

Jewish Life From the Enlightenment: The 200 years that brought us where we are The Nightmare of the Holocaust

**Dr. Joel M. Hoffman
<http://www.exc.com/JoelHoffman>
Temple Shaaray Tefila — Fall, 5767**

*“It is only with the heart that one can see
clearly; what is essential is invisible to the
eye.”*

— The Fox, in The Little Prince

Age of Reason

Napoleon (1769–1821)

Romanticism

Wagner (1813–1884)

Antisemitism

Pogroms

Hep Hep riots (1819)

Dreyfus trial (1894)

Socialism vs. Capitalism

From Mein Kampf

“The Jewish doctrine of Marxism rejects the aristocratic principle of nature and replaces the eternal privilege of power and strength by the mass of numbers and their dead weight. Thus, it denies the value of personality in man, contests the significance of nationality and race, and thereby withdraws from humanity the premise of its existence and culture....

“Here today, I believe that I am acting in accordance with the will of the Almighty Creator: by defending myself against the Jew, I am fighting for the work of the Lord.”

World War I

Weimar Republic (1919–1933)

Hitler

Nuremberg Laws (1935)

Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor

Entirely convinced that the purity of German blood is essential to the further existence of the German people, and inspired by the uncompromising determination to safeguard the future of the German nation, the Reichstag has unanimously resolved upon the following law, which is promulgated herewith:

Section 1

1. Marriages between Jews and citizens of German or kindred blood are forbidden. Marriages concluded in defiance of this law are void, even if, for the purpose of evading this law, they were concluded abroad.
2. Proceedings for annulment may be initiated only by the Public Prosecutor.

Section 2

Sexual relations outside marriage between Jews and nationals of German or kindred blood are forbidden.

Section 3

Jews will not be permitted to employ female citizens of German or kindred blood as domestic servants.

Section 4

1. Jews are forbidden to display the Reich and national flag or the national colors.
2. On the other hand they are permitted to display the Jewish colors. The exercise of this right is protected by the State.

The Reich Citizenship Law

Article I

1. A subject of the State is a person who belongs to the protective union of the German Reich, and who therefore has particular obligations towards the Reich.
2. The status of subject is acquired in accordance with the provisions of the Reich and State Law of Citizenship.

Article 2

1. A citizen of the Reich is that subject only who is of German or kindred blood and who, through his conduct, shows that he is both desirous and fit to serve the German people and Reich faithfully.
2. The right to citizenship is acquired by the granting of Reich citizenship papers.
3. Only the citizen of the Reich enjoys full political rights in accordance with the provision of the laws.

Kristallnacht

Invasion of Poland (1939)

Attack on Russia (1941)

Policy of Extermination (1941)

Six Million

Aftermath

Eichmann Trial

Designed not only to try Eichmann but also to draw attention to the Shoah.

Who were the Germans?

Eichmann in Jerusalem: A Report on the Banality of Evil (Hannah Arendt)

Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust (Daniel Goldhagen)

Moving On