

Marie Silverman

Marie Silverman, a strong yet soft-spoken woman who's faced the Holocaust's terrors sets the example for people all over the world. Her testimonial teaches us to be the kinder versions of ourselves who don't give up hope and keep up morale no matter what. Learning about Marie's mother's choice to entrust her daughters to people from the resistance inspires me to act altruistically. Displaying the importance of family interaction in her life, Marie says, "And my mother just held my sister in one hand, and me in the other hand" (0:52-0:58). For Marie's mother to decide to be separated from her daughters during the Holocaust would take a lot of selflessness and demonstrates her courage to trust people during the stressful time of World War II. She perseveres in using the power of the human spirit to take risks and agree to be separated from her family as it increases their chance of survival and protects them from harm. The fearless French resistance standing up to the Nazis inspires me to be brave and to confront injustice. The care Marie expresses for her family in the testimonial rose my awareness of how important people, especially those close to me, are in my life. Marie's mother's actions are partially responsible for Marie's decision to keep retelling her Holocaust experience, passing on knowledge, and inspiring others with her words. In my case, my grandmother instilling a strong work ethic in me from an early age taught me to be responsible and care for the things I do, say, and create. Just like Marie, I want to be an upstander, voice the injustices of the world, and set an example for future generations.