**Video Title:** Irene Gut Opdyke - Polish Rescuer & Hero

**Video URL:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jn2g6cNcbPo>

**Run Time/Source:** 13:43

**Source:** ABC News-PrimeTime Live/YouTube

**Closed Caption Available:** Yes

This video profiles Irene Opdyke, a rescuer of Jews from the Nazis in Poland during World War II. Irene saved a family of Jews from the Nazis by hiding them in the basement of the villa of the German Major she worked for. Irene describes the events that led up to her decision to hide the Jews in the German Major's villa and what happened during the period of hiding. According to Opdyke, the major discovered the Jews one day but did not turn them or Irene into the Gestapo. Irene's efforts are emblematic of thousands of others who put their lives on the line to help others during this (and other) period in history. As you will see in the video the major's decision came at a cost to Irene. As you watch the video, answer the following questions:

1. What happened to get Irene Opdyke motivated to help rescue Jews?

2. What did Irene Opdyke do to help rescue the 12 Jews she befriended?

3. Do you think Irene Opdyke was born an altruist or are there other explanations for her behavior (what are they)?

4. Give an example or two of others who did similar things at other points in history.

5. Would you have what it takes to do what Irene did (why or why not)? What factors might enter into your decision to help under those circumstances that faced Irene?