

VOICES INTO ACTION

SOCIAL MEDIA PHILOSOPHY HISTORY CIVICS
POLITICS BYSTANDERS GENOCIDE STEREOTYPES
CYBERBULLYING ADVOCACY DISCRIMINATION
ISLAMOPHOBIA **HUMAN RIGHTS** UNIVERSAL
PREJUDICE MEDIA INFLUENCE **IMMIGRATION**
PATHY POLITICAL ACTION SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC
IMPACT ENGLISH **ANTISEMITISM** VISUAL ARTS
SOCIOLOGY **HOLOCAUST** MORALITY EDUCATION

Voices into Action is a free online educational program that brings key social justice issues to the forefront while meeting provincial requirements for secondary school curriculum.

FINISSONS-EN AVEC L'ANTISEMITISME SANS TARDER.TM

FIGHTING ANTISEMITISM TOGETHER[®]

Speaking Out Against Intolerance

We welcome you to ***Voices into Action*** – an educational program that helps students develop their social awareness. The urgency for this kind of discussion continues to be a priority, as in recent years we have witnessed shocking incidents of antisemitism and other forms of bigotry in Canada. The interactive site connects students to the past and present, and encourages them to create a more harmonious future.

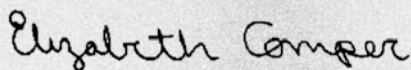
We believe classrooms are powerful environments where positive change is possible. Let yours be one where the discussions are impassioned and the activities relevant as they are fueled by a closer look at humanity's quest for inequitable power, as well as justice and culture. The harsh facts about immigration, the Holocaust, genocide, homophobia, and the aboriginal experience will open your students' eyes to the unspeakable atrocities of the past that continue to happen around the world.

New Canadian students enter our classrooms with fears and facing exclusion while yearning for opportunities to integrate. Cyberbullying is spreading hate at an astonishing rate. As educators we need to share this knowledge with students so that they can choose compassion over hate and positive action over indifference.

In 2005 after a resurgence of antisemitic incidents in Canada, we founded **FAST – Fighting Antisemitism Together**[®]. Along with a coalition of non-Jewish business leaders, *FAST* is dedicated to speaking out against intolerance, with antisemitism as a specific manifestation of it. Our first program, *Choose Your Voice*, was designed for middle school students and won the Award of Excellence 2010 from the Canadian Race Relations Foundation.

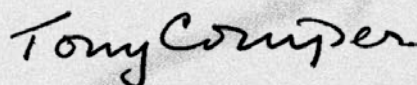
Voices into Action is the second initiative from *FAST*, and is developed in accordance with provincial curriculum standards for secondary schools. This program further demonstrates our commitment to empowering students to take action against discrimination. We strongly believe in our responsibility to make a better, safer world for all.

As Elizabeth was a teacher, we have a first-hand appreciation of the challenging and vital role a teacher can play in helping young people learn and take the right actions against hatred. We hope these materials make your job a little easier and wish you every success!



Elizabeth Comper

(1945-2014)
FAST founder
Former teacher



Tony Comper

FAST founder
Former CEO and Past President
BMO Financial Group



"Two Sisters Being Sent on a Transport"
by Helga Weissova.

Credit: Ghetto Fighters' House Museum

Introducing *Voices into Action*

Voices into Action is a free online antiracism educational program that meets requirements of secondary school curriculum and brings key social justice issues to the forefront of Canadian classrooms.



It's free – all of it



Digitally-delivered and mobile-ready



Created by curriculum experts



Customizable lesson plans



Fulfills curriculum requirements



Differentiated instruction



Diverse and comprehensive



Highlights past and present Social Justice issues

Informs:

Voices into Action enables students to critically think about the realities of social justice and human rights and inspires them to influence positive societal change.

Challenges:

Educators are constantly being challenged by bullying, intolerance, and hatred spreading within their schools and communities, and the devastating effects this has in the world.

Opportunity:

Educators have the opportunity to shed light on injustice and inequality in a way that makes a positive impact in their classrooms – and eventually – in society.

