

EUROPEAN JEWRY (1871-1914)

WESTERN EUROPE

Emancipation

- Freed from Religious Persecution

- Given Rights as People

-The Emancipation Debates: In the late 18th & early 19th centuries, countries began defining citizenship. (Should they extend citizenship rights to people outside of society's norms?)

- the right to worship, the right to congregate

- what happens when their religious activities clash with our ways of life?

- Holland and France were the first countries to give rights to Jews.... Western Europe follows.... Eastern Europe would not follow

- In the late 1700's, majority of Jews moved from the country, into the urban centers (Berlin, Munich, Paris, Vienna, etc.)

- Began experiencing urbanization

- **Acculturation:** Minority group takes on the characteristics of the majority group, but is still very much of the minority (in characteristics)

Anti-semitism - Anti-jewish beliefs & actions

Ideological Changes

Zionism- Call for the creation of a Jewish home. Nationalist movement. Most Jews in late 19th and 20th century movements were not Zionist. Majority were anti-Zionist

Eastern Europe

- Pale of Settlement

- Where the majority of Jews lived (where they were allowed to reside)

- Shtetlach (shtetl)

- Religious population

Ideological movements

- Zionism

- Where Jews were driven by nationalism to not be Zionists in Western Europe, its because Eastern Jews were apart of other groups (like Marxism)

Late Emancipation (1917)

The German State (1871-1914)

****German Unification does not happen until 1871... before then, there was no such thing as Germany

- There were German states, principalities, and kingdoms (lots of people spoke German)... All had different laws

- had to unify all of these places, reconcile all the religious and previous conflicts

- Kulturkampf (culture wars)

- Rise of Antisemitism

- Rapid Industrialization
 - Changes the way you live/ have to seek out new skills/ changes pace of life
- Rapid changes
 - age of modernity
- Late to imperialism and colonialism because it was unified so late
- Sonderweg- The theory that Germany was on a special path
- Emancipation
 - etatist model (tutelary model)
 - each of the different states she mentioned earlier had different citizenship laws
 - you had to make a change before you could receive your rights (speak the vernacular, learn german, adopt german dress, etc)
 - By the late 19th century, many German Jews were acculturated (went from poor & ethnic).....
 - to german speakers, urban, religiously liberal, part of the bourgeoisie middle class (85%), liberal professions, educated (including German Jew women)
 - faced antisemitism
 - hyper-patriotic

Anti-Semitism

Religious

- Contradictory. For example, the assumption that jews are both beggars and capitalists
- in the ancient and pre-modern worlds, if jews were to convert, the next generations mark of jewishness would disappear (or sometimes in their generation)
- Based on Christian Anti-Jewish charges
 - Jews were supposedly responsible for killing Jesus (develops over the years into something much more heinous)
 - Deicide (Jews were accused of killing God).... making Jews inherently evil
 - Supersessionism (The belief that Christianity had superseded Judaism, making it obsolete, and replacing Judaism as the rightful religion) ... some believed that Jews knew their religion was wrong, but were too stubborn to convert... bringing them more enemies
 - Demonization
 - Blood Libel (some refer to it as ritual murder) a charge that developed in the 12th century, charging Jews with killing young christian boys. This was usually dislodged during passover & easter

Social

- Jews are distinct, won't be able to mix in
- Seperate nation, concern about them not being able to fit in
- Different bodies & religious particularities

Cultural

- cultural outsiders who couldn't fit into the norms of a nation-state (barred as actors in theatres, etc)
- Belief that Jewish culture was harmful to society and dominating
- jews were increasingly acculturating, yet still being charged with being domineering in their culture
- The fear that they can hide within society

Political

- challenged emancipation
- Jews can't be loyal to their nation-state if they are more loyal to each other (they constitute a state within a state)

Economic

- argument that Jews were fueled by greed (economically nefarious)
- but also believed to be impoverished good-for-nothing burdens of society

Conspiratorial

- argues that Jews are all in on some type of conspiracy (particularly in late nineteenth and early 20th centuries)
- Protocols of the Elders of Zion

Racial

origins:

