

People make choices. Choices make history.

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Facing History and Ourselves is pleased to offer its wholehearted endorsement of the planned documentary film: *The Trial of Henry Ford*. The topic and the story that the film will tell is clearly one that deserves to be known and reflected upon by all of the multiple audience Facing History serves, especially the young people in schools and other educational settings who will bear the responsibility of sustaining our democracy.

Facing History and Ourselves is an international educational and professional development organization whose mission is to engage students of diverse backgrounds in an examination of racism, prejudice and antisemitism in history and in the present. By studying the historical development of the Holocaust and other watershed historical moments, students make the essential connections between history and the choices they confront in their own lives.

The story of how Aaron Sapiro was willing to challenge the antisemetic propaganda and hatred that was being dispersed by Henry Ford, one of the most powerful individuals in this country, exemplifies the role of what Facing History calls "upstander" and making a difference in the achievement of justice — whether that be in a school, a community, or in the wider society. In that sense, it is a Facing History and Ourselves story and one which, with appropriate educational outreach and accompanying resources, is one likely to find an important place in school classroom and curricula.

There are a number of ways in which Facing History has worked with such documentaries such as this one, from informing the 30,000 teachers in our network about the film, to consulting on the preparation of materials and study guides that for continued classroom use. We look forward to continued discussion with the filmmaker as this project achieves the full development that it deserves.

Best

Margot Stern Strom

Klarman Family Executive Director

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