

Hitler's 'New World Order'

THE NAZI CAMPS - AN ARCHITECTURE OF MURDER

PRE-WATCHING DISCUSSION

Describe Hitler's policy after becoming a dictator in Germany.

Watch the video and do the tasks 1-3.

1. Match the dates with corresponding historical events.

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| 1. March 1933 | a) Dachau liberated by the Americans |
| 2. 1935 | b) Auschwitz camp opened |
| 3. 8 th May 1945 | c) the Nazi regime surrendered |
| 4. April 1945 | d) the Nuremberg laws against Jews passed |
| 5. April 1940 | e) the first imprisonment of political opponents of the Nazi regime |

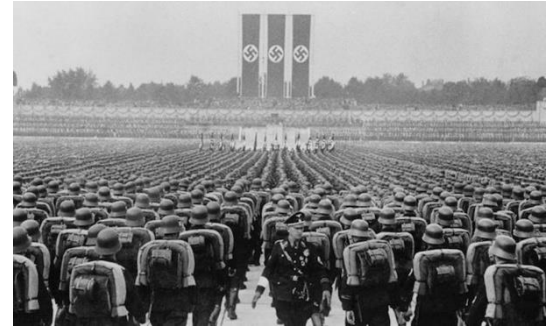
2. Who were the men? Give a short description of each of them.

Adolf Hitler _____

Theodor Eicke _____

Heinrich Himmler _____

Rudolf Höss _____



3. Answer the questions.

a) What was the goal of the first camps built in 1930s and who were their first prisoners?

b) Talk about the symbols the Nazis used to differentiate between different kinds of prisoners in concentration camps. _____

c) Who were the victims of the secret operation T4? _____

d) Auschwitz was the largest concentration camp established by the Germans in the Second World War. How many people died within the walls of Auschwitz before it was liberated? _____



e) What was the process that was followed by the guards when a new batch of prisoners arrived at Auschwitz?

f) Explain the difference between ghettos and concentration camps. _____

g) "Arbeit macht frei" is a German phrase. What could be its English equivalent? _____



WOMEN IN NAZI GERMANY

Read the text and answer the questions below.

When Hitler came to power in 1933, he introduced a 'Law for the Encouragement of Marriage'. The law said that the government would give all newly married couples a loan of 1000 marks. When the first child was born, the couple could keep a quarter of the money. On the birth of the second child, they could keep the second quarter. They could keep the third quarter on the birth of the third child, and the entire amount on the birth of a fourth. In 1943, a further law was considered but never introduced. This proposed law stated that:

"All single and married women up to the age of thirty-five who do not already have four children should be obliged to produce four children by racially pure ... German men. Whether these men are married is without significance. Every family that already has four children must set the husband free for this action."



A happy Nazi German family - a drawing from a propaganda poster



The Nazis assumed there was a natural distinction between men and women. They stated that men were productive and creative in the world of politics and war whereas women were reproductive, and had their important role in the family home. The phrase the Nazis used to put across what was expected for women was:

"Kinder, Kirche und Küche."

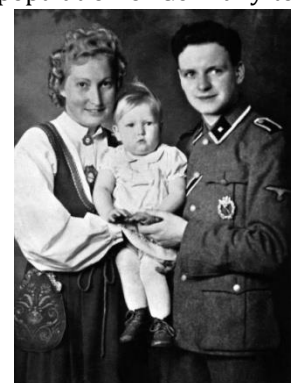
- How did Hitler try to encourage marriage as soon as he came to power?
- According to Nazi ideology, what roles did men and women have?

The Lebensborn project was one of most secret and terrifying Nazi projects. Heinrich Himmler founded this project in 1935. Since First World War, Germany's birth rate was decreasing. Himmler's goal was to reverse the decline and increase the Germanic population of Germany to 120 millions. Himmler encouraged SS and Wehrmacht officers to have children with Aryan women. He believed Lebensborn children would grow up to lead a Nazi-Aryan nation.



The children born in the Lebensborn nurseries were then taken by the SS, which took charge in the child's education and adoption. Both mother and father needed to pass a "racial purity" test. Blond hair and

blue eyes were preferred, and family lineage had to be traced back at least three generations.



Ultimately, one of the most horrible sides of the Lebensborn policy was the kidnapping of children "racially good" in the eastern occupied countries after 1939. It is well documented that many were stolen from their parents' arms. These kidnappings were organized by the SS in order to take children by force who matched the Nazis' racial criteria. Thousands of children were transferred to the Lebensborn centres in order to be "Germanized." In these centres, everything was done to force the children to reject and forget their birth parents. As an example, the SS nurses tried to persuade the children that they were deliberately abandoned by their parents. The children who refused the Nazi education were often beaten. Most of them were finally transferred to concentration camps and exterminated. The others were adopted by SS families.

- What were the reasons for starting the "Lebensborn" project?
- "The Nazis were never really interested in the traditional family life." Explain your opinion on the statement.