- how/why people are different
- imperialism

general literature about race

social darwinism

belief that jews were racially distinct and dangerous

- the belief that jews wish to impurify others
- richard wagner, houston stewart chamberlain

Historical Examples

France

1) Drumont La France juive (1886)

- catholic publisher who created anti-semitic cartoons and works regarding Jews in french society

2) Dreyfus Affair (1894)

- Alfred Dreyfus was an acculturated French Jew living in French territory that becomes German territory
- someone in the french military is selling secrets to the german military, Dreyfus is charged with treason (Even though it wasn't him)

Germany & Austria

The

1) growth of anti-semitic political parties... their political platforms often stated they believed in anti semitism and wanted to ban jew immigration, use a census to keep track of them, and to bar them from holding political office

-Vienna (Karl Lueger, who becomes the mayor of Vienna)

2) antisemitic activities

-Wilhelm Marr and Anti-Semites League

-Antisemites Petition 1880-1882

3) The resurgence of Blood Libel Charges (76 charges were brought against Jews for killing Christians)

4) Marr/Treitschke

Russia

1) Pogroms

-spontaneous, lack of a clear purpose, urban

2) 1881-1882 Pogroms

3) 1903-1905 Pogroms

Responses to Anti-Semitism

-immigration (from eastern europe to Germany/USA/Latin America/etc)

-Acculturation

-Radical Assimilation/Conversion

-self-hatred

-literary associations and organizations to educate each other

-Defense agencies of Jews and Non-Jews

-ideological responses

Sonderweg Theory (Did Jews travel a special path?)

9/17 NOTES

Bergen noted that it was not clear that the Nazi's would rise to and stay in power because other similar parties had risen and fallen out of power.

BUT HOW did this fringe party come to such power?

***Factor 1 : The Loss of WWI**

-Was first called the German Workers Party (Majority of which had served in the first world war).... They emphasized how totality and devastation of war had affected Germany

-lack of preparation for armistice

-Furious at France for Signing the Treaty of Versailles (loss of land, cant establish Military, have to take responsibility for the war, etc)

-Creation of Weimar wrapped up with the discontent over WWI (believed new Germany was created by a group of criminals, causing the downfall of the country they once knew)

-Believed crooked politicians stabbed Germany in the back

THIS GIVES THEM A SENSE OF PURPOSE AND A GROUP TO GET ANGRY AT

***Factor 2 : Political Weaknesses of the Weimar State**

-system of popular representation and checks and balances

-president could have emergency power (Article 48)

-The nazis believed they needed a strong single leader to solve Germany's problems

***Factor 3: Economic Weaknesses of Weimar State**

3 Economic Swings

-depression

low employment, highly inflated money

-difficult relationships between workers and industrialists

-high reparations

***Factor 4: Violent Social Culture**

-increasingly violent society

Rise of the putsch (attempt to overthrow the govt)

-Beer hall putsch in Munich (1923)

- they wanted to carry out an armed coup against the city of munich and hoped that it would spread soon

-a political opponent group was having beer at the same beer hall as theirs and they decide to start a fight. goes wrong, a lot of people get arrested, realize they need to go about things a different way

-NSDAP

-Adolf Hitler

***Factor 5: Nazi Ideology and Malleability**

Lessons of Putsch

-Abandon Putsch

-Subordinate violence to political leadership

-create political program

-Fuhrer (the singular leader)... there were too many leaders at the beer hall

-Pseudo Loyalty

NAZI IDEOLOGY

1925.....Crude mixture of discontent

-the nazis need to become a microsom of society

-they have too many rag-tag members, need to attract a wide range of supporters in society. realize they need to be more than just a political party. need propoganda, auxilary groups, etc

-Promoted precise action (if they could promise to accomplish something, they could attract voters)

-Promoted themselves as being the Salvation of Germany

- Attractive because they could be so many things at once. Contradictory as fuck
- Always a sense of urgency
- Lebensraum (Nazi introduced the idea of living space)
 - The geography/topography of the land (in order for Germany to be whole, it needed the land that it had lost)
 - Those living in the living space. Nazis argued that were real Germans living outside who needed to be brought in and not real Germans living inside of Germany and needed to be pushed out (concerned with the purity of race)
 - German purity is being affected by racially impure people who wanted to infect racially pure Germans

