Comfort Women in World War II

Brian Cain, Malana Chan, Shon Harris, Gurpeet Multani, Amanda Nash, Emily Sulkey, Kayla Thomas Peer Facilitators: Emma Kemink and Maurgan Lee

Abstract

Alpha Education (AE) is an organization that is dedicated to fostering awareness on often overlooked aspects of World War II history and furthering the values of justice, peace, and reconciliation for survivors of the past and for those who continue to shape the historical narratives of the present and future.

Collaborative Group 8 aims to support AE's mission by creating compelling online resources to provide accessibility and knowledge to large audiences on overlooked aspects of WWII.

Background & Goals

Fostering awareness of overlooked aspects of World War II has remained a concern for years. Because certain countries chose to ignore specific atrocities for decades, many people are not informed about the history of that and its negative impact.

Specifically, the dispute on comfort women was only resolved in 2015 via an historic agreement between Japan and South Korea. However, that topic remains obscured. This project aims to shed light on the impact of bias and discrimination on historical narratives about WWII.

Methods

Study protocol was approved by Alpha Education. Collaborative Group 8 conducted online research to explore comfort women. Significant information was also synthesized through dialogue. Transcribers utilized the data to translate it into French because the partner organization is located in a French-speaking area.

Results

- Although the title refers to the victims as "women", they were often young girls under the age of 18
- The American Army kept slaves captive and Comfort Stations were not shut down until 1968 by Douglas McAurther
- About 90% of women died by the end of the war
- Japan agreed to pay reparations seven decades after the war ended in 2015



Conclusion

Today, survivors have become advocates for Comfort Women and sparked a movement for sexual violence. One of them, Rosa Henson, fought for advocacy and justice.



More women came forward after sharing her personal testimony. Moreover, if you or others are in danger, do not hesitate to reach out or call 800.656.HOPE, because all women and girls deserve a life with respect and dignity.

References

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