

THE LEGAL ASSAULT ON GERMAN JEWRY

1933-1935

- Jews (“non-Aryans”) were dismissed from government jobs.
- Jews were prevented from taking final state examinations qualifying them for occupations.
- Jews were prevented from belonging to professional organizations.
- The number of Jewish students in public schools was severely restricted.
- Laws made it hard to observe traditional Jewish dietary laws.

APRIL 21, 1933: DISCRIMINATION AGAINST JEWISH RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

- Kosher ritual slaughter of animals is made illegal
- Jewish students who do not attend classes on the Sabbath (Saturday) or Jewish holidays are penalized
- Jewish prisoners are denied the right to receive kosher food

APRIL 25, 1933: LAW AGAINST THE OVERCROWDING OF GERMAN SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

- Limited the number of Jewish students in universities to 1.5% of the total of new applicants
- Barred Jewish university students from taking state professional examinations
- Declared Jewish high school and university students ineligible for reduced school fees and scholarships
- Put anti-Jewish clauses into the bylaws of professional organizations, societies, and social clubs, so Jews could not protect their professional interests and meet with their colleagues

September 15, 1935 – The Nuremberg Laws

- **REICH FLAG LAW**
 - Made red, white, and black (the Nazi Party colors) the national colors
 - Made the “swastika flag” (the Nazi Party flag) the national flag
- **REICH CITIZENSHIP LAW**
 - German Jews lost their German citizenship
 - German Jews were classified *Staatsangehörige* (“state subjects”)
- **LAW FOR THE PROTECTION OF GERMAN BLOOD AND GERMAN HONOR**
 - German Jews were forbidden to marry or have sexual relations with German non-Jews
 - German Jews were forbidden to employ non-Jewish women under age 45 in their homes
 - German Jews were forbidden to fly the German flag (an offense against German honor)

Nuremberg Corollaries and Supplements

November 14, 1935: First Supplementary Decree To the Reich Citizenship Law

- Defined as a “full Jew”
 - Anyone with 3 Jewish grandparents
 - Anyone with 2 Jewish grandparents
 - who is married to a Jewish spouse
 - who belongs to the Jewish religion
 - either at the time the law is published
 - or enters into such commitments later.
- Thus, people whose parents were born Jewish and baptized as Christians or who have themselves been baptized are considered Jews.
- Denied German Jews the right to vote and took away their civic rights.

November 14, 1935: First Supplementary Decree to the Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor

- Clarified the numerous categories of “forbidden marriages”
- Created a complicated system for classifying Germans with various combinations of Jewish and non-Jewish relatives and ancestors

1938: INCREASINGLY HARSH LAWS

OCTOBER

- Special passports issued with large red letter *J* on all passports belonging to Jews.

NOVEMBER

- Jews were banned from resorts and beaches and denied access to cultural institutions. Jewish publications and newspapers were banned.
- Jewish children were expelled from public schools and permitted to attend segregated Jewish schools only.
- Jews were excluded from public relief and the general welfare system.
- The Minister of the Interior notified all local officials that they could forbid Jews to have access to certain public places and limit their use of others to a few hours a day.

DECEMBER

- Jews prohibited from having driver's licenses.
- All unemployed Jews who were fit for work had to register for forced labor, where they were kept segregated from both the general community and non-Jewish laborers.
- Jews were barred from all sleeping and dining cars on trains, public swimming pools, and hotels that catered to Nazi Party members. Jews were not allowed to enter certain places or show themselves in public at certain times of day. Non-Jewish women married to Jewish men were encouraged to divorce their husbands or suffer "the disadvantages" imposed on Jews. Jews would gradually be moved out of their homes and apartments and made to live in houses owned and inhabited only by Jews. Income tax exemptions for Jewish children were abolished. "Children" are defined as "persons who are not Jews."

SPRING 1939: THE LEGAL ASSAULT ACCELERATES

MARCH 15

- Germany took over Czechoslovakia by occupying Bohemia, Moravia, and the city of Prague.
- All laws against German Jews were applied immediately to Bohemian and Moravian Jews.

APRIL 30

- Laws leading to the eviction of German Jews from their homes and their segregation in "Jews' houses."
- Local authorities (cities, towns, and villages) could restrict Jews to specific houses or neighborhoods.
- Non-Jewish landlords could evict Jewish tenants from their houses and apartments if they could prove that those tenants would find other places to live owned and occupied by Jews.
- This law let local authorities force Jewish landlords and Jewish tenants in buildings owned by other Jews to register any vacant rooms or space in their houses and apartments and to rent those spaces to other Jews who could then be thrown out of non-Jewish owned houses and apartments.

MAY

- The general population census provided the opportunity to complete the registration of all German Jews and "half-Jews."
- Local police in each village, town, and city made sure that the census cards of those considered Jews or "half-Jews" were marked with the letter *J*.
- They forwarded copies of all census lists to the appropriate SS office in Berlin.