

Holocaust - Nuremberg Laws

Source Analysis

Directions: Read the following sources and complete the related questions. Source 1 and Source 4 are known as the Nuremberg Laws.

Source 1

Reich Citizenship Law of Sept. 15, 1935

Article 1

1. A subject of the state is a person who enjoys the protection of the German Reich and who in consequence has specific obligations toward it.
2. The status of subject of the state is acquired in accordance with the provisions of the Reich and the Reich Citizenship Law.

Article 2

1. A Reich citizen is a subject of the state who is of German or related blood, and proves by his conduct that he is willing and fit to faithfully serve the German people and Reich.
2. Reich citizenship is acquired through the granting of a Reich citizenship certificate.
3. The Reich citizen is the sole bearer of full political rights in accordance with the law.

Source 2



1938 in Berlin, Germany. Germans pass by Jewish shops destroyed during Kristallnacht.

Source 3



A Jewish woman sits on a bench that reads "Only for Jews".

Source 4

Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor of Sept. 15, 1935

Moved by the understanding that purity of German blood is the essential condition for the continued existence of the German people, and inspired by the inflexible determination to ensure the existence of the German nation for all time, the Reichstag has unanimously adopted the following law, which is promulgated herewith:

Article 1

1. Marriages between Jews and subjects of the state of German or related blood are forbidden. Marriages nevertheless concluded are invalid, even if concluded abroad to circumvent this law.
2. Annulment proceedings can be initiated only by the state prosecutor.

Article 2

Extramartial relations between Jews and subjects of the state of German or related blood are forbidden.

Article 3

Jews may not employ in their households female subjects of the state of German or related blood who are under 45 years old.

Article 4

1. Jews are forbidden to fly the Reich or national flag or display Reich colors.
2. They are, on the other hand, permitted to display the Jewish colors. The exercise of this right is protected by the state.

Article 5

1. Any person who violates the prohibition under Article 1 will be punished with a prison sentence.
2. A male who violates the prohibition under Article 2 will be punished with a jail term or a prison sentence.
3. Any person violating the provisions under Articles 3 or 4 will be punished with a jail term of up to one year and a fine, or with one or the other of these penalties.

Source 5

(Right) Jewish people in German controlled territory wearing the yellow star to identify themselves as Jewish. They were made to wear these stars when in public places.



Holocaust - Nuremberg Laws Analysis Questions

Directions: Answer the following questions in relation to the sources.

1. What is Source 1 saying about German subjects?
2. Source 2 is a picture showing the after effects of Kristallnacht. In what ways was Kristallnacht a result of the Nuremberg Laws? Use Source 1, Source 4 and the reading below to answer this question.

Kristallnacht is often referred to as "Night of the Broken Glass" and is referencing November 9th and 10th, 1938 when thousands of Jewish businesses and synagogues were destroyed by the Nazi's. Much of the violence was carried out by the SA (Sturmabteilungen: commonly known as Storm Troopers). It is often seen as an act of violence and prejudice against the Jewish.

3. Why would Articles 1 and 2 in Source 4 be important to the creators of the Nuremberg Laws?
4. What is the purpose or intended goal of Article 4 in Source 4?
5. How do Source 3 and Source 5 relate to Article 4 of Source 4?
6. Considering Source 5, why would the German government want the Jewish to wear the stars?
7. Considering all of the sources, describe what life would have been like for the Jewish living in Germany in the years leading up to World War Two.

8. Considering all of the sources, in what ways were the Jewish being discriminated against? (List types of discrimination)
9. Considering all of the sources, how did the Nuremberg Laws lead to the events of the Holocaust and eventual death of nearly 6 million Jewish?