



Nazi Institutionalized Racism

# THE NUREMBERG LAWS SEPTEMBER 1935



# The Night of the Long Knives June 30, 1934

- Referred to as the Röhm Putsch named after Ernst Röhm



- Built the Stormtrooper organization to 2.5 million by 1934
- Veteran of WWI and long time associate of Hitler's, he was instrumental in bringing down the Weimar Republic and strengthening Hitler's political power
- As Chancellor, Hitler began to view the Stormtroopers as a problem
- Heinrich Himmler's SS (Schutzstaffel or protective staff) and elite guard had grown stronger and wanted the power Röhm's Brown Shirted Stormtroopers had

- The regular German Army and others on Hitler's side did not like the Stormtroopers



- Hitler had to choose which group to go with
- He choose the SS (Black Shirts)
- He had to then eliminate the Brown Shirted Stormtroopers
- The night of June 30, 1934 the SS went about killing former allies of Hitler. The total killed is unknown
  - Some say as low as 150 others estimate in the thousands
- Hitler did not get rid of the Stormtroopers entirely but forced them under his control
- Hitler blamed it on Röhm's homosexuality and gained von Hindenburg's approval for restoring order and it was declared legal

## 1. Centralization of Power:

- Himmler's SS and Security Service head, Reinhard Heydrich took over the political police, known as the Gestapo ((Geheime Staatspolizei) and the criminal police force as well
  - The head of the SS and the concentration camps now took charge of all police forces in Germany!



- Himmler was devoted to defending the “purity of blood” and persecuting those believed to be a threat to it.
- August 1934 President Hindenburg died
- Hitler united the two offices of president and chancellor into one
- President was supreme commander of the German armed forces
- Hitler was then able to demand members of the military to swear an oath of allegiance to him.

## 2. Legalization: The Legalization of Nazi Measures

- Legalize the goals of racial purity and spatial expansion
- Hitler's first minister of justice, Franz Gürtner enabled Hitler's authoritarian rule
- Gürtner allowed Hitler's illegal activities and presided over laying the foundations of what would become mass murder of those considered handicapped and of Jews.



- Nuremberg Laws
  - Key pieces of legislation in the attack on the Jews
- Two Parts:
  1. The Law for Protection of German Blood and Honor
    - Forbade marriage or sexual relations between Jews and “Aryan” Germans
    - Jews could not fly the German Flag

- Jews could not employ German gentile women under age 45 in their homes
- These laws were meant to isolate German Jews and stigmatize them as disloyal and destructive outsiders

## 2. The Reich Citizenship Law of November 1935

- Defined who was to count as a Jew in Nazi Germany
- Nazis believed Jewishness was a racial trait
- There is no way to measure distinctions of blood because there are none
- Nazi “experts” had to rely on religion to define Jews
- It was not the person’s religion, but his or her grandparent’s religion that mattered
- People with 3 or more grandparents of the Jewish faith were counted as Jews
  - Most of these Jews lost their rights as German citizens
- People with 2 grandparents of the Jewish faith were considered: *Mischlinge*, or mixed bloods.

- Mischlinge who were Jewish by religion or married a person counted as Jewish were considered Jewish
- Some Mischlinge who had no contact with Judaism or Jews often ended up being treated as Jews (based on looks or accusations)
- Many lived throughout the Nazi period in Germany, some served in the German military
- The law did not address those with only one Jewish grandparent but many were treated badly just the same
- Germans with 4 grandparents who were baptized into a Christian church were generally assumed to be “Aryans”
- The Nuremberg Laws allowed and even called for attacks on Jews
  - Crucial step toward the destruction of Germany’s Jews
  - Made it much easier to isolate, rob, deport, and eventually kill them
- Ultimately affected Gypsies and Afro-Germans, homosexuals, and the handicapped
- Sterilization program excelled as well