***Factor 6: Hitlers Personality**

***Factor 7: Crises of 1929-1933**

- Opposition to Young Plan (the 2nd of two repayment plans, proposed by US, that Germany would pay their reparations over a longer period of time)
 - Alfred Hugenburg was the head of the National People's Party (conservative)
 - imagined that the young plan might be just the ticket to bring parties together. He opposed the young plan and wanted to bring together a group of the politicians for....
 - The Law Against the Enslavement of the German People
 - Hugenburg was a movie theatre owner (across Germany). Produced the news clips before movies, dabbled in film making
 - Hugenburg met Hitler, thought he could control him as a figurehead, BUT, as we know.... :-(
- The Great Depression (1929)
- Failure of "Great Coalition" (1930)
- 1932 Presidential Elections (7 year mark for presidential elections)
 - Hitler runs for president, amongst many others, and loses to Von Hindenburg
 - Hindenburg announces he will only appoint 3 nazis to his cabinet, and thinks that he will be able to control Hitler, so he named Hitler as chancellor
 - Hitler assumes his chancellorship on January 30, 1933
- Reichstag Fire (February 27, 1933)
 - Using Article 48, the political leaders demand that Germany's political enemies be arrested (they identified a Dutch communist as starting the fire)... there is a call for a new election and civil rights are suspended.
 - New elections (March 5 1933) they only get 43% of the vote (they need $\frac{2}{3}$ of the vote so that they can create an amendment to undo the government)
- Opening of the Reichstag (March 21 1933)
 - Up until now, violence was nearly nil. But supporters of the Nazi movement throw some ass whoopings their way to make sure the vote swings their way
- Passage of the Enabling Law (A law that allows for parliament to close parliament for four years... allows for the president and his cabinet to pass laws without parliamentary approval.... four years for the economy to be restored)

9/22 Notes

What is the intention of the Nazis and when do we see it emerge?

Intentionalist- Focus on Hitler and der Fuhrer (Hitlers desires dictated state actions)

-Argue that Hitler had always had the desire for genocide (a world without Jews)

Functionalist - They don't look just at Hitler, but at the functionaries, officers, and ministries

-Look at the war as the central driving factor. Genocide could only take place when the war breaks out.

Consolidation and Preservation of Power

-Nazi's had to deal with political threats

-Communists and political left

-Catholic center party AND the church

The Military (Wehrmacht)

-Ernst Rohm and the SA

-Business/Industrialists

-Academics

-some important exceptions

-Nazi's are very concerned about students + universities.... were worried about students and faculties not backing them. Were also afraid that the world of the mind would undermine their authorities

Consolidated Ministries

-propaganda and education

Terror (internal and external enemies)

-Dachau

-Book Burnings

-Night of the Long Knives

-The SS killed numerous members of the SA, assassinate academics + protestants, and threats to the Nazi party, hundreds of people are killed. destroys the threat of the military, strengthens Hitlers power

-1933 Concordat with the Church

- the historical memory of Germany turning against catholic citizens in the 1870's

Economic Policies (offering direct benefits)

promise they'll be able to restore & stabilize the economy.

"Command Economy "- refers to a state overseeing its economic resources for war

-marriage loans (loans forgiven if you have 4+ children)

-must be Aryan

-must have children

-if the couple gets married, women had to leave the workforce

-dialectic between terror and benefits

-Incorporation of Army

-Death of Hindenburg

-Allegiance to the Fuhrer

-Prep for war

Policies & Tactics of 1933-34

-The Nazi's want stability

They intimidate the Jews

-Dachau, SA, book burning, degenerate art

Propaganda & Education for German Citizens

-Joseph Goebbels

-Looked to Jewish place in economy and political life

-April 1 1933 Boycott (Promise renewal and stability of the economy by calling for Germans to boycott Jewish owned stores)

