



# Remembering the Rosenstrasse Protest

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### Abstract

When learning about World War II, the associations that arise are the horrific events of Holocaust, along with countless stories of the cruelty of the German government and soldiers. Though many have heard of the violent actions that occurred during this period, not many know of the moments of courage and light spurned by love and rebellion against oppression. This research project focuses on advocating for the mission of the Rosenstrasse Foundation, as it strives to bring awareness through education, emphasizing acts of civil courage, such as those of the women who participated in the Rosenstrasse protest of 1943. One method of research, genealogy, involves the investigation of possible identities of protestors by locating past documents on platforms such as ancestry.com. Birth certificates, marriage certificates, and family trees are utilized to confirm the presence of the individuals at the protest. Through genealogical research, biographies on individuals connected to the protest, that were intermarried Germans or displayed acts of civil courage are presented on a public website. Here, descendants of protestors can learn more about their family members involved, and the website acts as a hub for information that advocates for the community's education. Another primary focus of the research was updating Wikipedia.com, where articles were edited to ensure the accuracy of the information available on the Rosenstrasse Protest. The research for this project gives a voice to those otherwise silenced by the weight of the violence and suffering of WWII, providing an example of the strength the public has when they unite towards a common goal.

### Background Information

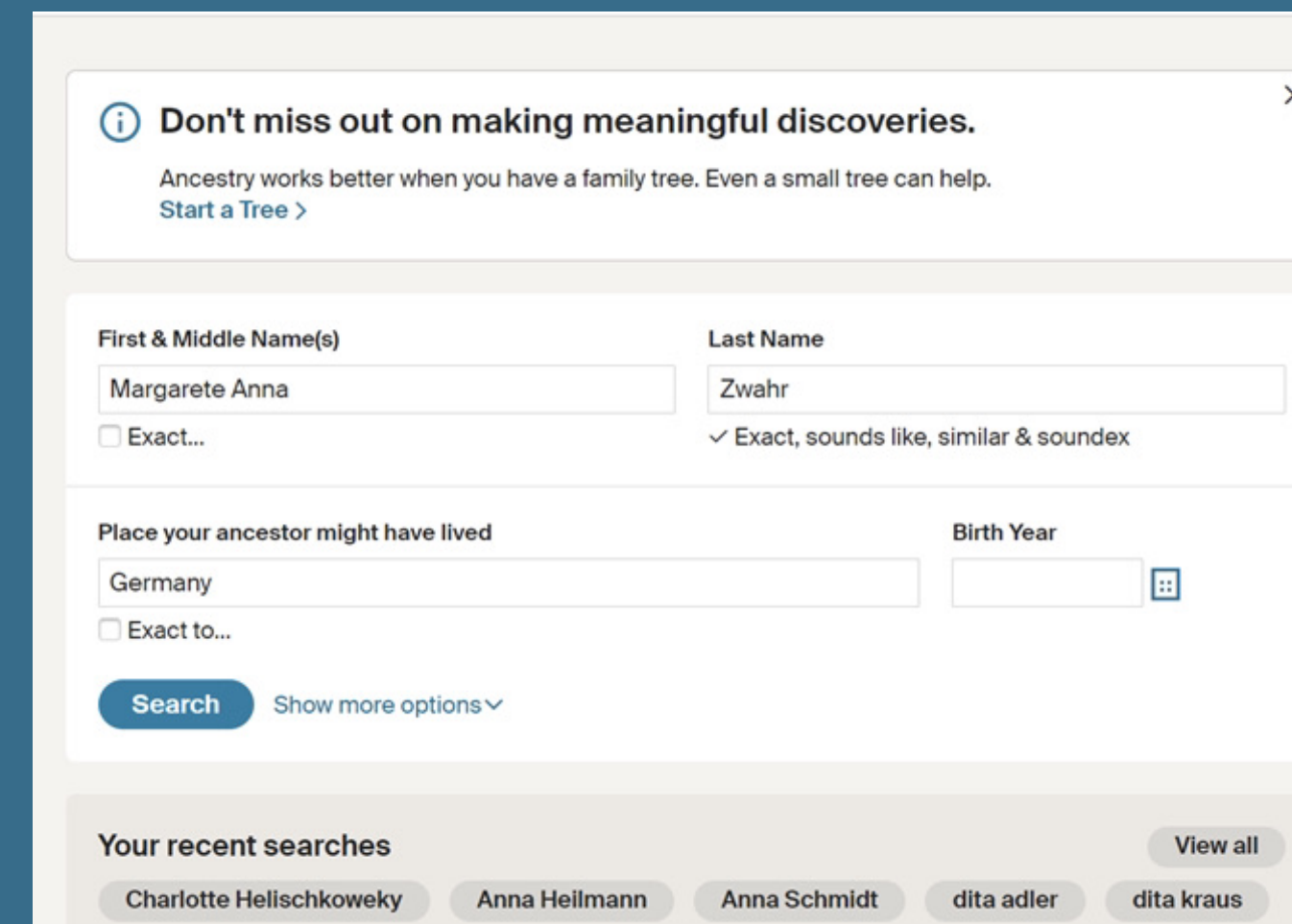
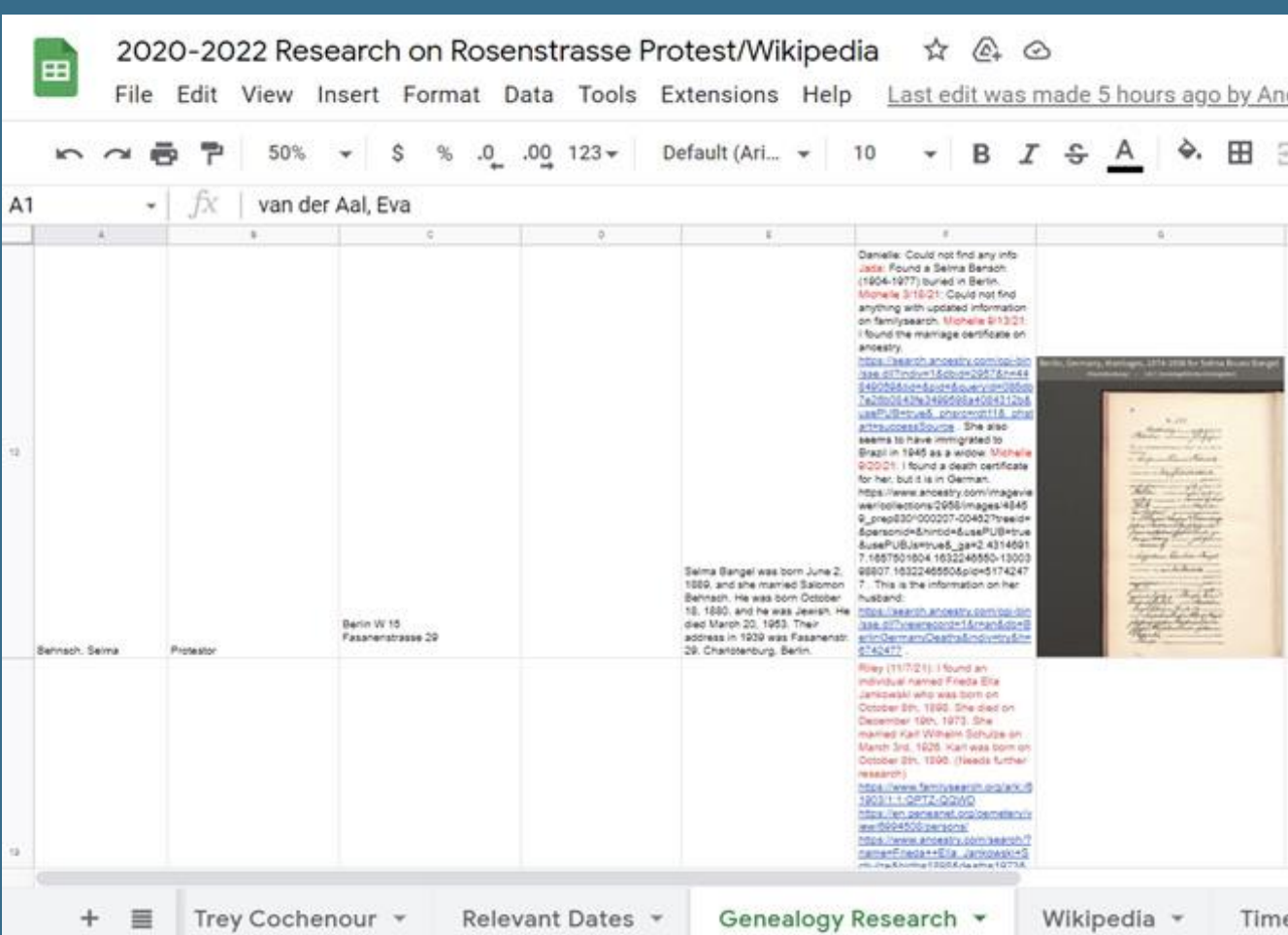
In February of 1943, the final roundup, or Fabrikation, was initiated in Berlin, resulting in the gathering of all remaining Jews to be deported. Intermarried couples, or non-Jews married to Jews, were separated, their spouses brought to the Rosenstrasse community center. Enraged by the acts of the Gestapo, the non-Jewish wives gathered outside of the center, demanding for their husbands to be returned. For seven days these women continued to protest, standing firm against the threats of violence from the Gestapo guards and the German government. On March 6th, 1943, the efforts of the public were a success, as Jewish prisoners were released by order of Joseph Goebbels, a German propaganda minister. As one of the only incidents of mass demonstration by German individuals, the Rosenstrasse protest marks an important event in history, as it reflects the power of public protest and demonstrates that violence is not always necessary to make change.