# Die Nürnberger Gesetze

Deutschblütiger	Mischling 2. Grades	Mischling 1. Grades	Jude	Jude
<p>Großeltern Eltern</p>	<p>Großeltern Eltern</p>	<p>Großeltern Eltern</p>	<p>Großeltern Eltern</p>	<p>Großeltern Eltern</p>
<p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Deutschblütig</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder gelten als Deutschblütig</p> <p>Ehe nur mit Genehmigung zugelassen</p> <p>Ehe verboten</p> <p>Ehe verboten</p>	<p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder gelten als Deutschblütig</p> <p>Ehe verboten</p> <p>Ehe nur mit Genehmigung zugelassen</p> <p>Ehe verboten</p> <p>Ehe verboten</p>	<p>Ehe nur mit Genehmigung zugelassen</p> <p>Ehe nur mit Genehmigung zugelassen</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Mischlinge</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p>	<p>Ehe verboten</p> <p>Ehe verboten</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p>	<p>Ehe verboten</p> <p>Ehe verboten</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p> <p>Ehe gestattet</p> <p>Kinder werden Juden</p>

Zeichenerklärung	
Deutschblütiger	gültig bei heidnischer Ehe u. Ehepartner nicht aus dem Reichsbürgergesetz
Mischling 2. Grades	gültig nur bei heidnischer Ehepartner nicht aus dem Reichsbürgergesetz
Mischling 1. Grades	gültig nur bei heidnischer Ehepartner nicht aus dem Reichsbürgergesetz
Jude	gültig bei heidnischer Ehe u. Ehepartner nicht aus dem Reichsbürgergesetz
Jude	gültig bei heidnischer Ehe u. Ehepartner nicht aus dem Reichsbürgergesetz

Sonderfälle bei Mischlingen 1. Grades	
<p>Mischling gilt als Jude, wenn er der jüdischen Religionszugehörigkeit angehört.</p>	<p>Mischling gilt als Jude, wenn er mit einem Juden verheiratet ist.</p>
<p>Mischling, der aus vorerborenen außerehelichen Verträgen mit einem Juden stammt und der nach dem 31. Juli 1935 außerehelich geboren wird, gilt als Jude.</p>	<p>Mischling, der aus einer Ehe mit einem Juden stammt, die nach dem 15. 9. 1935 geschlossen ist, gilt als Jude, bei bereits bestehenden Ehen bleibt er Mischling.</p>

