A Mother's Nightmare Steven Vander Sluis El Toro High School, Lake Forest First Place, High School Art

I decided to draw a picture of a woman grieving because that has always been the first visual that comes to mind when I think of an emotional Holocaust picture. When I was younger, I visited the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. I remember seeing a picture of a woman crying because her children and family had been taken away from her. This memory touches me the most and is something I recall when I think of the Holocaust.

I once heard a survivor of the Holocaust speak. I remember her describing how horrible it was to watch helplessly as her family was torn apart and to see the effect it had on her mother. She knew she would never see her family together ever again. And she never did.

The woman in my picture is grieving over her loss of how life used to be. The barbed wire represents the force that is tearing apart her life and



her family. Barbed wire sticks in you and tears at your flesh. It is as if she is being stabbed and torn apart because she must be separated from her family. She knows that she will probably never see them again.

This is the picture that comes to my mind when I think of how horrible the Holocaust must have been. I find it sad to hear stories of family being torn apart and forced to survive on their own.