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World History

SSWH19 Demonstrate an understanding of the global political, economic, and social impact of World War II.

b. Identify Nazi ideology and policies that led to the Holocaust and its consequences.

LESSON PLAN: NAZI RACIAL IDEOLOGY AND PROPAGANDA

The Nazis believed that the world was defined by a struggle among races. Nazi racism drew on widespread, popular ideas about race and biology. --USHMM Holocaust Encyclopedia

OVERVIEW:

Beginning in 1933, Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party carried out their racist ideology. Certain groups were considered valuable. They were part of the Nazi Volksgemeinschaft, the German people. Other groups, Jews, Roma (gypsies) members of the LGBTQ community, the disabled, Jehovah's Witnesses, political opponents, were considered outsiders. This led to legal discrimination, persecution, and ultimately, a world war and mass murder.

READ: NAZI RACISM

Source: https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/nazi-racism

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

What is Nazi racism? Under Nazi racial ideology, were Jews members of a religion or a race? Explain.

READ: JEWS IN PRE-WAR GERMANY

Source: https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/jews-in-prewar-germany?parent=en%2F11112

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:



What are 3 characteristics of the German Jewish pre-war population, mentioned in the article?

What was the percentage of Jews that made up the population of Germany?

www.holocaust.georgia.gov

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READ: Handout on Herbert Kohn





The Kohn Family, a German Jewish Family

Left: Herbert Kohn on his first day of school in Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Right: Herbert Kohn's father and grandfather, who both served in the German Army in World War I.

--Photos courtesy of Alabama Holocaust Education Center

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

How do you think the Kohn family viewed themselves before Hitler came to power? Did they identify as Germans? As Jews? Explain your answer.

What conspiracy theory developed about the Jews during and after World War I?

Using the Holocaust Chronology, list 3 events, and their dates, that affected the Kohn family after Hitler took power.

What choices did the Kohn family make after 1938?

What are some of the difficulties people would face in making these kinds of choices?

What choices did Herbert Kohn make after coming to America?

HOW DID THE NAZIS SPREAD THEIR IDEOLOGY?

READ: NAZI PROPAGANDA AND CENSORSHIP

OVERVIEW:

The Nazis used propaganda to win the support of millions of Germans. ...To accomplish this goal, they tried to control forms of communication through censorship and propaganda. This included control of newspapers, magazines, books, art, theater, music, movies, and radio.

Source: https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/nazi-propaganda-and-censorship

EXAMINING THE ROLE OF PROPAGANDA IN THE HOLOCAUST

VIEW: SECTIONS 2 AND 3: PATH TO NAZI GENOCIDE

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Source: https://www.ushmm.org/learn/holocaust/path-to-nazi-genocide/the-path-to-nazi-genocide/full-film

Building a National Community, 1933–1936 (Starts at 12:22)

From Citizens to Outcasts, 1933–1938 (Starts at 18:12)

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

What are 3 examples of Nazi censorship?

What are 3 propaganda tools used by the Nazis to spread their ideology?

How did the Nazi regime control the information people could access on their radios?



Left: Book burning in Berlin Germany, May 10, 1933. -World Wide Photo

Right: 1936 poster: "All of Germany Listens to the Führer with the People's Radio." The poster depicts a crowd surrounding a radio. The radio looms large, symbolizing the mass appeal and broad audience for Nazi broadcasts. ---Bundesarchiv Koblenz (Plak003-022-025)

