

Lesson Four: What choices did people make in 1994?

Stories of:

- *Simeon Karamaga, a Tutsi resistor*
- *Jean Kambanda, Hutu Prime Minister of Rwanda*
- *Georges Ruggiu, Italian radio journalist who broadcast hate messages*
- *Carl Wilkens, an American rescuer*
- *Capt. Mbaye Diagne, Senegalese UN soldier who rescued many*
- *Athanase Seromba, a Priest who led a massacre of Tutsis*

Rationale: For pupils to understand the decisions made by people during the genocide and that these decisions had different contexts / repercussions than if they had been made in Britain today. To become aware of breadth of genocide through personal stories.

Starter:

- Pupils are given three envelopes, each containing cards.
- First, they open Envelope No.1. The cards in this envelope have a name, one line of biographical information and one line about what they did in 1994.
- After reading each one they have to place the cards on a RIGHT ----WRONG continuum (Resource)
- Lower ability pupils might divide the actions into two groups: a group for actions in 1994 that would be seen as 'RIGHT' or 'WRONG' in Britain today
- Teacher leads discussion on the above and asks about the potential consequences of the actions described if they had been carried out in Britain today.

Main:

- Pupils then open Envelope No.2 that contains cards with further information on the individuals identified in the Starter activity. Pupils have to match these cards with the appropriate card from Envelope No.1 (there are be clues on both cards that will help them match).
- Once matched pupils will be asked to reassess their place on the RIGHT ----WRONG continuum (or RIGHT / WRONG categories) – are there now any pairs of cards that should be moved?

Plenary:

Pupils find out about circumstances of each persons' actions (use links below)

Pupils consider the final position of the cards on the continuum.

Teacher leads discussion on final points:

- Who made the 'right' choice?
- Why did you change your mind about where to place the cards?
- Why would it have been difficult for the people in the situations described?
- Are there any situations in your lives where you have dilemmas?

Resources

- Information cards
- Envelopes

- Input table
- Powerpoint with information on circumstances of each individual's actions
- Background information for teachers

What choices did people make in 1994?

Envelope 1

<p>Simeon Karamaga A Rwandan man who lived in the Bisesero region of Rwanda</p> <p>In 1994 he killed people.</p>	<p>Jean Kambanda The Prime Minister of Rwanda</p> <p>In 1994 he agreed to save some Tutsi orphans from their killers.</p>	<p>Georges Ruggiu An Italian who worked in Rwanda</p> <p>In 1994 he kept broadcasting as the genocide went on around him</p>
<p>Capt. Mbaye Diagne A soldier from Senegal</p> <p>In 1994 he deliberately disobeyed orders from his superiors</p>	<p>Carl Wilkens An American who worked in Rwanda</p> <p>In 1994 he negotiated with the men leading the killing of Tutsis</p>	<p>Athanase Seromba A Priest in Nyange in Rwanda</p> <p>In 1994 he deliberately destroyed his church</p>

Envelope 2

<p>The Tutsi people of Bisesero bravely fought against their attackers until they ran out of strength</p>	<p>The new Prime Minister of Rwanda helped to organise the killing of hundreds of thousands of Tutsis in Rwanda</p>	<p>Radio Télévision Libre des Mille Collines (RTLM) was a radio station that broadcast messages of hate. Presenters told Hutus to kill their Tutsi neighbours.</p>
<p>In April 1994 reports emerged of a brave Senegalese who rescued hundreds of Tutsis from the Interahamwe</p>	<p>People soon got to hear about an American who persuaded leaders of the genocide to spare hundreds of Tutsi orphans</p>	<p>The massacre of Tutsis at Nyange was led by a Priest who killed his victims by herding them inside his church and then smashing it down on top of them</p>

What choices did people make in 1994?

RIGHT

WRONG

Simeon Karamaga, a Tutsi resistor

<http://www.survivors-fund.org.uk/assets/docs/testimonies/simeon-karamaga.pdf>

Jean Kambanda, Hutu Prime Minister of Rwanda

http://www.trial-ch.org/en/trial-watch/profile/db/facts/jean_kambanda_159.html

Georges Ruggiu, Italian radio journalist who broadcast hate messages

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/the-voice-of-terror-716004.html>

Carl Wilkens, an American rescuer

http://www.usmmm.org/genocide/take_action/gallery/portrait/wilkens

Capt. Mbaye Diagne, Senegalese UN soldier who rescued many

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/ghosts/video/mbaye.html>

Athanase Seromba, a Priest who led a massacre of Tutsis

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/7292081.stm>