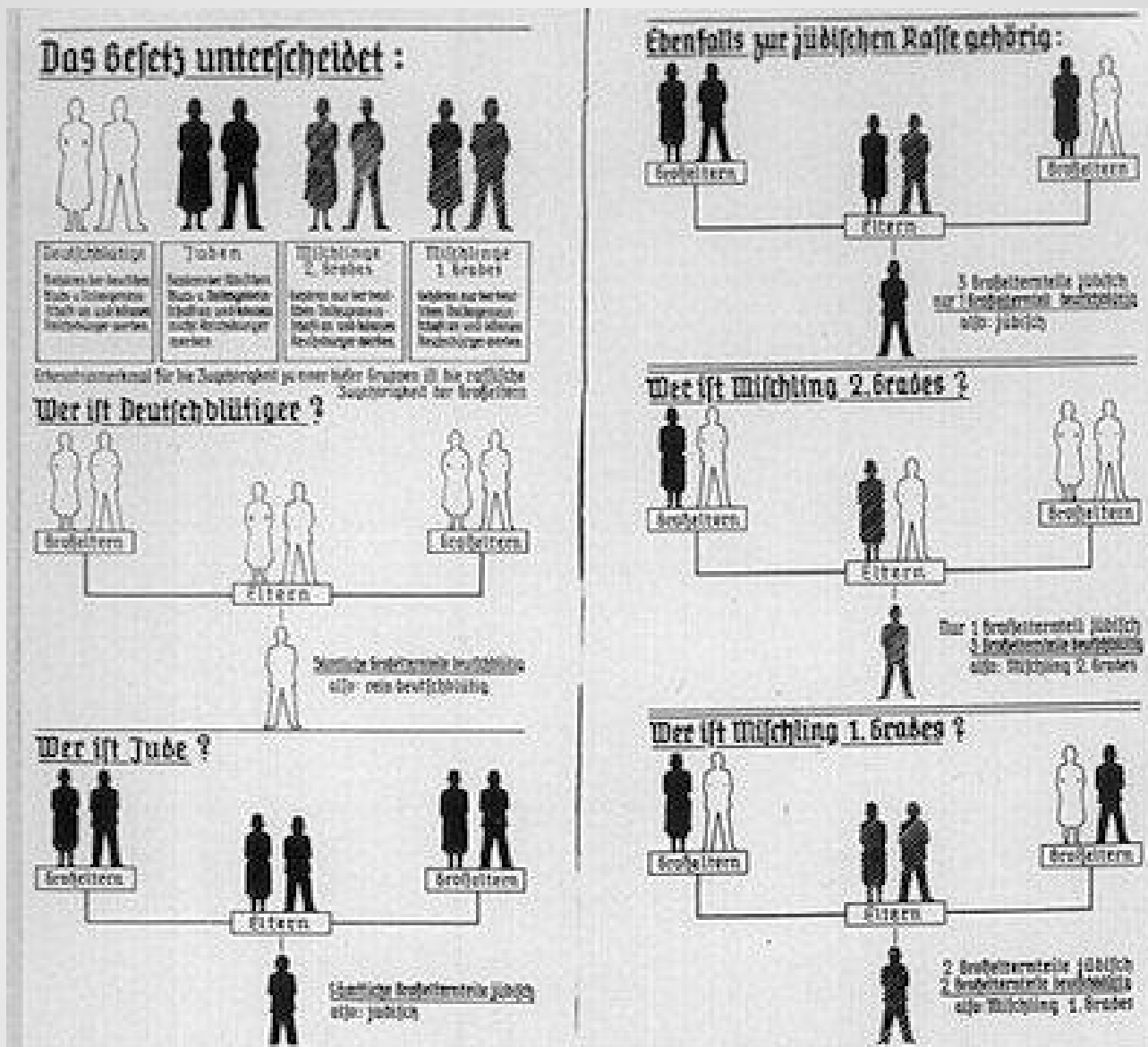
**Reichsbürgergesetz vom 15. 9. 1935**  
1. Verordnung vom 14. 11. 1935

