



## Key people

**Himmler**  
1900–1945



Leader (*Reichsführer*) of the SS of the Nazi party from 1929 until 1945. Himmler had overall responsibility for the security of the Nazi empire and was responsible for conceiving and implementation of the so-called Final Solution, the Nazi plan to murder the Jews of Europe.

**Speer**  
1905–1981



A German architect and Reich Minister of Armaments and War Production for Nazi Germany. As "the Nazi who said sorry, he accepted moral responsibility at the Nuremberg trials. In his memoirs he insisted that he had been ignorant of the Holocaust

**Von Stauffenberg**  
1907–1944



A German army officer, member of the German nobility led the failed 20 July plot of 1944 to assassinate Hitler and remove the Nazi Party from power. For his involvement in the movement, he was executed by firing squad shortly after the failed attempt known as Operation Valkyrie.

**Sophie Scholl**  
1921–1943



Brother and sister who were members of the White Rose, a student group in Munich that was active in the non-violent resistance movement in Nazi Germany. The group distributed flyers against the war and the dictatorship of Adolf Hitler. In post-war Germany, Hans and Sophie Scholl are recognized as symbols of the Christian German resistance movement against the totalitarian Nazi regime.

**Hans Scholl**  
1918–1943

**Eichmann**  
1906–1962



German Nazi SS (lieutenant colonel) and one of the major organizers of the Holocaust. Eichmann was tasked by SS leader Heydrich to organise the mass deportation of Jews to ghettos and extermination camps in German-occupied Eastern Europe during World War II. In 1960, Eichmann was captured in Argentina by the Mossad, Israel's intelligence service. Following a widely publicised trial in Israel, he was found guilty of war crimes and hanged in 1962.



## Changing Lives 1933 - 1939



### Key Question 1: Work and Home. How did the lives of men and women change?

- Policies affecting workers:** Deutsche Arbeitsfront, German Labour Front, DAF, led by Ley was the National Socialist trade union organization which replaced independent trade unions.
- Strength through Joy:** ensured that all aspects of a worker's non-working time were looked after e.g. holidays and leisure time and after work activities.
- Winter Relief Fund:** ran from 1933–1945 during the months of October through March, and was designed to provide food, clothing, coal.
- Policies affecting women:** the Nazi female idea. Women expected to stay at home and look after the family. Life should revolve round the three 'Ks': church, children, cooking, attempts to increase births and marriages. Nazis considered making it law that families should have at least four children. Girls kept fit for healthy for childbirth.
- The Law for the Encouragement of Marriage** gave newly wed couples a loan 1,000 marks, kept 250 marks for each child they had. Mothers had gold medal for more than 8 children.
- Attempts to reduce female employment:** Women doctors, teachers and civil servants were forced to give up their careers, attempts to reduce women in education, girls were taught in schools that all good German women married at a young age kept a decent home for her working husband and to have children.



### Key Question 3: Nazi racial policy. Explain the growing persecution of the Jews.

Nazi racial policy, master race and ubermensch, reasons why the Nazis hated the Jews, growth of anti-Semitic legislation during 1930's, Nuremberg Laws, Kristallnacht 1938 (see timeline and key words).

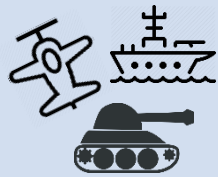
### Key Question 2: Young people .How did the lives of young people change through education and youth movements?

- Attempts to control teachers:** All teachers had to be vetted by local Nazi officials. Any teacher considered disloyal was sacked. 97% of all teachers joined the Nazi Teachers' Association.
- Nazification of the school curriculum:** for example Biology included eugenics, History reflected Germany's greatness.
- Elite schools:** Adolf Hitler Schools designed to develop an elite class of leaders and soldiers.
- Hitler Youth Movements:** boys 6 – 10 yrs. Little Fellows (Pimpf), boys 10 – 13 yrs. German Young People (Deutsche Jungvolk), boys 14 – 18 yrs. Hitler Youth (Hitler Jugend), girls aged 10 – 14 yrs. Young Maidens (Jungmadel), girls 14 – 21rs. League of German Maidens (Deutscher Madel).



## Key words

### Wehrmacht



The unified armed forces of Nazi Germany from 1935 to 1946. It consisted of the Heer (army), the Kriegsmarine (navy) and the Luftwaffe (air force). Their long term goal was to regain territory lost in Treaty of Versailles and dominate Europe.

