

North Hunterdon High School

May 21 2015 - AGS Event

From: McGrory, Erin

Date: Tue, May 26, 2015 at 11:35 AM

Subject: Re: Presentation of the Armenian Genocide by Greg Serian

To: NJ Commission of Holocaust & Genocide Education, John Simpson

Good morning Mr. Winkler,

Greg Serian was nice enough to come and talk to the AP US History

students at North Hunterdon High School last Thursday. I was very impressed with his presentation.

Mr. Serian was able to take a very emotionally charged and complicated event and convey not just a chronology of what happened 100 years ago, he was also able to connect the students to

the topic through images, first hand accounts, and even the use of music.

Mr. Serian spoke for just under two hours. The first hour and twenty

minutes consisted of a lecture in which Mr. Serian explained the term

Genocide, the origins of the Armenian Genocide, the impact of the Genocide on the Armenian community, and the struggle to have the

Armenian Genocide officially recognized by the United States.

He also read a letter written by his Grandmother about her experiences as a survivor of the Armenian Genocide, many students

were visibly moved by the letter.

Mr. Serian is clearly very knowledgeable and passionate about this topic.

The last 40 minutes of the presentation consisted of a question and answer period. Mr. Serian took the time to thoughtfully, openly, and honestly answer each question posed by the students. After the presentation several students approached Mr. Serian to thank him for educating them on the Armenian Genocide, many of the students suggested that Mr. Serian come back next year and talk to both US History and World History classes. My supervisor, John Simpson, and I are very interested in having Mr. Serian back next year. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me.

Regards, Erin McGrory









How did this happen?

- The Ottoman Empire's "young Turkish" government headed by Talaat Pasha used WWI, which started in 1914, as an excuse, a diversion, to justify his actions and resolve "The Armenian Question". He used WWI as a cover to carry out a belief of extreme racism and an ideology of intolerance with no tolerance to minorities in the empire.
- His method of "showing no mercy" to Armenians, independent of age or gender, was carried out to the letter by his soldiers, in this crime of all ages.

What is Genocide?

- Genocide means, with intent, to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group.
- Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- Imposing measures intended to prevent births or forcibly transferring children of a group to another group.

genocide /ˈdʒɛn.əˈsaɪd/ noun
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Raphael Lemkin - Created the word Genocide.

