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Issue We created a website about the safety of nuclear weapons and the storage of nuclear waste. We researched the Titan II silo explosion near Damascus, Arkansas & the Rocky Flats Nuclear Facility in Colorado. Safety procedures surrounding the missiles & the factory were very lax, which was a major violation of people's rights. The American people have a right to know when they are in danger.

Project Description Our project began as a National History Day website, which allowed us to communicate with many groups. We had never heard of a missile exploding in Arkansas & neither had many of the adults knew. As we read articles about the nuclear weapons programs, we decided to expand our website to include the hazards of nuclear waste left behind after the development of nuclear weapons. We specifically used the Rocky Flats Nuclear Production Facility in Colorado. We interviewed newspaper reporters & radio reporters who actually covered the scene of the Damascus explosion. We noticed that we had not actually talked to any of the people from Damascus who had witnessed the explosion, so we went to Damascus & interviewed several people who were living there at the time of the explosion. We also interviewed through email two authors & activists about their experiences living near the Rocky Flats facility. What struck us about both of these instances was that both groups of people talked about how little they knew about the projects. This failure to inform & attempts to cover up and deny were a serious breach of the basic rights to safety, as people were put in danger without their knowledge.

Project Outcome We hope people learn about safety issues of the nuclear weapons program & how the government failed to protect people. We want to encourage people to become involved in the issue of proper storage of nuclear waste. We don't want people from other areas of the US to worry about exposure & ill health like those of Damascus & Rocky Flats. People need to know their rights & understand these issues.

Request We would like for you to support legislation to create a sustainable process for managing nuclear waste. With nuclear waste scattered in many locations across the US, a comprehensive nuclear waste storage program should be developed. Nuclear scientists have discussed storage of nuclear waste since the 1940s, but we are still dealing with nuclear waste piecemeal. This definitely needs to change.

Project Link <http://22964714.weebly.com/>