The Educator Experience

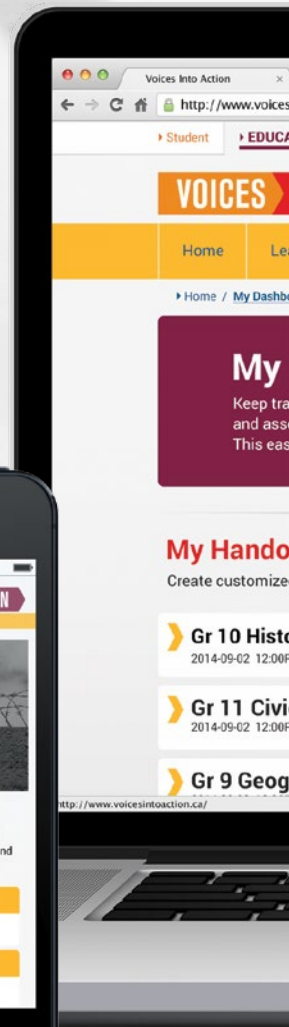
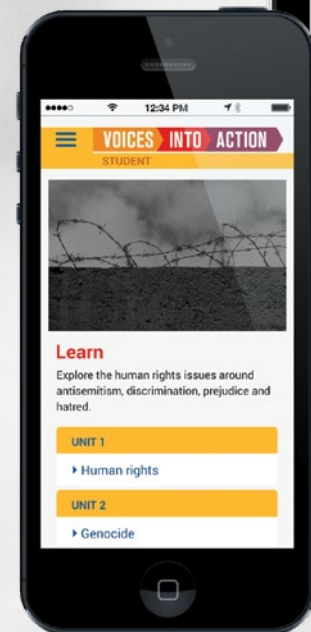
Curriculum Connections

Voices into Action is a comprehensive program, built to fulfill educational requirements of Canadian secondary school curricula.

The lessons contained within the program cover compelling and thought-provoking topics, that also pose unique challenges to students and encourage critical thinking and dialogue both inside and outside the classroom.

The program can be implemented across a spectrum of subjects:

	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Arts			✓	✓
Visual Arts			✓	✓
Drama			✓	✓
English Language Arts	✓	✓	✓	✓
Aboriginal / First Nations (Peoples) Languages		✓	✓	✓
Aboriginal / First Nations Studies	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social Sciences		✓	✓	✓
Social Studies		✓	✓	✓
Comparative Civilizations				✓
Contemporary World			✓	✓
World Issues				✓
History		✓	✓	✓
Geography	✓	✓	✓	✓
Economics				✓
Civics and Citizenship		✓		
Challenge and Change in Society				✓
Canadian Law			✓	✓
Politics (Political Science)			✓	✓
Psychology				✓
Equity			✓	✓
Social Justice				✓
World Religions			✓	
Philosophy			✓	✓
Media (Communication) Studies			✓	✓



Digitally Delivered

Easily Accessible

As a free online program, *Voices into Action* is set up as a web portal for students and teachers. The website is accessible without login for students and educators. To access teaching tools and customize lesson plans, educators may register at no charge on the Educators site.

Teachers can:

