



DO NOT STAND IDLY BY

January 18, 2005

Letters to the Editor
Los Angeles Times
202 West 1st Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Sent via email to: letters@latimes.com

Dear Editor:

I couldn't agree more with the words and message of Terry George ("A Wave of Apathy Over Africa's Suffering", Sunday, January 16, 2005). It is both perplexing and enraging that the West all but ignores genocide after genocide in Africa, despite the millions that have been and continue to be killed. Are we so thick-skinned (or is it simple-minded) that we Westerners feel that since we don't understand African politics, we don't need to concern ourselves with or even really care about the African victims? If that's the case, it is shameful. Currently, a genocide is ensuing in Darfur, Sudan. The government-sponsored *janjaweed* are killing and raping civilians; tens of thousands have been murdered and 2 million civilians have been rendered homeless—many of them will starve and die of exposure and thirst. What more do we need to understand? Films like Hotel Rwanda give hope that the generosity of soul and spirit brought out by the Tsunami might also be tapped to benefit the unfortunate victims of ethnic cleansing and power mongering which plague the Sudan and other African countries.

Janice Kamenir-Reznik, Chair, Jewish World Watch--an organization established to fight genocide

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