

HOLOCAUST STUDIES

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Rise of Nazi Antisemitism

1933-1938

Nazi Rise to Power

- January 1919 – German Workers' party formed
- July 1921 – Hitler takes control of the party
- November 1923 – The Putsch
- April 1925 – SS is formed
- July 1932 – Nazi party gains popular majority
- January 1933 – Hitler is democratically elected Chancellor of Germany
- March 1933 – Enabling Act gives Hitler to make laws without consulting German Parliament
- August 1934 – Hitler combines the office of Chancellor and President
- September 1935 – Nuremberg Laws define German citizenship
- November 1938 – Kristallnacht
- October 1939 – T4 program
- June 1941 – Operation Barbarossa
- Autumn 1941 – Nazi coordination to deport Jews to extermination camps begins

Why the Jews?

- They had long been "otherized" in Europe
- Were subjected to several programs (mid nineteenth, early twentieth centuries)
- Socially segregated into unsavory classes and professions
- Seen as "killers of Christ" and thought to have devious motivations

Problems Faced by Germany

- Economic instability
 - Inflation
 - unemployment
- War reparations
- War guilt
- Political instability



Scapegoat

- Nazi ideology founded on racial superiority
- Propaganda stemming from theories found in Adolf Hitler's *Mein Kampf*
- Though German Jews were well integrated into society, their race made them targets