



# SARA CORNING CENTRE FOR GENOCIDE EDUCATION

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## **Unit Title** **Artsakh War**

## **Lesson Title** **Dehumanization of Armenians**

### **Learning Objectives**

In this lesson, students will study...

- Gregory Stanton's 10 Stages of Genocide
- Critical analysis of the fourth stage, dehumanization
- Identify various ways in which Armenians have been and are continuing to be dehumanized
- Analyze and discuss the affects of dehumanization on a local and global level

### **Background Information**

Gregory Stanton's 10 Stages of Genocide provides a description as to how the situation unfolds in 10 simultaneous stages. Stages that are not only predictable, but preventable. This lesson concentrates on the 4<sup>th</sup> stage, dehumanization.

Dehumanization occurs when a perpetrator denies the humanity of a group of people, resulting in defamatory speech and hate propaganda on a greater scale, ultimately vilifying the group at large.

Armenians have fallen victim to acts of dehumanization for generations. The Artsakh war of 2020 resulted in shameful acts by Azerbaijan in not only informing their public to dehumanize and vilify Armenians, but built monuments and sites as a form of mockery.

### **Resources**

- Gregory Stanton's *10 Stages of Genocide* - [Genocide Watch- Ten Stages of Genocide](#)
- What is Armenophobia? [Armenophobia ENG - YouTube](#)
- BBC Article [In pictures: Azerbaijan's controversial war park - BBC News](#)

### **Materials**

- Retell, Relate, Reflect – Note Taking Graphic Organizer
- Discussion Questions

### **Assessment Strategies**

- Observation
- Question and Answer
- Group Discussion
- Individual Assignment



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## Activity

- As a whole group, read, review and discuss the Video and article.
- Option: small group activity. Assign 1 news article and video to each small group. In their groups, students are to read, reflect and discuss the contents of the article or video while completing the Retell, Relate, Reflect handout. Students will then present their notes to the class, discussing one another's' findings.
- Allow opportunities for small group and large group discussions throughout

## Small Group Assignment

- In small groups, have students discuss and answer each of the discussion questions.
- Allow for meaningful conversations that are relatable to ongoing concerns of dehumanization presently, whether on a local or global level.

## Discussion Questions

- What is the definition of 'dehumanization'?
- Provide examples of dehumanization from our history and present day.
- Why do people use dehumanization?
- What are the consequences of dehumanizing a group?
- Have you or someone you know been a victim to dehumanization?
- How can we combat dehumanization?
- Why is it important to combat dehumanization?



# In pictures: Azerbaijan's controversial war park

© 26 April 2021

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict



Azerbaijan has opened an outdoor museum to commemorate its six-week war with Armenia over the Nagorno-Karabakh region last year.

The Spoils Of War Park in the capital, Baku, features weapons, armour and vehicles seized from Armenian forces.

The attraction has angered Armenia, which has accused Azerbaijan of "intolerance and xenophobia".

More than 5,000 were killed and many more displaced before a peace deal was reached in November.

Nagorno-Karabakh is recognised as part of Azerbaijan, but most of its people are ethnic Armenians. In the 1990s the Armenians seized control of the territory. Fighting flared up again last September and Azerbaijan recaptured large areas. Russian peacekeepers are deployed there now.



The entrance to the site is marked with a mural that reads "Karabakh is ours!".

Inside, exhibits show Armenian helmets, tanks and arms, while mannequins in Armenian uniforms are displayed inside fake positions, dorms and control rooms.





GETTY IMAGES



GETTY IMAGES

The site was officially opened by Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev earlier this month.





Armenia said the ceremony was aimed at "publicly humiliating" the conflict's casualties and prisoners.

This accusation was rejected by Azerbaijan, which said it had the right to "immortalise" its victory.

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## You may also be interested in:

- [Why did Armenia and Azerbaijan go to war?](#)
- [Nagorno-Karabakh conflict killed 5,000 soldiers](#)
- [The Syrians used as 'cannon fodder' in Nagorno-Karabakh](#)



| How lives on both sides of the divide in Nagorno-Karabakh were changed by the last year's fighting

## More on this story





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## Retell, Relate & Reflect

<p><b><u>Retell</u></b> <i>the details</i></p> <p>The content is about... I found it interesting when... I noticed that...</p>	
<p><b><u>Relate</u></b> <i>analysis</i></p> <p>It sounds like... This reminds me of... This is different from...</p>	
<p><b><u>Reflect</u></b> <i>opinion &amp; understanding</i></p> <p>I think that... I wonder why... I understand that...</p>	