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DOD Air Force USAFE Lajes Field US Embassy, Portugal Youtube Facebook

Ten seconds later and that picture still exists

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“Hey, don’t worry! It’ll be fine; all of the pictures I send disappear after ten seconds. That’s how Snapchat works.”

This is a conversation many teenagers have had with their parents or friends, me included. While many teenagers only share their silly, cross-eyed, quadruple-chinned faces with friends, there are a growing number of teenagers sending inappropriate content that “will disappear.”

High school students all feel a certain level of anonymity or safeness that does not exist while using the Internet and apps like Tinder, Omegle, Chat Roulette, Instagram, and Snapchat. Unfortunately, it is incredibly simple for the receiver take advantage of the content sent, so the picture may be set to disappear after 10 seconds, but it lasts a lot longer than that. While these apps can easily be used inappropriately, the apps themselves are not bad, but should just be used responsibly. It is easy to protect oneself online from predators, but it is rarely done. The most effective way to keep information secure is to

lock any social media accounts and turn all privacy settings on. There are so many people that spend their time clicking on pictures and profiles in the Explore tab on Instagram. It is impossible to know who is viewing a profile; it could be a friend from school or it could very easily be an online predator. Before friending or accepting anyone’s follow request, it is necessary to actually know who they are. Social media is a great tool for keeping in touch with friends, new or old, and family members, but it is important to use caution and be responsible.

I have many friends that pride themselves on the fact they have over one, two, or ten thousand followers. This is a dangerous habit because it is impossible to be safe with so many unknown people seeing so much about their lives.

This behavior and feeling of invincibility starts early. I remember in middle school how Omegle was the best thing on the Internet. At sleepovers or on a Saturday afternoon, young girls and boys would sit around a laptop and pretend to be whomever they thought of, giving off silly answers and laughing at the accents they pretended their user to

have. However, we all knew that unless you wanted to see “gross stuff” to turn the camera off. Many of us have since moved on from this fear and feel that sending pornographic content over apps is okay.

This attitude towards sharing everything on the Internet leads to unfortunate, yet completely avoidable situations. Why do so many teenagers participate in an activity that can have so many bad repercussions? Teenage girls reported to dosomething.org and the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy that there are three major reasons for their sending of nude photos: as a joke, to feel sexy, or because of peer pressures.

Sending inappropriate photos is not a joke nor will it boost a person’s confidence. While it may be a thrill at first, the psychological damage could deteriorate a girl or boy’s self-esteem. Peer pressure is a horrible, but real-life thing. Everyone experiences peer pressure at some point or another in his or her lifetime, but your body, whether you are male or female, is yours.

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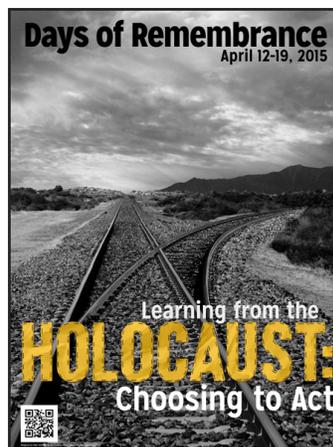
‘Learning from the Holocaust: Choosing to act’

Courtesy 8th Fighter Wing

This year, April 12-19 marks the observance of the Holocaust Days of Remembrance, with the official Day of Remembrance taking place April 16.

The Days of Remembrance were established by the U.S. Congress in 1980 to memorialize the 6 million Jews, as well as millions of non-Jewish victims, who were murdered in the Holocaust and suffered Nazi persecution. Each year since then, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum has led the nation in commemorating the Days of Remembrance. This year’s theme is “Learning from the Holocaust: Choosing to act.”

During World War II, millions of ordinary people



witnessed the crimes of the Holocaust -- in the countryside and city squares, in stores and schools, in homes and workplaces. Across Europe, the Nazis found countless helpers who willingly collaborated or were complicit in their crimes, while far fewer questioned their actions.

The victims had no choice in their fates. Their supporters and rescuers, by contrast, were able to make choices. They chose to risk not only theirs, but their families’ lives in an attempt to intervene and help rescue those being persecuted.

By choosing to act, these individuals not only saved

For more on "Choosing to act" see page 2

Photo Perspective



Members of the 65th Air Base Wing, Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal, participate in a Holocaust Remembrance 5K run on April 14, 2015.



A member of the 65th Air Base Wing Fire Department, Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal, exits a live fire training structure on April 14, 2015.

"Choosing to act" from page 1

the lives of others, but demonstrated what it means to treat one another as human beings. These lessons apply not only to the past, but how to treat each other now.

The Holocaust is not the only genocide to take place in this world. The Native American genocide in the early 19th century, the Rwandan genocide of 1994 and the Indonesian killings from 1965 to 1966 are just a few examples. More recently, Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) is attacking Jewish and Christian people across the world. The horrors of the way these people died have left scars on the hearts and minds of those who loved and knew them; those they shared a bond with.

Those same bonds extend outside of our own local communities, and across the globe. Genocide and discrimination should not sit well

with any person of any nation. No matter what our job or station in life, we are all unique and at the same time we are all tied together.

We may look at each other differently because we have different color skin, religions, socioeconomic backgrounds, and so on, but do we have to persecute each other for it? Would it not be better to get to know someone first before we decide who they are as a person? Do we have a right to judge others and put them in a category which requires discrimination or violence against them?

Our hope is that the Holocaust Days of Remembrance will remind all that even though we are different and come from different places in this world, we all have contributions to make to it, no matter how great or small they may be. Rather than play the role of bystander, we must actively pursue a world where we coexist and choose to act against those who would foster hatred and repeat the mistakes of the past.

Base Announcements

Lajes Field Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate (DAVA) Services
2015 Total Force Climate Survey 13 March - 27 Apr 15
The Air Force Credentialing Opportunities Online (AF COOL) Program:
Base Honor Guard
Eagle Eyes
GTC Payment Options
Expanded Influenza Vaccine Available

New housing website

All members PCS'ing from Lajes Field with Privately Owned Vehicle (POV)

TMO Information

Civilian Personnel Newsletter

Non-command sponsored dependents memorandum

BAH Revalidation Required for All Airmen

65th Medical Group Closed for Training 2nd Tuesday of Each Month

[Click to read for more Base Announcements](#)

Community Events

National Prayer Lunch April 22
1st Quarter Awards Breakfast April 23
USAFE Rock Band Touch n' Go at the TORC April 25
Wing Promotion Ceremony April 30

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Island Events

Volleyball Game April 18
XXV Meia Marathona dos Bravos (Terceira Half-Marathon) May 1
Movies:
Angra Theater (Located at Angra Cultural Center)
Praia Theater

[Click to read for more Island Events](#)

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