How did Jewish children’s experiences in the USSR differ from Jewish children’s experiences in the holocaust?

Annotated Bibliography

Name of student goes here

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Annotated Bibliography

Children during the Holocaust. (n.d.). Retrieved from

<https://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005142>

This website focuses on events during the holocaust, the specific piece I focused on is about how Jewish children along with many other children were killed to insight fear and keep preventative security. Jewish children who were older, about twelve years old to eighteen years old, were forced to into labor camps to work. These older children were also used in inhumane medical experiments that often ended fatally. Younger children were seen as a waste of space, typically given the nickname “‘useless eaters’” because they couldn’t support the labor camps let alone support their own heads. A majority of Jewish children were killed the moment they were born, a few luckier ones were hidden by prisoners and survived. Sometimes, children wound up in the ghettos and eventually starved to death. If any child was born with a disability it was an instant sentence to a grim end. Children who survived still had a tough time adjusting to the outside world and most likely had extensive therapy. [summary]

This information seems unbiased because it comes from the Holocaust Memorial Museum; which is dedicated to keeping the memories of holocaust survivors alive and teaching future generations about the Holocaust. [audience]- {should have mentioned something about authority}

This website gives evidence of the way Jewish children had to live during holocaust. This answer one half of my research question, what were Jewish children’s experiences in the holocaust? [relevance]

Currency- does not say when it was last updated or if that is a concern or not.

Approach- conflict, sociological

Ofer, D. (2004). Tormented Memories: The Individual and the Collective. *Israel Studies,* *9*(3),

137-156. Retrieved from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/30245642>

This article focuses on the memories of individual Jewish survivors and the collective memory as a whole. They {who?}compare the two, saying that tensions are high between the two different memory types, because each memory is unique and people base their identities on their own memories. Collective memory demoralizes the individuals; {comma splice}you can’t cram or summarize memories into one thing. [main point] The article focuses on how these memories affect the Israeli society. It also mentions that Jewish Holocaust survivors are starting to dwindle naturally due to old age but are passing the memories down to their children and grandchildren. [sociological approach and comparative study], *Since the article was published in 2004 and based on subjects’ memories of historical events that transpired during 1930-1940s, its information is valuable although studies conducted closer to the event may have been more reliable. [currency]. The study would be of interest to anyone researching or wanting to learn more about the Holocaust. [audience]*

Dalia Ofer was born 1939, during the time of the holocaust. She has a research specialization in the holocaust studies. She graduated from a Hebrew University with a Bachelors of Arts in history and bible studies. Also received her Ph.D. for her dissertation on “Illegal Immigration to Palestine 1939–1941.” [credibility or authority] This information could be biased due to her strong attachment to the holocaust since she grew up around it.[bias or point of view] This article is not as relevant to my research question as other sources because it doesn’t delve as deep{deeply} into the subject matter.[relevance]

Stolee, M. (1988). Homeless Children in the USSR, 1917-1957. *Soviet Studies,* *40*(1), 64-83.

Retrieved from<http://www.jstor.org/stable/151744>

This article focuses on the time period from 1917-1957 when thousands of children lost their parents so they were forced out onto the streets. They typically were nicknamed besprizornost, Russian for unattended, and ignored by much of the community. A lot of the homeless children were girls who had to turn to underage prostitution to keep themselves alive, many of the homeless children were male as well. It is one of the biggest problems that plagued the Soviet Union and the cause for it are {is}very much unexplored by historians. The biggest time period that historians pay attention{to} is between 1920-1930 despite the fact that there was a massive population of homeless children before and after those years. It is one of the lesser known tragedies of the twentieth century and it was a tremendous burden for the new Soviet government to bear.

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This information seems unbiased. <https://www.geneseo.edu/history/stolee> {but doesn’t say why she or he believes that is the case}

This article doesn’t mention if the children are Jewish or not so it makes it less relevant to my research topic, but still gives insight into what children were dealing with in the USSR during that time. It answers part of my research question, what Jewish children’s experiences were like in the USSR.

In conclusion, both Jewish children’s experiences in the USSR and the Holocaust may have differed but neither were less important than the other. Each of these children had to go through extensive burdens that cannot be compared to one another in the sense of “who had it worse”? The experiences of each are unique to the survivors and help them to identify themselves despite whether they lived during the holocaust or USSR.