

SECOND PLACE MIDDLE SCHOOL ART

Blinded by Confusion

Emma Kozak, Grade 8

St. Junipero Serra Catholica School, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA

Teacher: Jessica Kim-Saad

Testimony: Dientje Kalisky

From the age of four, Dientje Kalisky endured torture while in hiding. When she was reunited with her parents, she could not talk about her experiences of the past. Her father told her she could not be sad or scared by her nightmares. She expressed, "I always had to smile. I always had to be happy." She lived in a world devoid of compassion. Dientje provided herself with love to deal with the reality of her trauma which she barely understood. A helpless child, vulnerable to the truth, whose innerstrength helped her to cope with the horror of the Holocaust.