Access lesson plans online

Integrate lesson plans within the scope of their teaching

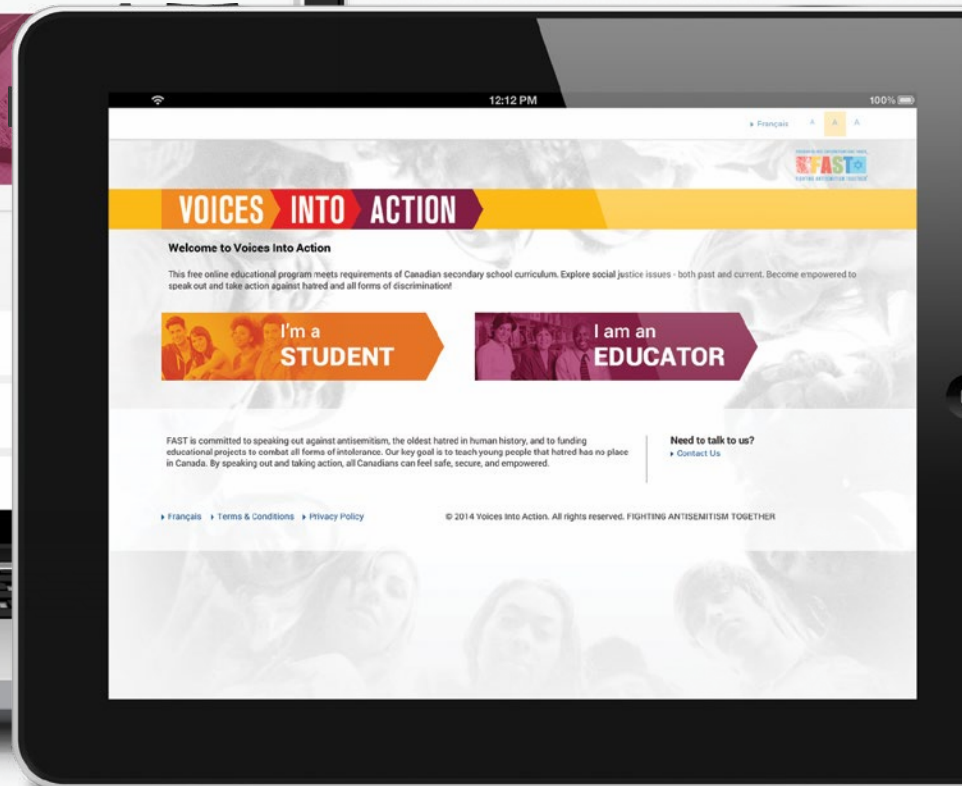
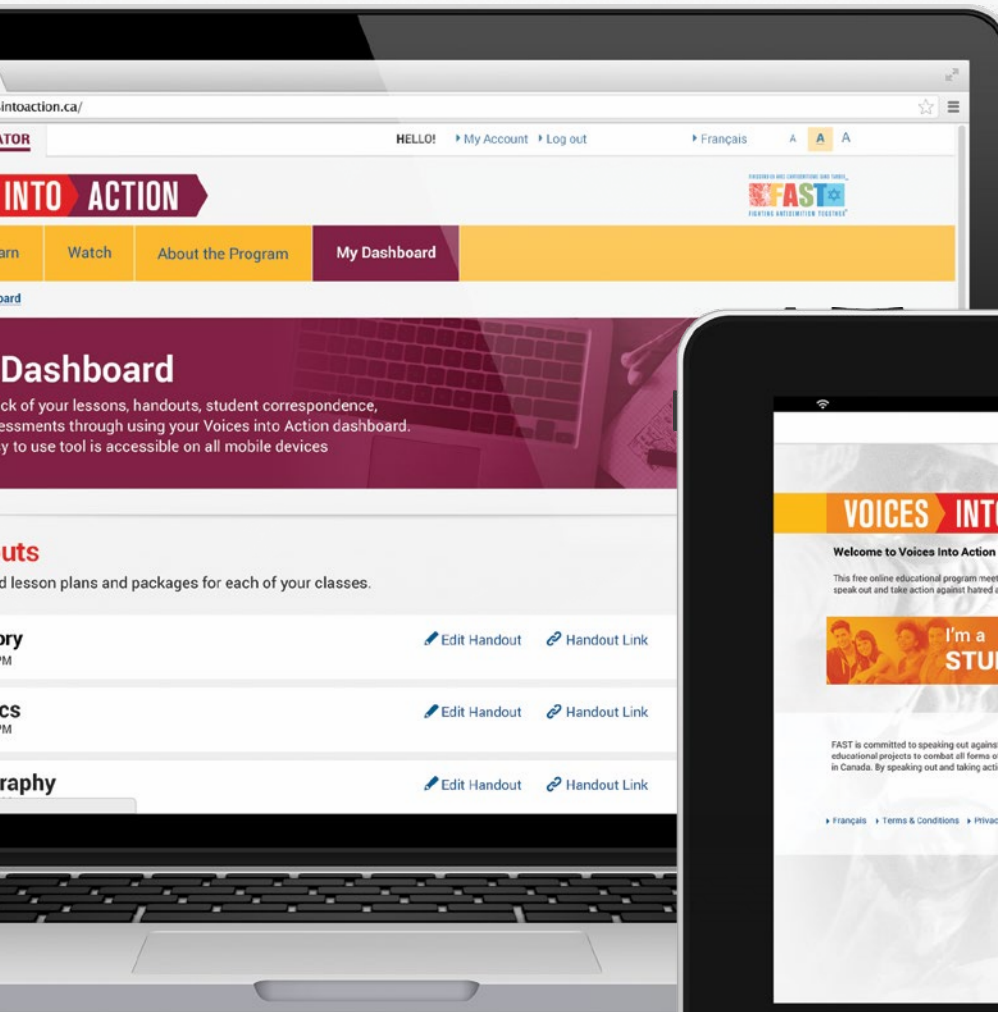
Create, print, and/or digitally share handouts

Add notes and instructions to students on chapters, units and handouts

Select from various assessment tools to encourage differentiated learning

Visit www.parlezetagissez.ca for the equivalent French program

Voices into Action was built with the learning environments of today and tomorrow in mind.



