



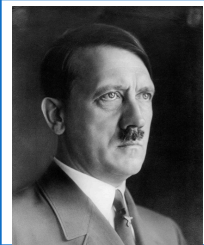
# Life in Nazi Germany



3.9 EXAMINE life in one fascist country and one communist country in the twentieth century

Term	Definition
Anschluss	The political union of Austrian and Germany in 1938.
Anti-Semitism	Hatred of or prejudice against Jewish people.
Appeasement	Policy of Britain & France in the 1930s that believed that if they gave into Hitler's small demands then they would prevent another world war
Aryan Race	White non-Jewish people, especially those with a northern European appearance (tall, blonde hair, blue eyes) whom the Nazis considered to be the superior or master racial group.
Concentration Camps	Twenty-Two Camps set up by the Nazis to imprison political prisoners and members of persecuted minorities in poor conditions and were often forced to provide labour.
Dictator	A ruler with full power over a country.
Dictatorship	A country being ruled or governed by a dictator.
Enabling Act	Law passed by Hitler that gave him power to rule by decree.
Extermination Camps	Six camps organised by the Nazis in Poland to imprison political prisoners and members of persecuted minorities in poor conditions where they awaited mass execution.
Gestapo	Hitler's secret police.
Führer	(Leader) Title of Hitler after he combined the offices of President and Chancellor
Hitler Youth	A Nazi youth organisation for boys.
Holocaust	The systematic genocide of European Jews by Nazi Germany
League of German Maidens	A Nazi youth organisation for girls.
Lebensraum	The Nazis wanted to control large parts of eastern Europe in order to create 'living space' for Germans.
Nazi Party	Common name of the National Socialist German Workers' Party, a fascist political party led by Adolf Hitler from 1921 to 1945.
Nazism	A form of government that is a one-party dictatorship based on nationalistic ideas and racial superiority.
Nuremberg Laws	Anti-Semitic laws passed in 1935 that stripped Jews of their citizenship rights.
Pogrom	An organised massacre and persecution of an ethnic or religious group
Cult of personality	When propaganda is used to glorify a political leader, to create a god-like image of a political leader.
SS (Blackshirts)	Started out as Hitler's bodyguards and developed into the military wing of the Nazi Party.
Stormtroopers - SA (Brownshirts)	Violent private Nazi army that intimidated political opponents.
Sudetenland	The majority German-speaking regions of Czechoslovakia.
Wall Street Crash	Collapse of the US economy in 1929, triggering a global recession.
Weimar Republic	Democratic governments that led Germany between 1919 and 1933.
Opinion	A view or judgement formed about what happened; can be objective or subjective
Plagiarism	Passing off someone's work or ideas as your own, without citing their real source

## Leader in Nazi Germany

<p><b>Adolf Hitler (1889-1945)</b></p> <p>Hitler was the leader of the Nazi Party and Chancellor and later dictator of Germany from 1933 until his suicide in 1945. His anti-Semitic and fascist policies led to World War II and the Holocaust, resulting in the deaths of millions. Hitler's charismatic leadership and oratorical skills allowed him to maintain a cult of personality.</p>	
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## Summary

Life in Nazi Germany was characterized by a totalitarian regime that controlled every aspect of people's lives, imposing a set of values and ideals that aimed to create a homogeneous, nationalistic society. From 1933 to 1945, Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party were in power, implementing policies that aimed to achieve their vision of a racially pure, militaristic, and authoritarian state. This period of history is one of the most significant and tragic events of the twentieth century, with far-reaching consequences that continue to impact the world today.

The Nazis' ideology was based on the principles of nationalism, racism, and anti-Semitism. They sought to create a society where the "Aryan" race was dominant, and all other groups were either subjugated or eliminated. This included Jews, Roma, disabled people, homosexuals, and political dissidents. The Nazis pursued their vision through propaganda, intimidation, and violence, creating a climate of fear that permeated every aspect of daily life.

In Nazi Germany, education, culture, and the media were all used as tools to indoctrinate people with Nazi ideology. The education system was restructured to promote Nazi values and prepare children for military service. Books, films, and art were censored, and alternative viewpoints were suppressed. The press was tightly controlled, with only state-approved information being disseminated.

The economy was also heavily controlled by the state, with the government intervening in the free market to ensure that it served Nazi goals. Women were excluded from the workforce, and there was a focus on producing goods for military purposes. The Nazis also pursued aggressive foreign policies, leading to the outbreak of World War II and the deaths of millions of people.

