



**The History Department invited comments from members of the school in response to the statement; ‘the lesson of history should be that we appreciate the sanctity of human life.’ The following replies are offered as food for thought.**

“We should not need history to appreciate the sanctity of human life- that's part of being human. The saddest thing about the Holocaust is that most of the perpetrators of this crime knew what they were doing, and fully understood the value of the human life they were wasting, and also those, although not criminals themselves, that did nothing even when they knew what was going on around them. The Holocaust set apart not the good from the evil, but the courageous (e.g. Schindler, and we should also remember those that performed small, unrecorded acts of defiance, such as giving out food/clothing to the labourers) from the cowards (those that allowed it to happen regardless of what they understood). Perhaps what we should learn from the Holocaust is the weakness of the 'human' values which we seem to hold so dear, because perhaps then those millions of 'undesirables' would not have been murdered.”

**C Haslam**

“I think that your assembly was very thought provoking and I think that it is important for everyone to realise how lucky we are to live in such a peaceful society and go to school, when not that long ago (i.e. WW1 and 2) it would not have been possible. I also think that it is important for people to realise how many people there are out in the world who are still suffering, not just because of global events, but because their government will not help. The peaceful world which we live in, in my opinion, sometimes feels like that it is just around Lancaster and our school. There is so much hurt in the world, with people suffering unnecessarily. There are good people who do nothing but help others, and yet they cannot enjoy a full life, whilst there are those whose aim is to destroy and cause suffering and yet they live. At times, I feel that there is no justice.”

**J Dawson**