-April 4 & April 7 1933 laws (Ostjuden)

In 1935, the Nazi's pass the Flag Law. (Jews were not allowed to display the flags of the country)

Reich Citizenship Law

Law for the Protection of German Blood & German Honor (Nuremberg Laws)

Acts of Aggression

-Military Conscription

1936-1937

-Olympics

-Call to begin next stage of Jewish planning

Social and Cultural Forms of Ostracism

-public domain of work/associational life

-Born in Germany when Hitler came to power; His parents were born into the Austria-Hungary empire

-His father owned a photoshop, His mother was a bookkeeper

-When the war ended, there was a super inflation... his mother was paid twice a day

-Totalitarianism starts gradually and depends on the initial government being supported by the people

-Enforcement of anti-Jew laws was a gradual process

-His father couldn't depend on the handful of companies willing to supply him with cameras

-His father's friend has joined the SS, drives his parents around for safety, etc

-Before the night of the broken glass, Nazi's were getting more and more restrictive on Jews

His family managed to get a Swiss family to adopt him

Anti Jewish Policies

1939-1941 - "The Ghetto Plan"- The concentration of Jews in places close to rails, where they could be separated from non-Jews

Towns and places with less than 500 Jews would have the Jews transferred out, not a Ghetto constructed

- creation of the Judenrat, the Jewish councils for each ghetto
 - responsible for registering all Jews by age and profession, surveying Jewish property, the distribution of food, communicating Nazi sentiments
- Some ghettos created their own industries and social welfare institutions (Bialstok) (soup kitchens, day care programs, orphanages, etc)
- Religious life went underground

10/27 (Final Solution: The Camps)

Deportations: Forced movement of Jews from one location to a camp

- Relied on communal registries, demanded on numbers
- What happens when the Nazi's demand X number of Jews from a place & there aren't that many Jews there?

Variables of Success: -Local partisan movements that will hide Jews?

Locale affected deportations.... #'s on slides

- Denmark smuggled thousands of Jews to Sweden, was extremely anti-nazi

3 Types of Camps

-Internment/ Prison (Concentration) (Spread out across Europe)

- Purpose to establish terror (Initially)
- At the beginning of the Final Solution, they become holding places for Jews as they are transported different places. Some have work spaces, some don't
- Dachau, Buchenwald, and Sachsenhausen (All established in the 30's and very accessible by rail)

-Labor

-Many die of exhaustion. Sent there for labor, worked until sick, and then sent to death camps

- Established in late 1930's
- Owned and operated by the SS (Volkswagen etc) or by private industries (factory systems)
- At many of the camps, prisoners had to have their number and the reason why they were there (color coded, partial triangles, etc)
- Nazi's paid close attention to prisoners identities before they strip them of them

-Death (Eastern Europe)

- Established after the war broke out

-Himmler announces in 1941 that Auschwitz will play a big role in extermination, the first mass gassing comes in December of 1941 (Of Russian POW's and local patients from regional hospitals, no Jews)

-By 1942, they established six killing centers in Poland. (Auschwitz, Chelmno, Treblinka, Sobibor, Belzek, Majdanek)

Day to Day Life

- Deportation
- Arrival (Chaotic Scene, Quickly put into order by Nazi overseers, Prisoners taking goods from those who have just arrived)
- Nazi determination on who would be sent to the barracks and who would die
- Those who are sent to barracks are tattooed with numbers (Not all camps tattooed their members with a number, but all death camps did)
- Division of Prisoners: Commander, SS Guards, Kapos (prisoners who oversee other prisoners), Prisoners
- Assignment to barracks
- Rituals of degradation
- Medical Research
- Smuggling
 - Kanada- Their possessions are extremely important for a black market bartering system
 - Things were smuggled from one block to another

Killing

- Zyklon B (Hydrogen Cyanide)
 - Pumped through ventilation systems, from 41-42, in showers...
- Bodies were then moved into mass graves
- Crematoria (1942 onward)
 - Solved the problem of what to do with the bodies
- Sonderkommando
 - A special force of prisoners whose purpose is to remove the bodies from the showers and into the ovens
 - Were routinely murdered every few months
 - Nazi's are concerned that this is the group most likely to rise up and resist

