



Cover: A woman accused of having sexual relations with a Jewish man is marched through the streets of Norden, Germany, by SA troops. Around her neck is a sign that reads, "I am a German girl who allowed myself to be defiled by a Jew."

*Niedersächsisches Landesarchiv—Standort Aurich*

UNITED STATES  
HOLOCAUST  
MEMORIAL  
MUSEUM 2018 25

100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW  
Washington, DC 20024-2126  
T 202.488.0400



SYMPOSIUM

# Bystanders and Complicity in Nazi Germany and the Jim Crow South

Thursday and Friday, February 22–23, 2018

Alumni House  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Birmingham, Alabama



CO-ORGANIZED BY

**UAB** INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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UNITED STATES  
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JACK, JOSEPH AND MORTON MANDEL  
CENTER FOR ADVANCED HOLOCAUST STUDIES

What hurts the victim most is  
not the cruelty of the oppressor,

**but the silence of  
the bystander.**

—Elie Wiesel

**Holocaust Survivor  
and Founding Chairman,  
United States Holocaust  
Memorial Museum**

## **Bystanders and Complicity in Nazi Germany and the Jim Crow South**

Thursday and Friday, February 22–23, 2018  
Alumni Center  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Although different in many ways, the history of racism in Nazi Germany and the Jim Crow South during the 1930s illuminates some universal phenomena that manifested during these distinct historical periods. Both periods can trace part of their roots to the rise of a new “science” of eugenics, which became an international movement that was used to give legitimacy to racial policies. Racism, including racial antisemitism, was the core element of Nazi ideology and the driving force behind the Holocaust. Racism also legitimized the continued subjugation and persecution of African-Americans long after the end of slavery.

It takes a critical minority of determined leaders with the support of an acquiescent general population to introduce and establish state-sanctioned racism, antisemitism, and violence. The extreme examples of Nazi Germany and the Jim Crow South show that the majority of the population in these two contexts witnessed widespread persecution of a targeted minority and either actively or passively tolerated what they saw, thus enabling the continuation of persecution and raising pressing questions about the role of onlookers and the nature of complicity. This symposium brings together scholars, students, and community members to engage in meaningful dialogue on how, when, and why ordinary people supported, complied with, ignored, or resisted racist policies in two very different systems of targeted oppression and racial violence.

This program is co-organized by the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Institute for Human Rights at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

### 9 a.m. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

**Robert E. Palazzo**

Dean, College of Arts and Sciences  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Tina Kempin Reuter**

Director, Institute for Human Rights  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Robert M. Ehrenreich**

Director, National Academic Programs  
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center  
for Advanced Holocaust Studies  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

**W. Jake Newsome**

Campus Outreach Program Officer  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

### 9:30 a.m. PANEL I: REEXAMINING THE ROLE OF BYSTANDERS

**Moderator: Andrew Baer**

Assistant Professor, Department of History  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Robert M. Ehrenreich**

Director, National Academic Programs  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum  
*Rethinking the Bystander in the  
Perpetrator-Bystander-Victim Constellation*

**LeeAnn G. Reynolds**

Associate Professor, History  
Samford University  
*Children and Race Socialization in the US South*

### 11 a.m. BREAK

### 11:30 a.m. PANEL 2: HISTORY, SILENCE, AND (IN)JUSTICE

**Moderator: Kathryn Morgan**

Director, African-American Studies Program  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Evan Milligan**

Law Fellow, Equal Justice Initiative  
*Creating Local Space for Community Remembrance*

**Pamela Sterne King**

Assistant Professor, History and Public History  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
*The Public's Right to Know*

**Ari Joskowitz**

Associate Professor, Jewish Studies  
Vanderbilt University  
*Memory, Testimony, and Justice: Roma and Jews Since 1945*



A group of white teenage boys pour drinks and condiments on African-American students sitting at a Woolworth's lunch counter in a non-violent demonstration. Seated demonstrators are, from left to right, Walter Williams, George Raymond (wearing overalls), Pearlana Lewis, and Lois Chaffee, whose face is obscured by Lewis. Jackson, Mississippi, May 1963. *Wisconsin Historical Society, photographed by Fred Blackwell*

