Holocaust

Ms. Ramos
Alta Loma High School
Some slides taken from Mr. Marston & Mr. Masters
Nuremberg Laws

• Protection of German:
  - Blood
  - Marriage
  - Citizenship
Kristallnacht

- Attack on Jews, Germans, & Austrians by Hitler youth & gestapo
- Disarmed the Jews
Nazi-Soviet Pact

- Agreement between Hitler & Stalin
- Designed to avoid a two-front war
Final Solution

• Hitler’s solution to finding all the Jews and sending them to death camps to keep the Aryan race alive
Concentration Camps

• Used to imprison Jews
• Forced labor, transit, & extermination camps
• Mass murder
Ghettos

- City districts enclosed
- Germans manipulate their resources & living conditions
Genocide

- Mass murder of Jews and other non-Aryan
- Brutal deaths
- Hitler tried to cover it up
- Some people do not believe it happened
Killed/Impact

• Approx 6 million killed
• Shocked the world
• Most survivors died due to deterioration & weak digestive systems
• Lost & confused with nothing to go back to
What is the Holocaust
Holocaust

• Holocaust - The Systemic Murder of 11 Million people across Europe, more than half of whom were Jews
What is Hitler’s Final Solution
Hitler’s final Solution

- Final Solution-(Genocide) the deliberate and systematic killing of an entire population
What is Hitler’s Master Race

- Aryan or master Race, Blonde Hair, Blue Eyes, this race is superior and must be preserved. All other races were deemed inferior and condemned Jews and others to slavery.
Aryan Race-Master Race

- Germany’s master race philosophy
Why did the Germans persecute these groups: Jews

• Hitler needed a scapegoat to blame problems in Europe on, He chose the Jews-

• **Anti Semitism**- (hatred of the Jews)- had existed in Europe for some time-Hitler blamed Jews for failures.
Why did Germans persecute these groups: Gypsies & Freemasons

- Gypsies - were believed to be inferior, by the Nazi's.
- Freemasons - were charged by the Nazis as being supporters of the *Jewish Conspiracy* to rule the world
Why did the Germans persecute these groups: Jehovah’s Witness

- Jehovah Witness members refused to join Hitler’s army and salute him.
Why did the Germans persecuted these groups: Homosexuals

- Homosexuals were some of the first to be arrested after Hitler became Chancellor of Germany.
Why did Germans persecute these groups: Mentally Deficient/ill

- Forced sterilizations—a person was diagnosed with feeblemindness, Operation T4—the killing of patients in hospitals and institutions. Operation 14f13—psychiatrists were sent to camps, and ordered to weed out those too week to work. Unfit to be part of the master race.
Why the Germans persecuted these groups: Physically disabled

- Same as the mentally ill category
Concentration Camps

• A place where prisoners were mistreated, subjected to medical experiments, died from disease, starvation, overwork, or were executed as unfit for working.
Extermination Camps

• These camps main function after the order of the “Final Solution”; was to kill as many people as possible, as quickly as possible. Within 24 hours of arrival, prisoners would have been killed.
Kristallnacht

• **Night of Broken Glass** - November 9-10, 1938.
• Nazi storm troopers attacked Jewish businesses, homes, and synagogues across Germany.
• Hundreds of windows were smashed.
• Broken glass was everywhere, Jews were blamed.
## 6 Extermination Camps/Poland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camp</th>
<th>Killed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Auschwitz-Birkenau</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Treblinka</td>
<td>700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Belzic</td>
<td>434,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Sobibor</td>
<td>167,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) Chelmno</td>
<td>152,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) Majdanek</td>
<td>78,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Operation Reinhard

• Codename for extermination of the Polish Jews
What is “Holocaust denial”? 

- How can the Holocaust be denied? 
- Who are the Holocaust deniers? 
- Are they a small and inconsequential cluster of socially marginal fanatics or a large group of mainstream players? 
- What are the deniers’ main arguments and what motivates them in their denial? 
- Should one argue with them, or are they better ignored?
Any person or organization that denies the Holocaust or doubts the number of Jewish victims, or the existence of concentration camps and gas chambers, is a denier of the Holocaust and not a “revisionist”

The truth is that these people are engaged not in an innovative alternative interpretation of history but in the outright denial of history.  
All serious historians are in essence revisionists...
– relativism – changing the perspective dramatically...some deniers use “logic” to attempt to discern false premises to prove to students that the information is incorrect or incomplete, or that relationships provided between information is not practical.