## The Weimar Republic

The Weimar Republic was Germany's first democratic government, established in 1919 following World War I. Despite its progressive constitution, the Weimar Republic faced many challenges, including economic instability and political extremism. Inflation and unemployment were rampant, and the government struggled to maintain order. The rise of extremist groups on both the left and right added to the political turmoil. These factors contributed to the Weimar Republic's eventual collapse and the rise of the Nazi party.

## The Nazi Power

The Nazi party, led by Adolf Hitler, emerged as a major political force in the 1920s. The party's ideology was based on the principles of nationalism, racism, and anti-Semitism. The Nazis sought to create a society where the "Aryan" race was dominant and all other groups were either subjugated or eliminated. The party gained support through propaganda, rallies, and violence, culminating in Hitler's appointment as chancellor in 1933.

## Hitler's Rise to Power

Hitler's rise to power was a result of a combination of factors, including the economic instability of the Weimar Republic, the rise of extremist groups, and Hitler's own charisma and political skills. Hitler's appointment as chancellor in 1933 marked the beginning of the Nazi regime and the end of democracy in Germany.

## Creation of a Dictatorship

Hitler quickly consolidated his power, creating a totalitarian regime that controlled every aspect of people's lives. He abolished political opposition, censored the media, and established a police state. The Gestapo, the secret police, used terror and intimidation to maintain order, and concentration camps were established to incarcerate political dissidents, Jews, and other groups deemed undesirable by the regime.

## Economic Politics

Life in Hitler's Germany was marked by conformity and obedience to the regime. People were expected to conform to Nazi ideals and values, and any deviation was met with punishment. The regime controlled education, culture, and the media, promoting Nazi ideology and suppressing alternative viewpoints. The economy was heavily controlled, with the government intervening to ensure that it served Nazi goals. Women were excluded from the workforce, and there was a focus on producing goods for military purposes.

## Economic Politics

The Nazi regime pursued a policy of economic autarky, seeking to make Germany self-sufficient and less reliant on foreign imports. The government intervened in the economy, establishing state-controlled corporations and implementing a program of public works to reduce unemployment. The regime also pursued aggressive foreign policies, leading to the outbreak of World War II and the deaths of millions of people.

## Education

Education was heavily controlled by the Nazi regime, with schools and universities restructured to promote Nazi values and prepare children for military service. Textbooks were rewritten, and teachers were required to join the Nazi party. Non-Aryan students were excluded from education, and the curriculum was censored to remove any information deemed to be contrary to Nazi ideology.

## Women's Lives

Women's lives were heavily regulated by the Nazi regime. They were excluded from the workforce, and their primary role was seen as being wives and mothers. The regime promoted traditional gender roles, and women were expected to conform to strict standards of appearance and behavior. Birth rates were encouraged, and abortion and contraception were banned.

## Anti-Semitism

Adolf Hitler's anti-Semitism was central to Nazi ideology and policies. He saw Jews as a threat to the "Aryan" race and blamed them for Germany's problems, as he outlined in "Mein Kampf". Once in power, he implemented anti-Semitic policies such as the Nuremberg Laws of 1935. Kristallnacht, or the "Night of Broken Glass," in 1938 marked a turning point in the regime's treatment of Jews, with thousands of synagogues, homes, and businesses destroyed, and many Jews arrested and sent to concentration camps.

## The Use of Terror and Propaganda

Propaganda and terror were essential tools for the Nazi regime. The regime used propaganda to create a climate of fear and promote Nazi ideology. This was achieved through rallies, speeches, and media censorship. The Gestapo, the secret police, used terror and intimidation to maintain order, and concentration camps were established to incarcerate political dissidents, Jews, and other groups deemed undesirable by the regime. The use of terror and propaganda allowed the Nazi regime to control every aspect of people's lives, making dissent almost impossible. Propaganda was used to create a cult of personality around Hitler, portraying him as a charismatic leader who could restore Germany to greatness. The regime also used propaganda to create an image of the Jewish people as a threat to German society, promoting anti-Semitic views and encouraging discrimination and violence against them. The Gestapo's use of terror and intimidation allowed the regime to silence opposition and maintain control. Citizens lived in fear of being arrested, tortured, or sent to concentration camps. The regime also used terror as a means of social control, punishing those who did not conform to Nazi ideals. The use of propaganda and terror created a climate of fear and conformity in Hitler's Germany, allowing the regime to maintain power until its eventual defeat in World War II.