**1 p.m. LUNCH & KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Beverly Eileen Mitchell**

Professor, Historical Theology  
Wesley Theological Seminary  
*White Supremacy and Antisemitism: Sibling Threats*

**2:30 p.m. EDUCATION ROUNDTABLE  
TEACHING NAZI GERMANY AND THE JIM CROW SOUTH**

**Moderator: Douglas Fry**

Chair, Department of Anthropology  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Willa Johnson**

Associate Professor, Sociology  
University of Mississippi

**Barry L. McNealy**

Education Programs Consultant  
Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

**Ann Millin**

Historian, Levine Institute for Holocaust Education  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

**Ann M. Mollengarden**

VP Education Coordinator  
Birmingham Holocaust Education Center

**Leah Wolfson**

Senior Program Officer  
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center  
for Advanced Holocaust Studies  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

**4 p.m. STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

**6 p.m. KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE: PERSONAL REFLECTIONS  
ON THE LEGACIES OF RACIAL VIOLENCE AND GENOCIDE**

*Riva Hirsch, a Holocaust survivor, and Josephine Bolling McCall, whose father was lynched in Alabama in 1947, offer their thoughts on the personal impact of violent antisemitism and racism in two historical contexts.*



Birmingham police arrest Parker High School student Mattie Howard in front of the Carver Theatre on the sixth day of the Children's Crusade in May 1963. *Alabama Department of Archives and History. Photographed by Norman Dean.*

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

**9 a.m. PANEL 3: PERSONAL AGENCY AND RESISTANCE**

**Moderator: Gwendolyn Austin Dees**

Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities  
Miles College

**Warren Rosenblum**

Professor and Chair, History, Politics,  
and International Relations Department  
Webster University

*"Have you, have I, the right to live only so long as we are productive?" German Resistance to the Persecution and Murder of Persons with Disabilities*

**Stephen R. Haynes**

Professor, Religious Studies  
Rhodes College  
*Revisiting the Last Segregated Hour:  
Church Kneel-Ins in Recent Scholarship*

**Tondra Loder-Jackson**

Associate Professor, Educational Foundations  
and African-American Studies  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
*Bystanders or "Schoolhouse Activists"? Revisiting the  
Role of Educators in the Civil Rights Movement*

**10:30 a.m. BREAK**

**11 a.m. PANEL 4: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS**

**Moderator: Nicholas Sherwood**

Graduate Assistant, Institute for Human Rights  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

*Students from the region present their work on the history  
and relevance of Nazi Germany and the Jim Crow South.  
See insert for names of presenters.*



Community and religious leaders, including Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (third from right) and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel (second from right), in the Selma to Montgomery march for voting rights, Alabama, 1965. *Copyright Dan Budnik, All Rights Reserved*

**12:30 p.m.**

**LUNCH SESSION  
FROM MEMORY TO ACTION: HISTORY AND  
THE POWER OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

*Panelists offer their thoughts on the contemporary relevance  
and power of history to inspire individuals to confront hatred  
and promote human dignity in their communities.*

**Barry L. McNealy**

Education Programs Consultant  
Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

**W. Jake Newsome**

Campus Outreach Program Officer  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

**Tina Kempin Reuter**

Director  
Institute for Human Rights  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

**2 p.m.**

**CLOSING REMARKS**

**Special thanks to the symposium planning committee members:**

Tina Kempin Reuter, W. Jake Newsome, Robert M. Ehrenreich, Ajanet Rountree, Veronica Speight, Joyce Spielberg, and Kristen Walker  
*Special thanks also to Violins of Hope-Birmingham and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.*

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*This program is made possible by a generous grant from the Robert and Myra Kraft Family Foundation to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and by financial support from the UAB Institute for Human Rights and the Birmingham Holocaust Education Center.*

### **Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies**

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum serves as this country's national institution for Holocaust education and remembrance. The Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies supports scholarship and publications in the field of Holocaust studies, promotes the growth of Holocaust studies at American universities, seeks to foster strong relationships between American and international scholars, collects Holocaust-related archival documents worldwide, and organizes programs to ensure the ongoing training of future generations of scholars. The Mandel Center's outreach symposia enrich campus dialogue and forge connections with diverse audiences that will ensure the vitality of Holocaust studies in an increasingly interdisciplinary academic landscape.