Program Map

Complete Customization

Voices into Action is designed to be user-friendly so that educators can choose to navigate the complete program from start to finish, or customize their experience by selecting the units they wish to teach, in the order that suits them.

Voices into Action offers secondary schools a large selection of diversified lessons and activities to choose from.

	Unit 1 Human Rights	Unit 2 Genocide	Unit 3 Understanding Prejudice and Discrimination	Unit 4 Immigration	Unit 5 Personal Action
Overview	Why are Human Rights Important?	What is Genocide?	How Did We Get There?	Who Gets In? Who Does Not?	Documenting the Holocaust Through the Arts
Chapter 1	Examining the Holocaust	Did the World Willingly Let the Holocaust Happen?	The Righteous Among Nations: The Actions of Heroes	Voyage of the MS St. Louis	Creating a Holocaust Exhibit
Chapter 2	The Aboriginal Experience	The Role of Media in the Bosnian War	Denied Entry: The Komagata Maru Incident, 1914	Boat People, 1970s	David Olère: Drawings and Paintings
Chapter 3	Gender Issues	How Should We Remember the Armenian Genocide?	Islamophobia	The Irish Catholics	Museums and Monuments
Chapter 4	'Screening' the Black Experience	Seeds of Division: Rwanda	The Pink Triangle	Chinese Immigration: A Story of Exclusion	The Poetry of Terezin
Chapter 5	The Rights of the Disabled		Cyber bullying	A Global Perspective	The Arts in Action

Educators and students have various tools and resources at their disposal:

- › Quizzes
- › Role play scenarios
- › Discussions
- › Presentations
- › Written compositions
- › Assessments
- › Group work
- › Videos
- › News analysis
- › Artistic exercises
- › Policy review
- › Case studies
- › Simple rubrics
- › In-person interviews

The Need for Action

Why Now?

As we know, history often repeats itself. Unfortunately, so do disgraceful acts of injustice, that still plague humanity today. Learning about events like the Holocaust teaches us that bystander apathy can lead to unspeakable atrocities, which we can never allow to happen again. Equipping today's youth with knowledge about our past can effectively combat indifference and abolish the cycle of hate and intolerance still prevalent in our world today. The rise of bullying and cyber bullying reveals that we continue to hurt others in alarming ways. *Voices into Action* aims to positively influence the future by educating our students about horrific moments in human history.

What is the Goal?

Through a variety of compelling activities, *Voices into Action* gives all Canadian educators the tools to improve the society we live in. The goal is to empower students to take positive action. When students explore facts about the world, both past and present, their social consciousness expands. Developing their awareness and encouraging critical thinking about the negative forces that still exist today, gives students the tools to combat hateful acts and end bystander apathy. We can all make the world a better place by choosing to speak out and take action against intolerance.

Through *Voices into Action*, students will be:

- Engaged** through education
- Investigating** current issues
- Moving** beyond information to action
- Motivated** to make a difference
- Challenged** to question the world around them
- Empowered** to speak up
- Expressing** themselves
- Inspired** to act



Residential School Classroom.

Credit: General Synod Archives, Anglican Church of Canada

Author Team

This project was developed for FAST by a team of educators (teachers, curriculum experts, graduate students in education, university lecturers and professors, and freelance consultants) all of whom have a deep interest in providing information to secondary students about the Holocaust, and other tragic examples of the destruction of human rights and lives through prejudice and discrimination.

The writing team worked over a period of a year and a half, as a whole group, in small groups, and independently, to research and develop these units for classroom use in a variety of curriculum areas. The units can be explored sequentially or selected to complement a particular curriculum area being explored and investigated. Each unit begins with an overview, followed by chapters on that topic. The first chapter in each unit explores the terrible effects of the Holocaust, and the following chapters discuss past and present ramifications of prejudice and discrimination in Canada and throughout the world.

Project Managers at OISE/UT: David Booth - Professor Emeritus, Larry Swartz - Instructor, John Myers - Instructor, Bernard Rubinstein - Instructor; **Curriculum Connections:** Bryan Wright; **15 additional Contributors:** Education consultants, professors, PhD candidates and graduate students from OISE/UT, York University and TDSB.

Join us as we inspire positive change
from the classroom to society,
and as we turn *Voices into Action*.

www.voicesintoaction.ca

www.parlezetagissez.ca

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For more information,
please contact your regional office: _____

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