

STATE OF OHIO

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

IN RECOGNITION OF DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE APRIL 19-26, 2009

The Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Jews were the primary victims-six million were murdered; Gypsies, the handicapped, Polish people were targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals and political dissidents also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

more than one million Jewish children were killed because they were among the most vulnerable victims. The very young, like the very old, were often the first victims. The voices of children from the Holocaust serve as a potent reminder that there are dangers in the world today that must be addressed not just to honor past victims but also for the sake of present and future generations; and

for this reason the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has designated "NEVER AGAIN: WHAT YOU DO MATTERS" as the theme for the 2009 Days of Remembrance; and

the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies and governments; and

the people of the State of Ohio should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny and should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

the people of Jewish faith and ancestry who settled in Ohio and their descendants have contributed greatly to the enrichment of all aspects of life in the State of Ohio and the United States of America; and

the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the State of Ohio to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

FOR ALL OF THESE REASONS, I, TED STRICKLAND, Governor of the State of Ohio, recognize April 19 -April 26 as Days of Remembrance, and further recognize April 21 as THE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE, known as YOM HASHOAH, throughout the State of Ohio. I urge all citizens to join in the memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators, and urge all citizens of the State of Ohio to strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

On this 19th day of APRIL 2009



Ted Strickland
Governor