

## The Forgiveness Project

### Topic 3: Forgiving the Unforgivable - Instructions

#### What to do beforehand:

- Ensure the staff member delivering the lesson has looked at the resources below:
  - A timeline of the Bosnian War is at the end of both lesson plan 1 and lesson plan 2.
  - A short clip (7 mins) from the 1995 BBC documentary, *Death of Yugoslavia*, sets out the process and scale of ethnic cleansing during the Bosnian War:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbNocQORWQ8>. **Please note this contains very graphic scenes and is not suitable to be shown to the students.**
  - A teacher tube video (3.45 mins) giving a background to the Rwandan Genocide can be found here: <http://www.teachertube.com/video/rwanda-genocide-194830>
- Download the resources from our website.
- Read through each lesson plan thoroughly and watch the films by following the links to our website in the PowerPoint presentation of lesson 1 and lesson 3.
- Print student booklets, enough for one per student. The booklets can be printed in black and white or colour.
- Make sure there is a projector available to present the PowerPoint presentations in class. Check that the internet connection in the classroom is fast enough to stream the films. Contact TFP if you require the film on DVD.

#### During the PowerPoint presentation:

- Click with the cursor or use right arrow to navigate through the slides.

#### Emotional well-being of the students:

The Forgiveness Project Education Resources explore issues which some students may find distressing or confusing.

***Both films in lesson 1 and 3 contain descriptions of violence, killings and concentration camp conditions, therefore please ensure staff have watched the films and read the resources beforehand to ensure it is suitable for your students.***

We recommend that lessons are facilitated by a staff member who knows the class well and is able to direct responses and use prompt questions to encourage healthy discussion, whilst maintaining a safe environment for all young people. Please remind students of your school's procedure for discussing issues further and the names of staff / mentors they can approach if they would like to.

#### ***Lesson 1 – A personal experience of the Bosnian War***

Students will learn about Kemal Pervanic and hear first-hand about his experience during the Bosnian War. They will explore how events unfolded in his home village and his time in Omarska and Manjača concentration camps. Students are given the opportunity to identify parallels to current political insecurity and treatment of ethnic / religious groups.

***Lesson 2 – How can forgiveness impact the survivors of war?***

Building on lesson 1, students will learn more about Kemal's experience in the Omarska camp and the reality that he personally knew many of his guards and interrogators as his teachers, friends and neighbours. Students will explore his journey towards forgiveness and the impact this had on him. They will learn about Kemal's project in Bosnia to unite young people of all nationalities.

***Lesson 3 – Can there be forgiveness without justice?***

Students will explore the Rwandan Genocide through a first-hand account of Mary Blewitt who lost 50 members of her family. They will examine what has happened to bring about justice since the genocide ended and hear an example of a Tutsi victim and Hutu ex-militia living as neighbours following a community meeting. Students will explore Mary's decision not to forgive her family's killers and how she makes meaning of what has happened through her dedicated charity work.