

Propaganda Methods Used by Hitler

Mien Kampf (My Struggle)

Hitler used his brief stay in prison to write a book about his life and ideas. He outlined and clarified his plans for the future of Germany. Three areas emerged as important in his book:

1. Race and Anti-Semitism - He talked about a race called "Aryans," and how they must stay "pure" by not mixing with other races,
2. Lebensraum (living space) - Hitler argued that Germany needed more land to exist, He proposed that this new land could be found in the Eastern part of Europe,
3. Fuhrer (leader) - Hitler discussed the need for a strong leader for the German people, This leader would require unlimited power to rule in order to ensure the future of Germany.

THE NUREMBERG LAWS

The Congress of the National Socialist Workers' Party (NAZI) convened in Nuremburg, Germany on September 10, 1935. Among the many items of business on the Nazi agenda was the passage of a series of laws designed (a) to clarify the requirements of citizenship in the Third Reich, (b) to assure the purity of German blood and German honor and (b) to clarify the position of Jews in the Reich. These three laws, passed on September 15, 1935, and the numerous auxillary laws which followed them are called the **Nuremberg Laws**. They are reprinted here in their entirety. Please take special note of the similarity between these laws and the **Jim Crow Laws** which were passed in the United States following the Compromise of 1877, upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in Plessy vs Ferguson (1896) and remained in effect until the court reversed the "separate but equal doctrine in Brown vs the Board of Education of Topeka (1954). It is clear that Hitler used the Jim Crow segregation statutes as his model for defining Jews in the Third Reich.

Goebbels, Hitler's Chief of Propaganda, launched a pogrom against German Jews. Grynspan's attack was interpreted by Goebbels as a conspiratorial attack by "International Jewry" against the Reich and, symbolically, against the Fuehrer himself.

This pogrom has come to be called *Kristallnacht*, "the Night of Broken Glass."

Terezin

Hitler, the world was to be told, *had built a city for the Jews*, to protect them from the vagaries and stresses of the war. A film was made to show this mythic, idyllic city to which his henchmen were taking the Jews from the Czech Lands and eight other countries. Notable musicians, writers, artists, and leaders were sent there for "safer" keeping than was to be afforded elsewhere in Hitler's quest to stave off any uprisings or objections around the so-called civilized world. This ruse worked for a very long time, to the great detriment of the nearly two hundred thousand men, women and children who passed through its gates as a way station to the East and probable death.



Holocaust/Shoah



The road to Auschwitz was built by hate,
but paved with indifference.