



Faculty of  
Communication

# HEALING WOUNDS OF SOUL: SILENT PERSONAL STORIES OF THE WOMEN HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Transgenerational trauma transmission



Co-funded by  
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# WORKING PROCESS

## Theoretical background:

- Healing the soul wounds (Duran 2006)

*narration practices for both personal and communal healing*

## Exploratory study

- 12 interviews with women:
  - 2 with the 99 year-old survivors
  - 8 with the daughters of survivors
  - 2 with the granddaughters of survivors

## Duration

2019 – middle of 2021

> than 40 hours of interviews

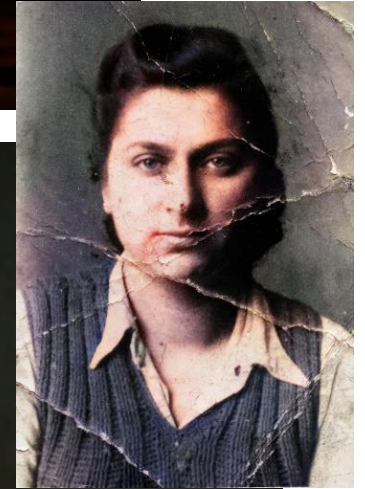
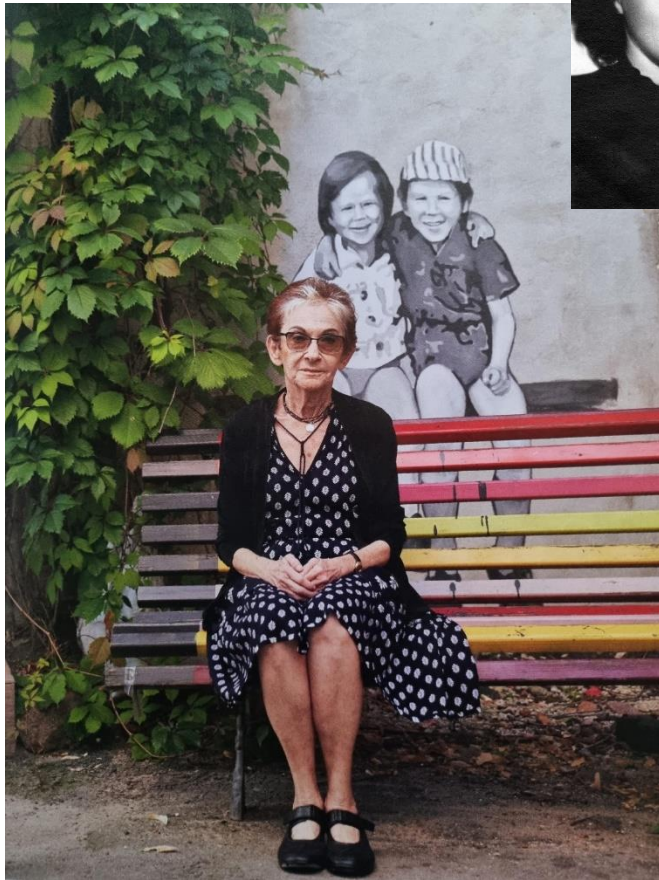


Photo from the collections of the Faculty of Communication

# Respondents



at the Stutthof concentration camp.



# SUCCESS OF THE INTERVIEWS

- Personal contact
- Long-term relationship
- Trust
  
- Flexibility:
  - ✓ Conversations on the phone
  - ✓ Private meetings
  - ✓ Skype meetings
  - ✓ Recording, taking notes
  
- Courage:
  - ✓ Constant coming back
  - ✓ Asking and listening
  - ✓ Staying in contact after the interviews



