

LESSON: Introduction to the Holocaust

SUPPLEMENTAL DEFINITION LIST

SYSTEMATIC	Done or acting according to a fixed plan or system; methodical.
STATE SPONSORED	Actions organized by the civil government of a country.
PERSECUTION	To harass or punish in a manner designed to injure, hurt or remove rights grieve, or afflict
JEWS/ JEWISH PEOPLE	A member of the people and cultural community whose traditional religion is Judaism and who trace their origins through the ancient Hebrew people of Israel to Abraham.
NAZI REGIME	The National Socialist German Workers' Party—also known as the Nazi Party—was the far-right racist and antisemitic political party led by Adolf Hitler. The Nazi Party came to power in Germany in 1933 and turned Germany into a dictatorship. It controlled all aspects of German life and persecuted Jews--first in Germany and then in countries Germany conquered. By 1941, the Nazi regime began to carry out a plan to murder all European Jews. The Nazi Party's control only ended when Germany lost World War II.
COLLABORATORS	To work with another person or group in order to achieve or do something. German authorities required the assistance of local people in the regions they occupied to implement the "Final Solution." These collaborators helped to commit some of the worst atrocities of the Holocaust era..

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<u>RACE</u>	<p>The term “race” refers to groups of people who have specific biological traits deemed by society to be socially significant, meaning that people treat other people differently because of them. In the United States, ideas of race are typically related to traits like the skin color (as opposed to eye color, which is not treated as socially significant.) “Race” is determined solely by society. There are actually no biological differences between people of different “races.”</p>
<u>NAZI RACISM/ RACIAL COMMUNITY</u>	<p>Racism fueled Nazi ideology and policies. The Nazis viewed the world as being divided up into competing inferior and superior races, each struggling for survival and dominance. They believed the Jews were not a religious denomination, but a dangerous inferior “race.”</p>
RABBI	<p>A spiritual leader or religious teacher in Judaism.</p>
<u>GHETTO</u>	<p>The Germans forced Jews to reside in specific areas of towns and cities called “ghettos” or “Jewish residential quarters.” Altogether, the Germans created at least 1,000 ghettos in occupied territories.</p>
<u>SWASTIKA</u>	<p>The swastika is an ancient symbol that was in use in many different cultures for at least 5,000 years before Adolf Hitler made it the symbol of the Nazi Party. Its present-day use by certain extremist groups promotes hate.</p>