

## **Never Again: Recognizing Pre-Genocidal Stages in Literature and Our World Today**

Content Area: Secondary English

Course: English 10 Honors

Grade: 10th grade

### **Lesson #3: Identifying the Stages of Genocide in Rwanda**

**Time:** 30 minutes to complete the worksheet and another 20 minutes to discuss

**Overview of the Lesson:** After learning about the Rwandan Genocide, students will learning about Dr. Gregory H. Stanton’s “Eight Stages of Genocide.” After reading the definitions, students will apply that information to what they’ve learned about the 1994 Rwandan Genocide, citing specifics in each box.

#### **State Standard:**

SL.9-10.1a - Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.

#### **Essential Questions:**

- How can we identify patterns in history to help us recognize and predict future problems?
- Can we predict future events?
- Are their clear indicators leading up to mass killing?

#### **Anticipated Misconceptions:**

Students may not be familiar with Dr. Stanton’s “Eight Stages of Genocide” or they may not agree with all the stages.

#### **Instructional Materials Needed:**

Students need a worksheet and a pen

#### **Instructional Tips:**

Not all examples fit clearly into just one stage of genocide. Some, like examples of dehumanization, can span a few stages. Also, students will likely not be able to identify any examples of denial with the Rwandan Genocide because the government has worked diligently to prevent anyone from denying its existence.

**Anticipatory Set:** Ask students to identify one warning sign that happened before the Holocaust.

**Instructional Strategies:** Graphic Organizers and Integration of Cross-Curricular Information

**Lesson Closing:** Ask students how we can use Dr. Stanton’s “Eight Stages of Genocide” to prevent future mass killings.

**Extension Ideas:** Have students apply these stages to the Holocaust.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

Gregory H. Stanton: The Eight Stages of Genocide

According to Dr. Stanton, there are “Eight Stages of Genocide” that occur before the event. If, at any point, the actions are prevented, it is possible to avoid mass killing.

**Directions: Using the Rwandan information given, please identify the “Eight Stages of Genocide” that occurred leading up to the genocide in 1994 in Rwanda.**

**Eight Stages of Genocide:**

**Application to Rwanda:**

<p><b>Classification:</b> a division of the natural and social world into categories. We treat people differently based on their category. It’s an “us” and “them” mentality.</p>	
<p><b>Symbolization:</b> using symbols to name and signify our classification.</p>	
<p><b>Dehumanization:</b> the denying of the humanity of others based on their classification. It makes the people “less than human” ***Please note: Classification is a natural part of all cultures. However, it only becomes a dangerous step towards genocide when coupled with Dehumanization.</p>	
<p><b>Organization:</b> the training of special armies and the stockpiling of weapons.</p>	
<p><b>Polarization:</b> hate groups drive the parties apart using propaganda.</p>	
<p><b>Preparation:</b> death lists are created, property is seized, and victims are relocated to one central location</p>	
<p><b>Extermination:</b> the total annihilation of a people</p>	
<p><b>Denial:</b> after the genocide has occurred, the guilty parties often try to hide the evidence of genocide: they burn the bodies, blame the genocide on the victims, and block investigations.</p>	

