

### Amidah: Eicha and Social Action

Goal: to give chanichim a sense of working towards the future as opposed to just weeping about the past

Location: ??????

- 1) Introduction: (5 minutes) Hung around the room are verses from eicha and in large letters a social cause (i.e. HUNGER). Chanichim are encouraged to go find the cause that they are most passionate about and not the one where most of their friends are.
- 2) Learning (15 minutes): Go around the circle and say why you picked this cause, if you've had any experience working with this cause. Have chanichim read the source sheets provided aloud.
  - a. Did any of this surprise you?
- 3) The task (20 minutes): Using the poster board, tape and markers, make a facebook profile page for your cause to spread awareness. You will need:
  - a. A name for your organization
  - b. A mission statement
  - c. An action plan
  - d. Status updates, friends, likes (any more facebook gimmicks that they find funny.)
- 4) Presentation (10 minutes): Have one person stand by the poster board to present information about the issue and the mock organization and the other group members walk around and look at other poster boards
  - “When her people fell by enemy hands with none to help her” (1:4) → Syria, Refugees
  - “As they search for bread; they bartered their treasures for food” (1:11) →hunger
  - “Alas, women eat their own fruit, their new born babies” (1:20) →child abuse
  - “We must pay to drink our own water” (5:4) → minimum wage/pay inequality/poverty
  - “They have ravished women in Zion” (5:11) →women’s rights in Israel
  - “Waters flowed over my head” (3:54) →global climate change
  - “The prisoners of the earth...denied rights of men” (3:34-35) → Global gay rights

Materials:

6 poster boards, all the markers in the universe please

#### HUNGER

The world is facing a hunger crisis unlike anything it has seen in more than 50 years.

925 million people are hungry.

Every day, almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes.

The world produces enough food to feed everyone. World agriculture produces 17 percent more calories per person today than it did 30 years ago, despite a 70 percent population increase. This is enough to provide everyone in the world with at least 2,720 kilocalories (kcal) per person per day according to the most recent estimate that we could find (FAO 2002, p.9). The principal problem is that many people in the world do not have sufficient land to grow, or income to purchase, enough food.

Climate change is increasingly viewed as a current and future cause of hunger and

poverty. Increasing drought, flooding, and changing climatic patterns requiring a shift in crops and farming practices that may not be easily accomplished are three key issues. Food=power, and the powerful minority often claim the majority of the food.

-source: worldhunger.org

WOMEN OF THE WALL/ WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN ISRAEL

GAY RIGHTS

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

For years upon years, greenhouse gas emissions have been increasing the earth's carbon dioxide concentration, thus causing a global warming climate. Global air and ocean temperatures have steadily been rising, causing arctic ice to melt. This leads to changes in oceans' salinity levels, wind patterns, and aspects of extreme weather, such as flooding, draughts, and tropical cyclones. This warming will continue to threaten species extinction, reduce rainforests and coral reefs, and small Pacific Islands, as well as generate more extreme weather globally.

The average American carbon footprint is 17 tons.

Contributors to increased carbon emission: the meat industry, automobiles and airplanes, products such as laundry detergents and hair and beauty products,

CHILD ABUSE

Child abuse comes in many different forms: physical, verbal, sexual, emotional, and neglect, to name a few. Child abuse is seldom a single event. Rather, it occurs with regularity, often increasing in violence. It crosses all boundaries of income, race, ethnicity, and religious faith. A child abuser is usually closely related to the child, such as a parent, step-parent or other caregiver.

In homes where child abuse occurs, fear, instability and confusion replace the love, comfort and nurturing that children need. Abused children live in constant fear of physical harm from a person who is supposed to care for and protect them. They may feel guilt at loving the abuser or blame themselves for causing the violence.

- A report of child abuse is made every 10 seconds, About 30% of abused and neglected children will later abuse their own children, continuing the horrible cycle of abuse. 14% of all men in prison in the USA were abused as children. 7
- 36% of all women in prison were abused as children.