### Final Solution



The Final Solution to the Jewish Question was a Nazi plan for the extermination of the Jews during World War II. The deliberate and systematic genocide started in January culminated in the Holocaust.

### Einsatzgruppen



Units of the Nazi security forces composed of members of the SS, and the "Order Police" that acted as mobile killing units during the German invasions of Poland (1939) and the Soviet Union (1941).

### Ghetto



During World War II, ghettos were established by the Nazis to confine Jews and Romani people into tightly packed areas of the cities of Eastern Europe. The Nazi ghettos sometimes coincided with traditional Jewish quarters, but not always. 1943, Himmler issued a decree ordering the dissolution of all ghettos.

### Übermensch



A term used by the Nazi regime to describe their idea of a biologically superior or Germanic master race or Aryan race.

## Germany in War 1939-1945

**Key Question 1: How did Germany move to a war economy and what was the impact 1939-1942?**

**Change in expectations of women (Duty Year), converting the economy for war (4 Year Plan 1936), how did the German people benefit from war up to 1942?** : initial patriotism, 1941 rationing.

**Key Question 2: How effective was the growing opposition from the German people including elements of the army?**

**White Rose Group** (see key people), **opposition from the Church** (Cardinal Galen and euthanasia, see sheet 1). **July Bomb Plot** (see key people Stauffenberg), **increasing passive resistance** (refusal to salute, anti- Hitler jokes, listening to foreign radio).

**Key Question 3: Explain the impact of total war on the German people 1943-1945**

**Allied bombing:** allies bombed industrial areas e.g. Moher Dam and major cities e.g. Dresden, Hamburg that included German population, **rationing** -reduced to bread potatoes and veg after 1942, **evacuation** (from 1940), **Total war** - all aspects of society involved in war effort, civilians and military.



## Occupation

**Key Question 1: Explain the contrast between Nazi rule in Eastern and Western Europe.**

1. **Western Occupation:** France, Netherlands, Belgium, (one example only).
2. **Eastern Occupation:** Poland, Hungary, Belorussia.

**Key Question 2: Explain the stages of the Holocaust.**

1. **Forced deportation of Jews, the ghettos** (see key words), Warsaw Uprising 1943,
2. **Einsatzgruppen in the East** (see key words),
3. **Wannsee Conference** (timeline 1942),
4. **Final Solution and death camps including Auschwitz** (see timeline and key words)

**Key Question 3: How successful were the responses to Nazi rule?**

1. **Collaboration in Vichy France:** most of France was occupied by Nazis, a 'free zone', 4 states of France were controlled by General Petain but was in effect controlled by Nazi Germany a 'client state', forced to supply resources to Nazis, French police of Vichy France rounded up Jews.
2. **Accommodation in Channel Islands:** invaded by Germany 1940, 1/3 population was evacuated, area not defended by Britain. Population under Nazi rule . Had curfew, ID cards, sale of alcohol banned, some islanders sent to Germany, concentration camp built by slave labour was located on Guernsey.
3. **French Resistance** -fought against the Nazi German occupation of France and against the collaborationist Vichy régime. Résistance cells ( the Maquis in rural areas), committed acts of sabotage, published of underground newspapers, provided intelligence information, escape networks for Allied soldiers behind enemy lines. Provided vital info for the invasion of Normandy on 1944, Jewish Resistance (Warsaw Ghetto, Treblinka Concentration Camp 1942).

**1933** Programme of public works introduced to create employment

**1936** Membership of Hitler Youth became compulsory. 4 Year Plan introduced to prepare economy for war.

**1938** All Jewish children banned from attending German schools.  
> Kristallnacht

**1939** Outbreak WW2. Rationing for food and clothes.

**1941** Operation Barbarossa, German invasion of USSR. Heavy defeats in East, more civilians forced to work in war effort.

**1942** Rationing for Germans more severe. White Rose Group active. Heavy allied bombing in German cities. Nazis agreed the Final Solution.

**1943** First anti- Nazi public demonstration. Arrest and execution of Sophie and Hans Scholl. Warsaw ghetto uprising.

**1944** July Plot against Hitler

**1945** Hitler committed suicide, defeat, end of WW2

