

Lesson VI: Vincenta Bukowski Liberation 75 Local Connections (southwest Florida resident)

Note to Parents & Teachers. *Please* review this video for content.

Feel free to skip questions you deem to be inappropriate, too.

Questions:

1. Watch the first 47 seconds of the Vincenta Bukowski Liberation 75 Local Connections video [<https://studio.youtube.com/video/iBiNhBWFkV0/edit>] to answer the following:

- a. What nationality was the Bukowski family? _____

- b. What religion was the Bukowski family? _____

- c. Look up the word, *abducted*, using the Merriam Webster Dictionary link to define it. [<https://www.merriam-webster.com/>]

Abducted means, _____

- d. Read the portion of her 2007 Interview that follows.

Vincenta was 28 years old. German soldiers came to her home and said to Vincenta’s Mother that they wanted her to sign papers for her sons to fight for the German Army. Her Mother said, “no, we were born Polish, and we will die Polish.” She told the soldiers to “get out of the house.” They left but in the middle of the night several nights latter they came back. They told Vincenta’s Family to take what they had on their backs and leave their home, because they wanted the house for the local Nazi Headquarters. This time Vincenta screamed at them, “go away and leave us alone” One of the soldiers smacked her across the back of her head, and she fell down. They then forced her parents, brothers, sisters, and grandmother out of the house, into wagons, and took them 50 kilometers out into the woods and left them there to fend for themselves. Several weeks latter they found their way back to their town and were taken in by a friendly Polish neighbor.

Why did the Germans want the Bukowski home? _____

What did Vincenta say that immediately led to the family being abducted after they returned the first time?

2. To what concentration camp was she taken? _____

What company did she work for specifically? _____

How long was she forced to work as a slave laborer? _____

3. Use the link to go to today's AGFA company website and their company history section. Scroll down to the appropriate years (1933-1945). [<https://www.agfa.com/corporate/about-us/history/>] . What does the site say about their connection to Dachau Concentration Camp and the use of slave labor? _____

AGFA was owned by Bayer. Go to this link to see how Bayer addresses the years 1933-1945

[<https://www.bayer.com/en/1925-1945.aspx>] . Does the website mention Dachau Concentration Camp? _____

Read this section from Bayer's website:

"Production requirements grew steadily, yet more and more employees were drafted into military service. For this reason, foreign and forced laborers from the occupied countries of Europe were brought to work in Leverkusen, Dormagen, Elberfeld and Uerdingen – and throughout the German industry as a whole – to maintain output levels. At times during the war, these laborers accounted for up to one third of the workforce."

Does that section of Bayer's website seem appropriately apologetic? What do you think they should say? _____

Use this link to the Jewish Virtual Library to see major companies that also used slave labor

[<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/list-of-major-companies-involved-in-the-concentration-camps>]

List any names of companies with which you are familiar. _____

Are you surprised to see names that are well-known? _____

4. Vincenta Bukowski expresses so much joy remembering liberation. Using the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum link [<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/list-of-major-companies-involved-in-the-concentration-camps>] circle the letter of the **first** three United States liberating Divisions
- a. 42nd Infantry Division
 - b. 20th Armored Division
 - c. 14th Armored Division
 - d. 45th Infantry Division