Photo from the collections of the Faculty of Communication

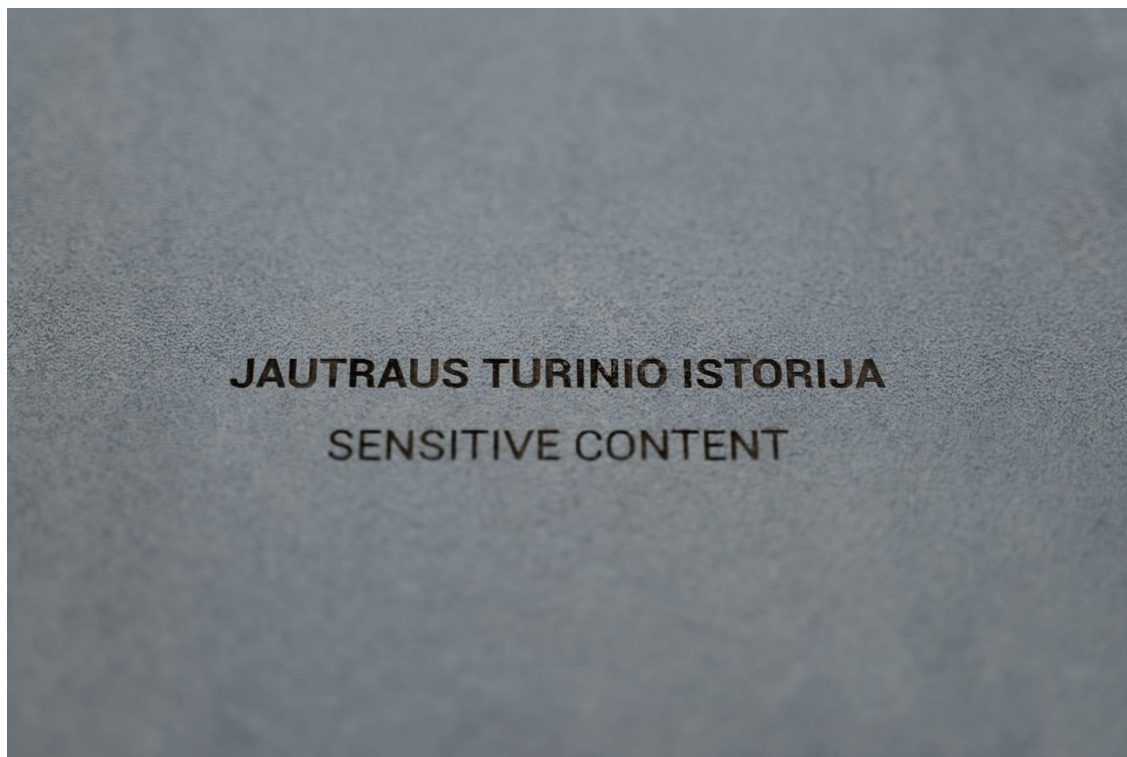
# WHY YOU DIDN'T TALK ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES?



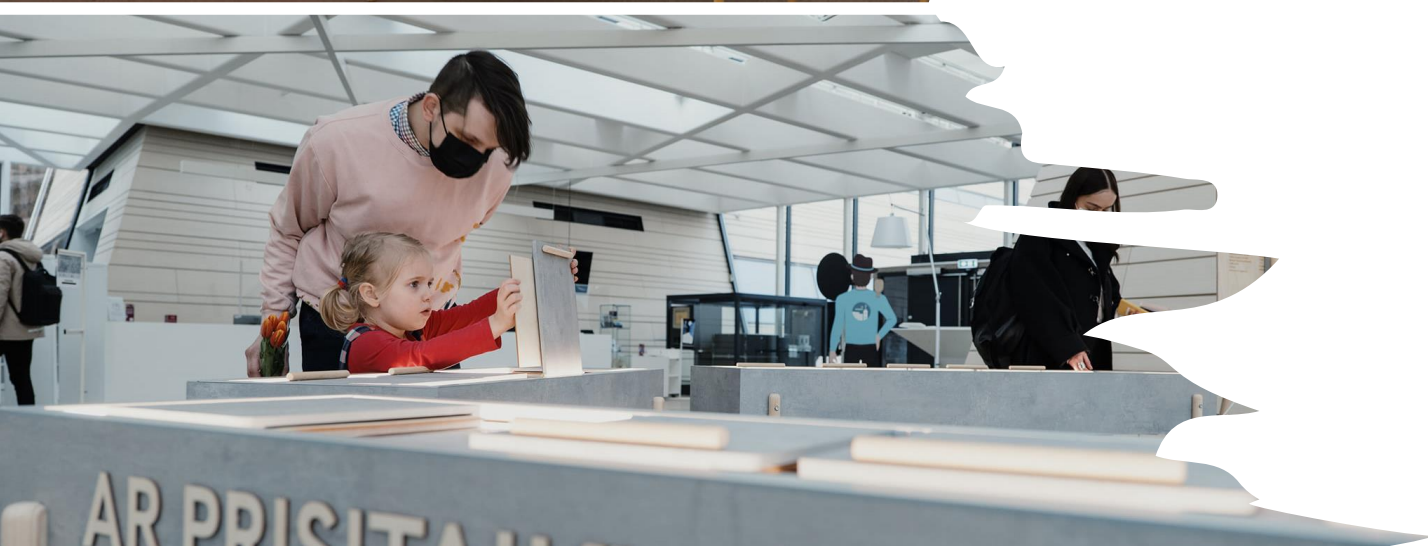
Photo from the personal collection of Dita Zupovich-Sperling

*Because nobody wanted to  
listen to me...*

*Dita Zupovich-Sperling*



# Exposure of sensitive experiences



**Impact**

# After the exhibition...

A heartbreaking, but incredibly important exhibition of memories, voices and experiences that can never be forgotten.  
Even if current events may prove a different trend, I have to retain hope that at some point, humanity will move to a state where traumatic experiences like these will continue to be remembered, but never re-lived.

I don't know how to express my feelings.  
I don't understand why history always has to repeat itself  
Why can't we learn from our past?

INA  
Why people follow so easily the orders of violent chiefs, generals, dictators?  
This thought scares me the most.  
Why russian people like war so much?  
Why they hate life so much?

Ricardas, Vilnius Lithuania  
2022.03.12 Ricardas  
Born in 1984, like Orwell book.





# Thank you

## CONTACTS

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