

# A Real Eye-Opener

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Visiting the Museum of Tolerance really opened my eyes. I mean, I already knew about the Holocaust. I already knew about the millions that were ruthlessly tortured and slaughtered by one of the greatest evils this world has ever known. I already knew about how horrible everything was and, quite frankly, I was almost dreading going to the museum in fear of being saddened and depressed beyond belief. That was not the case; not in the slightest. The thing I admired most about the museum was the fact that it didn't focus on all the gore and brutality of Nazi death camps. I was expecting pictures and videos and images that would make me feel extremely disgusted and upset. And although many images were quite disturbing, the message the museum was trying to convey was not one of hatred for the Nazis but acceptance to anyone who is not like you. I myself, being a high school student who's sense of humor is somewhat questionable, and moral values no where near perfect, had my views changed quite a bit. Many of the things are offensive and politically incorrect, but I never mean anything by it. I'm always "just joking." But I realized that even though my "simple jokes" are just jokes, they're still offensive to some people. I caught myself several times, during our tour, holding back

an insensitive comment or snide remark. I realized that even if you are "just joking," people may find some truth behind it. And it's not good to make fun of someone for being different in your point of view.

Our visit to the museum really opened my eyes to who I was and how insensitive I really am. I made a promise to myself that I would try my hardest to be more tolerant and accepting of people different from me, and to not make fun of people's religions, or ethnicities or sexual preferences. Lastly I would like to say thank you for supporting our trip to the Museum of Tolerance. This trip really opened my eyes to being more accepting of everyone.