

Unit Title: **The Aftermath****Common Misperceptions:**

Students may believe that:

1. U.S. forces liberated the Nazi death camps. (i.e.- Final Solution killing centers, as opposed to other types of Nazi camps)
2. Liberation of the camps revealed for the first time the crimes of the Holocaust.
3. Adolf Hitler was captured or killed by Allied forces.
4. Most Nazi war criminals were brought to justice after the war.
5. Severe sentences were imposed on most convicted war criminals.
6. Nazi war criminals were never helped to hide or escape by the victorious Allied Powers.
7. Trials of Nazi war criminals were conducted for only a few years after World War II was over.
8. Most Holocaust survivors returned to their former homes and resumed their normal lives that had been interrupted after the war.
9. All survivors have had triumphant lives in the aftermath of the Holocaust.
10. All survivors have experienced debilitating, recurring trauma that will not diminish over time.
11. The persecution and killing of European Jews completely stopped with the end of World War II and the Holocaust.
12. The State of Israel was created as a direct result of the Holocaust.
13. That most Israelis are Holocaust survivors or the descendants of Holocaust survivors.
14. That most American Jews are Holocaust survivors or the descendants of Holocaust survivors.
15. That the Holocaust was the last genocide to occur in the world.