**Gesetz zum Schutze des deutschen Blutes und der deutschen Ehre vom 15. 9. 1935**  
1. Verordnung vom 14. 11. 1935

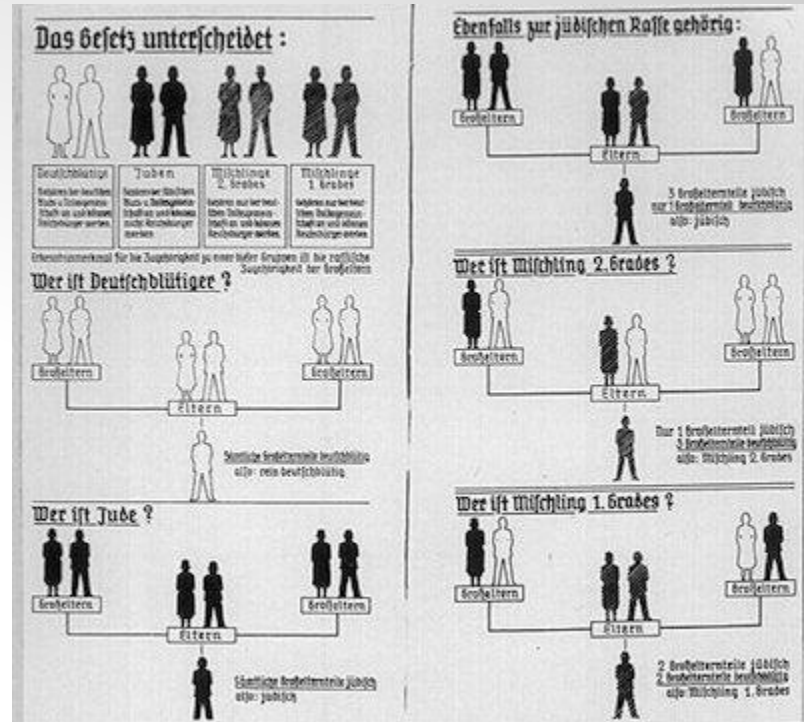
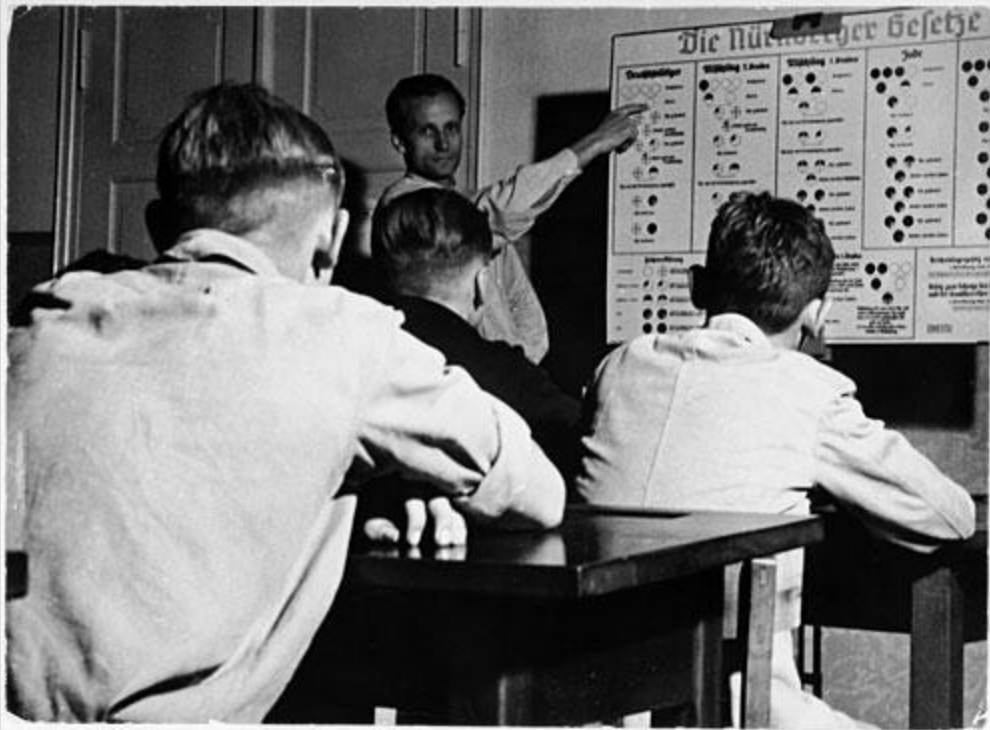
Verf. v. 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

1935 chart from Nazi Germany used to explain the Nuremberg Laws





Instructional chart issued to help bureaucrats distinguish Jews from Mischlinge (mixed race persons) and Aryans. The white figures are Aryans; the black figures Jews; and the shaded figures Mischlinge.



September 1935,  
 Der Freitag der Freiheit.  
 Der Führer und Reichskanzler.  
*By Hitler*  
 Der Reichsminister des Innern.  
*Frick*  
 Der Reichsminister der Justiz.  
*Dr. Gurtner*  
 stellvertreter des Führers.



- Nuremberg Laws were discriminatory laws aimed at Jews and other undesirable groups of people
- During the 12 years of Hitler's Third Reich there were over 400 separate regulations issued against Jews prohibiting everything from performing in a symphony orchestra to owning a cat!
- Many moderate anti-Semites were concerned about how this laws would be perceived by foreign countries and how it would affect Germany's fragile economy
- Jews made up only less than one percent of Germany's overall population of 55 million
  - Hitler still considered them by nature to be the "mortal enemy" of Germany
  - Increase in violence against Jews everywhere in Germany
  - ***Self-Coordination*** (text bottom of page 74)
    - This kind of persecution required the cooperation of millions