The two oldest Bielski brothers dealt with Nazi persecution in very different ways. One chose to stay and protect the vulnerable, the other chose to leave and fight back.

Which would you do?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Stay and Protect |  | Fight back |

According to one of the characters, the Talmud says “If you save a life, you must take responsibility for it.”

Did the Bielski brothers have an obligation to protect the people who came to them for help?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |

*“We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.”*

*-Elie Wiesel, survivor of Auschwitz*

*and Buchenwald Concentration Camps*

In any atrocity like the Holocaust, you have ***collaborators*** (people who take part in the oppression), and ***bystanders*** (people who do nothing to stop the oppression).

Some say that bystanders are just as guilty as the oppressors themselves. Is that true?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |

“We must not become like them.”

“No, but at least we can kill like them.”

Consider the “Dachau Liberation Reprisals”—the murder of murderers. Were these actions by US troops justified?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  | No |

**Intentionalism** vs. **Functionalism**

Was the Holocaust something Hitler had planned from the beginning? Or was it an idea that developed once Jewish oppression had already begun?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Intentionalism-Hitler planned this from the start |  | Functionalism-The Holocaust was a later development. |