To receive email updates from the Mandel Center, please visit [ushmm.org/stay-connected-mandel-center](https://ushmm.org/stay-connected-mandel-center).

### **The Institute for Human Rights**

The Institute for Human Rights at the University of Alabama at Birmingham serves as a platform for interdisciplinary interaction and collaboration for scholars, educators, students, and activists to raise awareness, engage in education, foster research, and design initiatives for practical action resulting in the promotion and protection of human and civil rights locally, nationally, and globally. Since it began operations in August 2016, the Institute has engaged in human rights education, research, and outreach with a particular focus on the struggle and empowerment of underrepresented populations, including minorities, refugees, women, children, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and people dealing with the consequences of poverty.

To stay connected, please visit our website at [uab.edu/cas/humanrights](https://uab.edu/cas/humanrights).

In the end we will remember  
not the words of our enemies,

**but the silence  
of our friends.**

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Reverend and American  
Civil Rights Leader

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**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

**PANEL 2: HISTORY, SILENCE, AND (IN)JUSTICE**

**11:30 AM**

**Correction:** *Creating Local Space for Community Remembrance* will now be presented by:

**Kiara Boone**

Deputy Program Manager, Equal Justice Initiative

**ROUNDTABLE: TEACHING NAZI GERMANY & THE JIM CROW SOUTH**

**2:30 PM**

**Addition:**

**Robby Ballard**

Teacher, The Altamont School

**POSTER SESSION**

**4:00 PM**

**David F. Banas Jr.**

M.A. Student, German History, Central Michigan University

*A Look to the Sky: A Historiographical Overview of German Civilian Suffering during the Air War over Europe in the Second World War*

**Katie Lade**

B.A. Student, History & Political Science, Webster University

*Reconsidering the Impact of Gender and Class in Nazi Germany's Disability Culture*

**Shannon Lundgren**

B.A. Student, History, University of South Alabama

*The Legal Line between Victimhood and Complicity: A Discussion of Jacob Tannenbaum's Denaturalization*

**Courtney Riles**

B.A. Student, African-American Studies & History, University of Alabama at Birmingham

*The Church and Jim Crow: The Role Southern Churches Played in Complicity amongst Bystanders*

## **Ajanet Rountree**

M.A. Student, Anthropology of Peace and Human Rights, University of Alabama at Birmingham

*The U.S. Government: A Complicit Bystander in the Sanctioning of Sexual Violence in the Jim Crow South*

## **Isaac Sours**

B.A. Student, Political Science & French Minor, Samford University

*A Queer Relationship: The LGBTQ Community under the Third Reich*

## **Valdosta State University Honors College Team**

*Building Community through Dialogue: An Oral History Project*

**Virginia Wilson**, B.B.A. Student, Healthcare Administration

**Logan Crace**, B.B.A. Student, Management

**Josh Reed**, B.S. Student, Computer Information Systems

**Nicholas A. Anderson**, B.A. and B.S. Student, Criminal Justice & Psychology

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

**PANEL 4: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS**

**11:00 AM**

## **Derrick J. Angermeier**

Ph.D. Candidate, History, University of Georgia

*Lost Causes and Everyday Futures: Reevaluating Complicity in the Third Reich and Jim Crow South*

## **Kevin Hall**

Ph.D. Candidate, Central Michigan University

*Allied "Terror Flyers" in German Propaganda: The Lynching of Downed American Airmen during World War II*

## **Hannah Herzog**

M.A. Student, American Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

*Hershel Gleenblat: Resistance in Atlanta*

## **Stephanie Poiroux**

B.A. Student, Psychology, University of Mississippi

*Altruism v. The Bystander Effect: How Doing Nothing Promotes Prejudice and Negative Behavior*

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