

The Syrian War

Artists Commentary

My artwork is titled "Left Behind" and was made to memorialize the Syrian War. The Syrian war began in 2011, following the Arab spring (a series of civilian protests against the unfair treatment of their governments across multiple middle eastern countries), and it is still continuing today. According to the United Nations, the death toll of this war is at least 350,000. Although, opposition activist groups in Syria have estimated between 499,657 and 610,000 lives taken. The Syrian war has also created the largest present-day refugee crisis, with over half of Syria's prewar population (13 million people) being displaced.

For my artwork, I chose to create a piece to memorialize the refugees of Syria and all they have been through. My artwork is a model of a room inside an abandoned Syrian home. The room is based on images of real-life Syrian homes that have been abandoned haphazardly. On the walls of my structure, I included a collage of pictures depicting the Syrian refugees and the state of their country to showcase their situation and the continuous struggles they face. The materials I used were cardboard for the structure, paper for the photo collage, and mini dollhouse furniture to express the realism of this piece and to reflect the current state of the homes in Syria.

Throughout this project, I have been able to learn about Syria through researching articles, listening to podcasts, and watching documentaries. I have found that indifference can fuel war in the way that it enables the perpetrators to continue their crimes without being persecuted for them. Specifically in Syria, bystanders have made it hard for people to make a real change and to oppose the government in a strong way. Overall, This project allowed me to empathize and learn about the Syrian War, and I hope that by sharing my art with the world, I can help bring some awareness to these crimes against humanity.

"Left Behind"



"Left Behind"



Back Wall



Left Wall



Right Wall





Thank You!

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