There will be no peace among nations without peace among the religions, but there can be no dialogue between religions without each religion engaging in a fundamental re-examination of its basic assumptions.

-Professor Hans Küng

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FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF
VALUES & VIOLENCE
AFTER AUSCHWITZ

The opposite of love is not hatred. The opposite of love is indifference.
- Elie Wiesel

Since the Holocaust, the world has witnessed both an increased search for goodness and a continuation of intolerance and violent behavior. Expressions of hatred and discrimination range from individual acts of aggression to full-scale genocide. “Ethnic Cleansing,” and the use of mass rape as a weapon/crime against humanity are unexceptional events. Rwanda, Bosnia, the former Yugoslavia, the Darfur region of the Sudan, and Syria exemplify these genocidal benchmarks. Violence in schools and in city streets is becoming epidemic. In an increasingly multicultural society beset by a variety of psychological and economic stresses, the temptation to hate and commit violence against those seen as Other grows exponentially.
One hopeful exception is the area of interfaith relations. Here, the lessons of the Holocaust concerning the dangers of antisemitism, prejudice and racism seem to be taking hold. We are committed to deepening our embrace of the what Sir Jonathan Sacks, former Chief Rabbi of Great Britain termed “Dignity of Difference” The Center for the Study of Values and Violence After Auschwitz is founded on the premise that interfaith/dialogue/trialogue can be vital stepping stone in teaching respect for the Other. Our aim is to generate communication and discussion among the different Abrahamic religions in order to help facilitate the establishment of a more peaceful world. I invite you to be a part of our fight against indifference and to promote an enlightened discussion.

Dr. Alan L. Berger
Raddock Eminent Scholar Chair of Holocaust Studies

All hatred ultimately ends in self-hatred.
- Elie Wiesel

MISSION
The mission of the Center for the Study of Values and Violence after Auschwitz is to stimulate dialogue that explores and defines issues of values and violence influencing contemporary society. Emphasizing interfaith dialogue/trialogue and applying the contemporary lessons and legacies of the Holocaust, the Center seeks to teach how religion can contribute to peace building while facilitating communication among multiethnic cultures.

PROGRAMS
The Center sponsors an annual public seminar on interfaith triilogue. A book, Trialogue and Terror: Judaism/Christianity and Islam after 911, was published by Cascade Press (2012). Moreover the center is the publishing co-partner of the Annual May Smith Lecture in Post-Holocaust/Christian Dialogue. A book of the first ten Smith lectures, Post-Holocaust/Christian-Jewish Dialogue: After the Flood before the Rainbow is scheduled for publication by Lexington Press in 2015. Publishing the results of our programs considerably expands the Centers impact and influence enabling us to participate in, and contribute to, the national discussion.

Furthermore, the Center sponsors occasional public lectures dealing with important ethical and moral issues.

DEVELOPMENT
Giving Levels

Ambassador $100,000 and above
Guardian $ 50,000 and above
Benefactor $ 25,000 and above
Patron $10,000 and above
Associate $ 1,000 and above

LOCATION
The Center is housed in the office of Professor Alan L. Berger, Raddock Eminent Scholar Chair of Holocaust Studies, located in the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters.

Top from left to right
Dr. Alan L. Berger, Ms. Naomi Berger, Rabbi/Dr. Riccardo Di Segni, Professor Khaled Mohammed, Professor John T. Pawlikowski, Mr. Manny Shemin, Ms. Connie DiDesgni, Ms. Rhoda Shemin