Nazi Violence in the East

- Place is important, the local communities and their regards toward Jews affected chance of survival

- In 1941, the Nazi's begin to make it very clear that they want to rid the ghettos of Jews... they want the Ghettos to be done by 1942 (Results in dramatic deportations)
- They began to create more camps in the East, even after 1941... until 1944

Nazi Violence in Central Europe-Slovakia

- Germany would protect Slovakia and recognize them as an independent nation, in addition to Slovakia accepting foreign Nazi policy

Occupied France

- Began rounding up Jews and sending them to internment camps in May/August of 1941 (Important Camp: Drancy)
- In 1942, the wearing of the yellow star becomes mandatory
- First series of deportation out of France begins in 1942

Belgium

- Had more foreign Jews than native Jews (Jews had been fleeing there over the course of the 30's)
- Of the 90K Jews there, only about 10% were Belgian
- Germany creates a military government
- Levi did not mention that he was an Italian Jew because he figured it would be worse to be an Italian Fascist than a Jew

THE CHURCH AND THE HOLOCAUST

Nazism and Christianity

- originally promoted itself as anti-Christian
- promoted a community free from church influence (WERE NOT HELD TO A HIGHER POWER, HELD BY THEIR PARTY LEADERS)
- despised Christianity for its Judaic roots
- despised christianity's feminine nature
- racial purity as christian commandment
- went from greek/roman themed parades to highly militaristic (still ambivalent)
- Most churches denied church membership to non-aryans
- Nazi leadership tells churches that they need to expel members who are not arians (anyone who had converted or anyones parents who had been converted)
- Most churches believed they had to obey secular authority
- Threat of dissolution
- Into the late 30's, concern of imprisonment
- German Christians
- Origin in pre 1933 period

- Group of churches that embrace or concede to Nazism
- Some argue religion would be revived
- Push for and granted for a new church structure
- Protestant Reich Bishop: Ludwig Muller

-Confessing Church

- Resistance to the Aryan Paragraph
- Believed the blood shit was a fallacy
- Believed once somebody converted, they were Christian
- The confessing church denied the power of the state and refused to remove

Jews (May 1934)

- “The church must remain the church”
- Active in rallying against euthanasia

-German Catholic Churches

- 1933 Concordat with Vatican
- Catholic bishops tried to speak for their converted members

Vatican and The Holocaust

1933-1939 (Mostly concerned with converts)

1939-1945 (Lack of public statement)

1942- Hitlers post Wannsee announcement (the mention of jewish liquidation)

- Memo from Gerhard Riegner
- June 1942- Heydrick assassination and retaliation

-Plenty of authorities that knew what was happening in Germany

-Why would Taylor want confirmation?

- The admittance of the Vatican knowing what was happening and not interfering

Why did the pope remain silent?

- did not violate neutrality
- allegiance of German Catholics
- Possible retribution of Catholic priests
- fear of russian communism
- religious anti-semitism

European Catholic Churches

-Did not behave consistently as the papacy (often reflected the place they were located)

-France: Immediately oppose deportations and protest stripping Jews of their citizenship (in the South of France) Many french churches hide Jews and Jewish children

- Holland: Dutch churches highly involved in hiding children and people
- Slovakia, Croatia, Poland: Very much supported Nazism

Unarmed Resistance

-Kiddush ha'shem (Religious Suicide)

-Pikuach nefesh (Breaking of Jewish law to save ones self)

*US Awareness during the 1950's

137,000 survivors arrive from Europe between 1945 and 1952, on top of the tens of thousands of refugees during the 1930's

-Disbelief

-Sanitized versions of Holocaust, talking about the experiences in a way that will make them more acceptable to people

-Diary of Anne Frank is abridged and positive

1960's shift

six day war and yom kippur war in 1967-1973 encouraged Jews to discuss the Holocaust

1980's-Theology

Creation of a day of remembrance

The Holocaust becomes apart of Jewish children's education (Holocaust as a "Civil Religion")