

Handout – Sophie Scholl Source Study

Source A

“Somebody, after all, had to make a start. What we wrote and said is also believed by many others. They just don't dare express themselves as we did.”

- Sophie Scholl, speech in court, 21 February 1934

Source B

“I still see her as she stood before me, my sister... ready to start and full of expectation. At her temple she wore a yellow daisy, retrieved from the birthday table. It was beautiful to see her dark, smooth, shiny hair hang down to her shoulders. With her large brown eyes she looked upon the world critically but with lively interest. Hers was still a child's face, with delicate features. In it there was something akin to the nervous curiosity of a young animal and at the same time an expression of great seriousness.”

- Inge Scholl (sister of Hans and Sophie), *The White Rose: 1942-1943* (1983)

Source C

“How can we expect righteousness to prevail when there is hardly anyone willing to give himself up individually to a righteous cause?

Such a fine, sunny day, and I have to go. But what does my death matter if through us, thousands of people are awakened and stirred to action?”

- Last words of Sophie Scholl, before she was led to the guillotine, as reported by her cellmate, Else Gebel.

Source D

“I am, now as before, of the opinion that I did the best that I could for my nation. I therefore do not regret my conduct and will bear the consequences that result from my conduct.”

- Sophie Scholl, responding in court when she was asked if she thought her actions should be seen as a crime against the community.

Source E



Memorial to Sophie Scholl and the White Rose Movement at the University of Munich

Source F



German postage stamps featuring Hans and Sophie Scholl, from (clockwise from top left) 1961, 1964, 1991.