### Biographies Methods:

1. Choose a name from a list of individuals that were collected from data sourced from the Census Bureau. The individuals on that list are connected to the Rosenstrasse protest. Information such as an address, spouse name, birth year or maiden name are included from the data collected. Along with this, the biography team searches for names of women who showed acts of civil courage in any form.
2. or edits suggested and place it in the finished folder in google drive. Using the information that may be available from the Census, use sources such as national archives, museum websites, books and ancestry.com to find all relative documents or forms of media on the individual.
3. Write the biography with the collected data and place it in the first drafts folder in google drive to be reviewed.
4. Resolve any comments

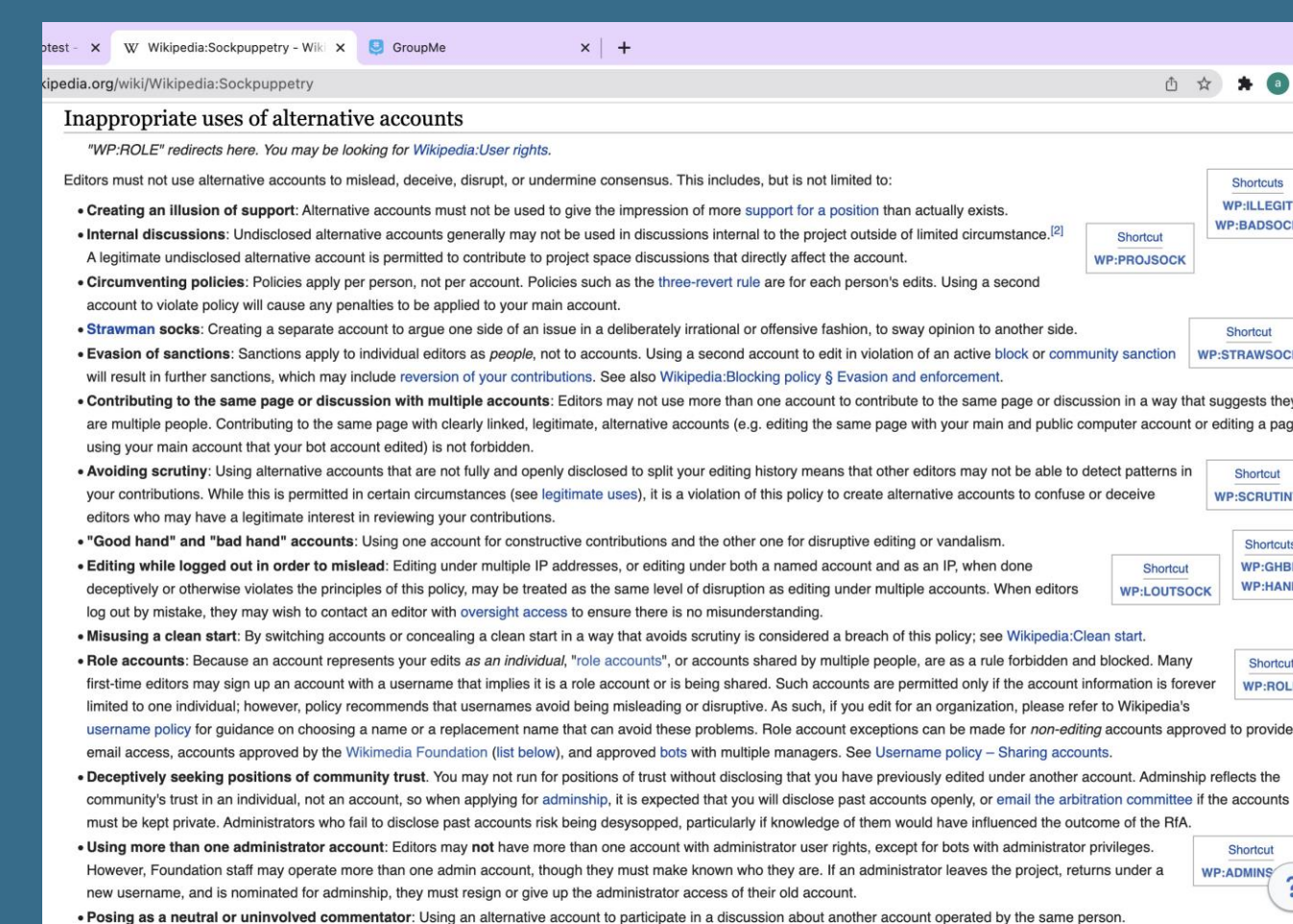
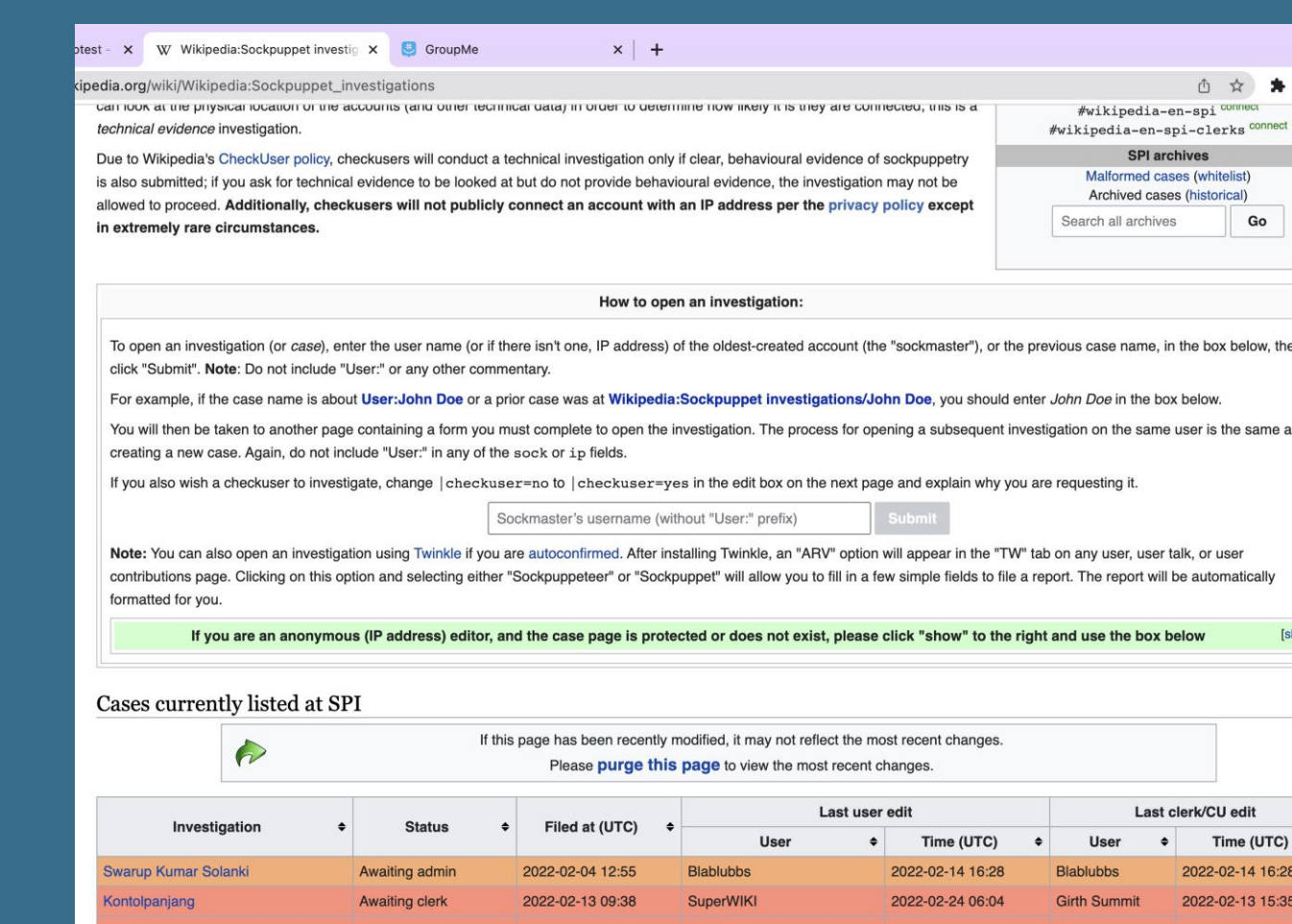
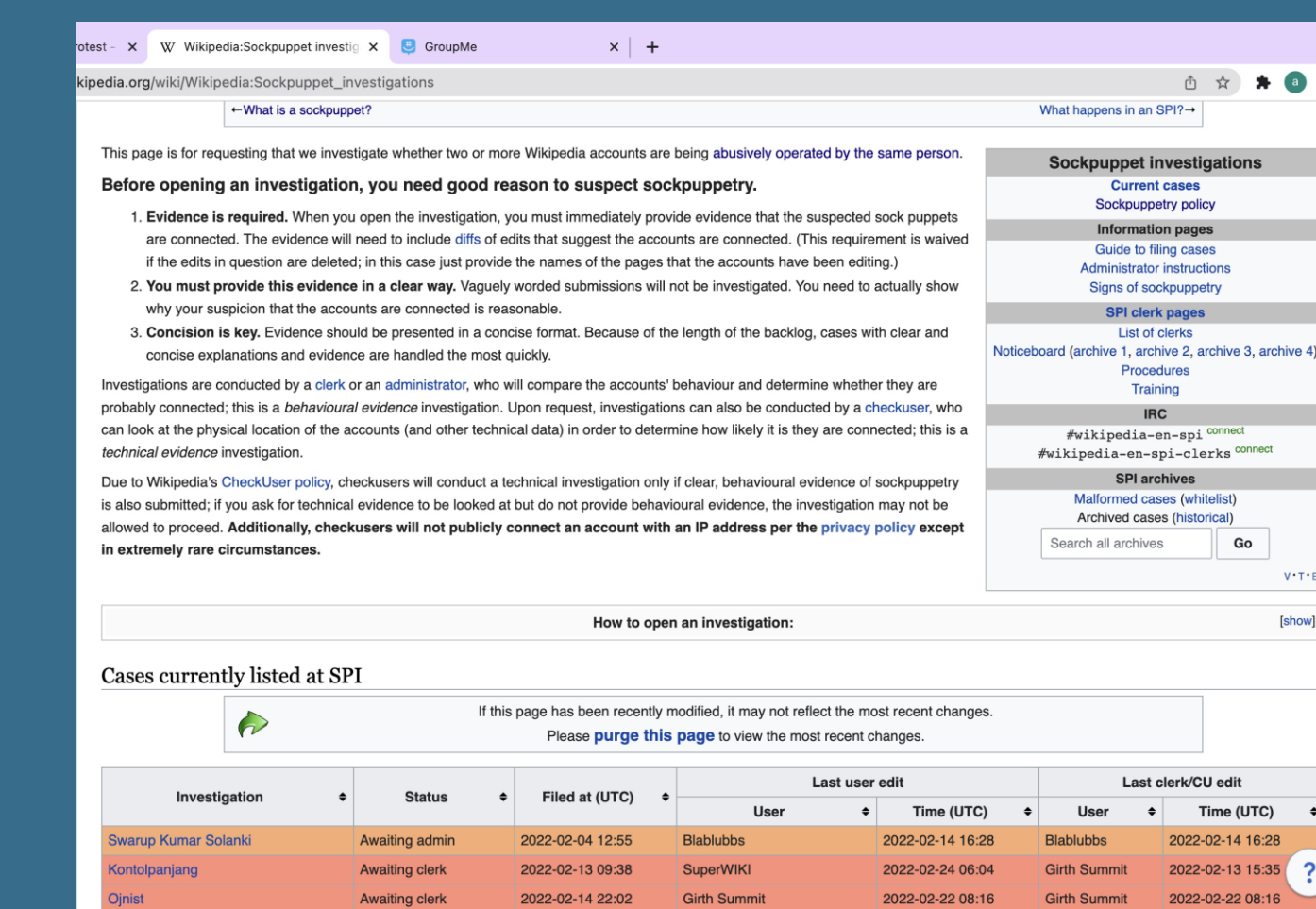
### Genealogy Methods:

