

**LESSON PLAN**

**Individual Action Makes the Difference**

MODULE ONE. FOUNDATION: *UNIT III. Human Rights in International Law*

Created by: Linda Kalbach, Doane College

**LENGTH**

3 days

**NEBRASKA SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS**

World History: 12.2.10

**McREL NATIONAL STANDARDS**

Geography: 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 11.4,  
13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.4

**OBJECTIVES**

1. Students will research the life and work of a human rights activist.
2. Students will analyze which regions of the world are experiencing the greatest difficulty with human rights violations.

**TERMS**

Activist  
Geographic Region

**MATERIALS**

- Large political map of world and pens or markers
- Website:  
Speak Truth to Power: Defenders  
<http://www.speaktruth.org/>

**Day One - Two:**

- I. Have students go to the **Speak Truth to Power** website, go to the Defenders tab, and then select a region of the world. Then have them select an individual activist and read the biographical information. Encourage students to search for more information on the country in which the activist is working, if needed.
- II. Based on their findings, have students create a monologue of the person researched that will bring his/her story to life. Have them create visuals that can be used during the monologue to help the class understand key pieces of information such as geographical location, key names in the person's life, names of groups in the country, etc.

**Day Three**

- III. Distribute a political paper map of the world and have students fill in information on the map as each monologue is delivered.
- IV. Following the individual presentations hold a discussion forum to analyze the similarities and differences in the life stories. Also, expand the discussion so that students begin to look at what regions of the world are struggling the most with human rights issues and possible reasons for this reality.