

ARTHUR AND ROCHELLE BELFER

**Exemplary**  
**LESSONS**  
i n i t i a t i v e

**LEARNING FROM  
THE EARLY STAGES  
OF THE HOLOCAUST**

**STUDENT WORKSHEET**

**INTERPRETING HISTORICAL IMAGES**

Study the photograph for two minutes, forming an overall impression and then examining individual aspects. Then answer the following questions.

**Photograph Subject**

- Are there people in the photograph? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Number of boys or men \_\_\_\_\_
  - Number of girls or women \_\_\_\_\_
- Describe the clothing worn.
- Describe people's facial expressions.
- Describe what the people are doing.
- Describe in detail any objects in the photograph.
- How are the individuals in the photograph using the object(s)?

## Photograph Setting

- Can you tell when or where the photograph was taken?
- Estimated time of day: \_\_\_\_\_
- Estimated time of year: \_\_\_\_\_
- Outside or indoors? \_\_\_\_\_
- Describe in detail the place where the photo was taken.

Consider the eye of the photographer. He or she makes decisions about what will be framed within the camera's lens, predetermining even those images that appear to be spontaneous.

- Can you tell anything about the perspective of the photographer by what has been included or omitted in the photograph?
  
- Does the photograph seem spontaneous or posed?
  
- What do you think happened after this photograph was taken?
  
- What do you think might be happening outside the frame of the photograph?

## Inferences

Based on what you have observed above, list three things you might infer from the photograph.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## Questions

- What questions does this photograph raise in your mind?

## Caption Writing

A caption is a short description or explanation of a photograph, often detailing what is happening in the photo, where and when it was taken, and who appears in it. Using the information you've gathered above, write a caption for your photograph.

How do you think the caption would differ if it were published in a Nazi newspaper, a Jewish-German newspaper, and an American newspaper?