– Ex: Hitler was bad, but Stalin was worse – the act of the Holocaust is thus made relative and diminished

– reversal – the idea that the Nazis of today are Israelis and the new Jews are the Palestinians – this approach is seen in Europe and is connected to the Muslim World
Paul Rassinier of France, first published in 1948, set forth the main arguments that have been repeated by all subsequent Holocaust deniers:

– There had never been a plan for the systematic annihilation of European Jewry.
– The number of Jewish victims was about one million.
– It was the Jews who had
Professor Yisrael Gutman traces the origins of Holocaust denial to the Nazis themselves. In Gutman’s opinion, the Nazis’ attempts to obscure their acts of murder sowed the seeds of denial. The following examples illustrate this point:

1. The absence of any written orders from Hitler (Fuehrerbefehl) concerning the annihilation of the Jews, and the use of verbal commands.

2. The use of code words (Sprachregelung) to denote the annihilation of European Jewry:
3. The formation in 1942 of Unit 1005, a secret unit commanded by Paul Blobel, in order to destroy evidence of the slaughter of Jews in the death pits of the east by burning the corpses.

4. Orders concerning the dismantling of three extermination camps (Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka) and destruction of evidence concerning the mass murder of Jews there.
5. Himmler speech to SS officers in Poznan in October 1943. The destruction of the Jews, Himmler explained, was a glorious page in history that has never been recorded and never shall be. It was clear to him that people at large would not understand this... 

*These are several of the examples that point to the efforts by the Nazis to conceal*
• The Nazi camouflage of their actions during the war created opportunities for the postwar Holocaust deniers.

• The death camps Chelmno, Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka were destroyed and all traces of their having been mass extermination camps were obliterated.

• The gas chambers in Birkenau and Majdanek were dismantled and detonated in order to conceal the mass
• the “first generation” of deniers sought to cleanse the Nazis by justifying Nazi anti-Semitism and argued that the Jews deserved the treatment they had received because of their hostile behavior toward Germany.

• The “second generation” used different tactics. They acknowledged the Germans’ anti-Semitism but still argued that there was no Holocaust...

• Thus they could be seen as unprejudiced men who sought nothing but historical “truth.”
• instead of exploring the truth of the historical event that the Holocaust represents by uncovering various documents, they totally disregard the vastness of the Holocaust and focus on several details of this enormous event, such as:
  • proof of the existence of gas chambers, especially those at Auschwitz;
  • proof of the use of Zyklon B on human beings;
  • proof of a systematic plan to annihilate the Jews;
• thus, by attempting to challenge various details without looking at the “big
the real account of the Holocaust is composed of the following sources:

1. German documents that explicitly mention the murders and the murder process.
2. German documents that describe the planning and implementation of the Final Solution using euphemisms.
3. Jewish documents — diaries, memoirs, collections of writings — in various localities such as ghettos and death camps.
4. Testimonies of survivors of the ghettos, concentration camps, and
Documents and testimonies of Poles who lived near the extermination sites and reports to/by the Polish underground to its government-in-exile in London.

6. Russian documents from the commissions of inquiry that were established upon the liberation of the German-occupied territories.

7. Legal material from the trials of Nazi criminals held in Nuremberg at the end of the war as well as later trials.

8. Recently declassified military intelligence documents (from Enigma decodings).
• The immediate postwar denial publications were poor quality and crude in their approach.
• A turning point occurred in the late 1970s. Professor Arthur Butz’s 300-page book *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century*, with its 450 footnotes, provided details from various documents that Butz interpreted in novel ways.
• Butz taught at Northwestern University in Illinois. Although his field of expertise was not history but electrical engineering, his
Butz made the following accusations:
1. The figure of 6 million is not true.
2. The World Jewish Congress in 1942 spread propaganda stories about “German soap workshops” and about mass suffocation in sealed cars.
3. The only evidence about the murder of the Jews comes from the Nuremberg Trials in 1945 and this was elicited by torture.
4. No German documents from Auschwitz mention “gas chambers.”
5. Zyklon B was used, but only as a disinfectant and an insecticide.
• 6. In the Eichmann trial, Eichmann couldn’t deny what the world thought! He had done no wrong but his best tactic was to plead guilty.

• 7. Butz has acknowledged the deeds of the Einsatzgruppen; he is willing to concede that as many as 1,000,000 Jews may have died before them.

• 8. He reinterprets documents and alleges that all testimony is inferior to documents and dismisses survivor literature as “endless raving about extermination”.

