Everything* and *Remembering Together* are centered around Holocaust history, analysis of the story can lead to conversations about the ongoing oppression of people who are Roma, reparations for survivors of atrocity, and taboos and difficult topics in genocide studies.
**ACTIVITY IDEAS**

*Suitable for in-person and distance learning*

**Read-Aloud Experience**
*I Saw Everything* and *Remembering Together* can be implemented as a group read-aloud activity where each 'chapter' serves as a natural moment for discussion.

**Pairs & Small Groups**
*I Saw Everything* and *Remembering Together* can be completed in pairs or small groups, or given as a homework assignment for students to work on with their families. *I Saw Everything* and *Remembering Together* can be completed alone, but we recommend learners work with others, to encourage conversations.

**Writing Assignments**
To support engagement with content, students can reflect on their experiences of reading *I Saw Everything* and *Remembering Together* through written reflections and reports.

**Creative Assignment**
To support creativity and critical thinking, ask students to design a memorial to honor the survivors' testimonies.
GUIDING QUESTIONS

**Photographs**

In each photograph, what do you see?

What do you notice immediately?

Keep looking. What details of each photograph do you notice after a second look? What do you notice in the foreground? In the background?

What story does each photograph tell?

**Captions**

How does each photograph help us understand the extended written caption, including testimonies, below it?

What do the extended captions tell us about the experiences of Roma during the Holocaust?

What is surprising about the testimonies and quotations?

**Recognition & Reparations**

Why did Romanian authorities deny reparations to Roma Holocaust survivors?

Why are Roma Holocaust survivors so often excluded from Holocaust education and commemoration?

What was the process for Roma Holocaust survivors to apply for reparations?
Testimony Collection

What is unique or surprising about Dr. Michelle Kelso’s methodologies for collecting Roma survivor testimonies?

How do Dr. Kelso’s research methodologies help us think about community memory?

How does this research help us think about trauma and intergenerational memory in these Roma families and communities?

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ACCESS THIS GUIDE ONLINE & FURTHER READING

www.unsilence.org/i-saw-everything-guide

FEATURE INFO

With our sincere thanks to Dr. Michelle Kelso for permitting Unsilence to feature her photography, research, and film. The online exhibits I Saw Everything and Remembering Together are based on the research of Michelle Kelso, conducted between 1995 and 2007. Photography by Michelle Kelso. Exhibit texts written by Danny M. Cohen and Michelle Kelso. Exhibits curated by Danny M. Cohen and Stacey Mann.

I Saw Everything and Remembering Together Educator Guide was written and designed by Danny M. Cohen and Sammi Oberman. Copyright 2020. Unsilence. All Rights Reserved.