

10 Steps to Genocide

1. **Classification** — A division between “us” and “them” is created socially, culturally, historically so that it appears that no common ground exists between groups.

2. **Symbolization** — Social, cultural, religious, ethnic, and/or racial differences between groups is made highly visual and symbolic. This accelerates the propaganda (messaging) that creates division and hate toward the “other.” Often these symbols are forced upon the target group.

3. **Discrimination** — Differential treatment and denial of rights of the target group by the group holding power (by both citizens and government).

4. **Dehumanization** — Hate propaganda is used to characterize the target group as less than human and a dangerous “other”.

5. **Organization** — The deliberate planning of genocide by the state, including the training, arming, funding, targeting, etc. necessary to carry out genocide.

6. **Polarization** — Extremists drive the groups apart through hate propaganda, laws, banning social interaction, and targeting moderates who try to combat against polarizing groups.

7. **Preparation** — Incitement and conspiracy to commit genocide is made public and the intention to commit genocide is characterized as necessary. Citizens are indoctrinated with fear of the target group.

8. **Persecution** — State-sponsored violence and genocidal massacres begin against the target group. Death lists are drawn up, the target group is forced to identify themselves at all times, property is confiscated, the target group is forcibly segregated, deported, displaced, or confined. The international community must declare a genocide emergency and take action.

9. **Extermination** — The mass killing legally known as genocide. International intervention is essential and legally required under the UN Genocide Convention.

10. **Denial** — Perpetrators deny the genocide by destroying evidence, intimidating or eliminating witnesses, block investigations of the crimes, flee into exile in another country, and project blame for the violence onto the target group.