

VII. Nuremberg Laws

Q: Intention v. Improvisation?

Q: Holocaust against the Jews x Ry War against the Allies?

A: Landau: deliberate plan to kill the Jews, but not other groups.

I. As Germany began to lose the war, anti-Jewish measures increased.

II. Anti-Jewish Policy superseded War policy.

Anti-Jewish laws and events in the early years:

27 Feb. 1933 Reichstag Fire

Decree for the Protection of the People and the State. Eradicated free speech, private property, and personal privacy

23 March 1933 Enabling Act

Granted Dictatorial Powers to the Chancellor. Dissolved Reichstag and parliamentary democracy. Socialists and Communists refused to vote, but they only needed 15 votes to shoot the bill down. Dachau opened the same day.

1 April 1933 Boycott of Jewish Businesses

A party decision made by Goebbels, not by the State itself. Lacked legal authority. A huge failure because it scared the populace.

7 April 1933 Civil Service Act

prohibited Jews from holding civil service positions (teachers, judges, scientists, etc.)

11 April 1933 First Definition of "Non-Aryan"

Defined as one Jewish parent or grandparent.

Hindenberg protested for the exemption of war veterans and was appeased.

25 April 1933 Law Against the Overcrowding of German Schools and Institutions of Higher Learning.

Quotas of 1.5%.

10 May 1933 Berlin Book Burning by Goebbels

14 July 1933 Canceling of Citizenship for all Jews who entered Germany after Sept. 1918.

26 July 1933 Law for the Prevention of Hereditary Diseases

Legalized Sterilization of Jews

29 Sept. 1933 Reich Chamber of Culture

All Cultural activities are now under party control

30 June 1934 The Night of Long Knives

Disbanding of the SA; eliminated political opposition

2 Aug. 1934 Hindenberg's death = birth of the Führer title

21 May 1935 Defense Law

Non-Aryans can not serve in the military

15 Sept. 1935 Nuremberg Laws

- a. Citizenship Law: Jews cannot be citizens of the Reich
 - b. Marriage Law: Outlawed mixed marriages
- 14 Nov. 1935 Definition of "Jew"
- Institutionalized Legal Racism.
 - Jew = 3 or more Jewish Grandparents
 - Mischlinge = 2 Jewish Grandparents
 - Aryan = 1 Jewish Grandparent
- 1936 Reich Office for Combating Homosexuality and Abortion
- 1937 Aryanization of Jewish Businesses

Progress at the expense of a minority was acceptable (*Mein Kampf*).

Jewish reaction: As long as they could contribute to German society, they should be OK.
This lasted until 1938, when 2/3 of all German Jews were still in Germany.

Varieties and incarnations of Nazi Antisemitism =

- Hitler: Propaganda
- Goebbles: pseudo-Science
- Philosophical Theory: Rosenberg
- Cartoons: Stericher