1. Choose a name from a list of individuals that were collected from data sourced from the Census Bureau. The individuals on that list are connected to the Rosenstrasse protest. Information such as an address, spouse name, birth year or maiden name are included from the data collected.
2. Using the information that may be available from the Census, begin to search on websites such as ancestry.com, familysearch.com and jewishgen.org for all relative documents or forms of media on the individual. For example, typing in the individuals name and setting the location to Germany will provide a starting point to base further research upon.
3. If the search is successful, record the new information into an excel spreadsheet and include any documents that act as evidence of the match. If nothing is found, leave an update in the spreadsheet and move on to the next name down the list.
4. Some names may have links to living relatives, in which the Foundation will reach out and ask if they are willing to share anything about the family member involved.



### Wikipedia Methods

1. Read background knowledge of specific topics during the protest.
2. Look at what is already written on the associated Wikipedia page
3. Edit Wikipedia articles to eliminate any biased or anti-Semitic comments. Whether this is not presented or not, appropriate research must be done to provide evidence and cite the correct source. If not, it helps to arrange the information with sources, so readers have easy access to finding what they may be looking for.
4. If needed, create separate pages to clarify terms and give context to their definitions, as well as significance to the topic.
5. Depending on if sockpuppetry is found, such as discrimination or hate comments, file a report on the individual and mark the user and article in the spreadsheet. If not, simply comment on the edits made.
6. Add additional information, if needed to elaborate perspectives or point of views.
7. If possible, use more than Dr. Stoltzfus' book, *Resistance of the Heart*, for information and data.
8. Cite the website in the list of sources used.
9. Check for all the sources for relevancy.
10. Make sure all the sources take the user to the right site



### Discussion

With the launch of the improved Rosenstrasse Foundation website, biographies on intermarried Germans, individuals at the protest, stories of women's resistance and German civil courage, will be made available to the public. Genealogical research will be continued, as more documents are gathered to confirm the identities of participants and added to the biography pages to strengthen the validity of the information. For the Wikipedia research, continuous efforts will be made to prevent sockpuppets from creating edits, as well as to ensure no biased information is degrading the integrity of the topic. An RSO, or Recognized Student Organization, is also being created on the FSU campus. RSOs are recognized by FSU and provide a way to form new relationships, develop professional skills and enhance academic experiences. This would allow more people to be involved in the Foundation's mission, bringing awareness to a larger population.

### References

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