

8th Grade Reading
Holocaust Unit
Night by Elie Wiesel

Name: _____ Date: _____

First They Came by Martin Niemoller

First they came for the Communists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Communist
Then they came for the Socialists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Socialist
Then they came for the trade unionists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a trade unionist
Then they came for the Jews
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Jew
Then they came for me
And there was no one left
To speak out for me

*Please complete a SOAPSTOne analysis for
the poem:*

Speaker--

Occasion--

Audience--

Purpose--

Subject--

Communism: political theory derived from Karl Marx, advocating class war and leading to a society in which all property is publicly owned and each person is paid according to his or her abilities and needs.

Socialism: a political and economic theory of social organization that advocates that the means of production, distribution, and exchange should be owned or regulated by the community as a whole.

Please respond to the following quote:

Wiesel said in his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech,

“Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented. Sometimes we must interfere...Wherever men or women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views.

This quote by Elie Wiesel and the poem “First They Came” by Martin Niemoller have a similar message. In your own words, explain what that message is.