• 9. Jews invented this hoax to further Zionist ends!
INSTITUTE FOR HISTORICAL REVIEW—

- Founded in 1978; Directed since 1981 by Willis A. Carto, “a professional anti-Semite”
- They have published a journal called JHR —Journal of Historical Review since 1981 and are head of the anti-Semitic organ “Liberty Lobby”.
- In 1981, they published an advertisement offering $50,000 to anyone who could prove there were gas chambers!
- They believe in the need for an absolute, racial heritage of the United States.
• **DAVID IRVING — GREAT BRITAIN**

• British military historian

• A self-described “moderate Fascist” who believes that Britain is in decline.

• 1977 — published *Hitler’s War* (926 pages) and stated that there was no *Fuehrerbefehl* (order by the Fuehrer) to kill all the Jews.

• In Feb. 1989 he spoke at the U. of Calif. at Berkeley and offered a reward for evidence that Hitler knew of the murders at Auschwitz.

• Irving made the following arguments:
  1. Hitler was completely unaware
• ERNST ZUNDELM—
CANADA/GERMANY
• Born in Germany in 1939, emigrated to Canada in 1958.
• Established a publishing house, which turns out anti-Semitic, racist, and Holocaust-denial publications.
• 1984 — the Canadian Government charged Zundel with stimulating anti-Semitism by distributing materials.
• 1985 — found guilty and was sentenced to 15 months in prison; he appealed.
• 1992 — The Canadian Supreme Court threw out
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land</th>
<th>Zahl</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Altreich</td>
<td>131,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ostmark</td>
<td>43,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ostgebiete</td>
<td>420,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generalgouvernement</td>
<td>2.284,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bialystok</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren</td>
<td>74,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zentral - judenfrei -</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lettland</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litauen</td>
<td>34,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgien</td>
<td>43,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dänemark</td>
<td>5,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frankreich / Besetztes Gebiet</td>
<td>165,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unbesetztes Gebiet</td>
<td>700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Griechenland</td>
<td>69,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niederland</td>
<td>160,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norwegen</td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Bulgarien</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>48,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finnland</td>
<td>330,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irland</td>
<td>2,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italien einschl. Sardinien</td>
<td>58,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albanien</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kroatien</td>
<td>40,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rumänien einschl. Bessarabien</td>
<td>542,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schweden</td>
<td>8,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schweiz</td>
<td>18,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serbien</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slowakei</td>
<td>88,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanien</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Türkei (eurer. Teil)</td>
<td>55,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ungarn</td>
<td>742,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UdSSR</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>2,594,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UdSSR ausgeschl. Bialystok</td>
<td>446,484</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Zusammen: Über 11,000,000
On January 30, 1941,
Hitler said the following:
“Today I will once more be a prophet. If the international Jewish financiers in and outside Europe should succeed in plunging nations once more into a world war, then the result will not be the Bolshevization of the earth and thus the victory of Jewry, but the annihilation of the Jewish race in Europe!

Hitler threatened the Jews again in September 1942:
“In my speech before the Reichstag on the first of September 1939, I spoke of two matters: first, since we are forced into war, neither the threat of weapons nor a period of transition shall conquer us; second, if world Jewry launches another war in order
• In late July 1941, Himmler gave explicit orders to kill the Jews and to drive the Jewish women into the marshes near Baranowicze.

• In August 1941, Himmler visited Arthur Nebe in Minsk. After observing a mass execution of Jews, Himmler delivered a brief speech to those present, stressing the need to carry out these orders, which came directly from the Fuhrer.

• On Oct. 2, 1941, Himmler visited Otto Ohlendorf, commander of Einsatzgruppe D. Again Himmler stressed to his soldiers that he
• In July 1942, Himmler visited Auschwitz and Sobibor; he observed the murder of Jews in gas chambers.
• On September 29, 1942, Himmler reported to Hitler on combat against the partisans and the elimination of Jews. In his report, which refers only to August-November, Himmler spoke of the liquidation of 363,211
• The Einsatzgruppen reports are the largest set of documents that refer to the annihilation of the Jews.

• The murder of Jews in Kiev (Babi Yar) in late September 1941 — Report No. 101 of October 2, 1941.

• “Sonderkommando 4-A, in cooperation with the Einsatzgruppen command and two police units from the southern region, executed 33,771 Jews in Kiev on September 30, 1941.”

• With these lines, Paul Blobel reported the first mass slaughter of Jews on
• A report by Karl Jaeger, of Einsatzkommando 3, on the murder of Lithuanian Jews on December 1, 1941. Jaeger’s report specified the dates and locations of the murders; at the end, Jaeger added up the number of victims — 137,346
• *Einsatzgruppe D* reported on April 8, 1942, a total of 92,000 dead. Himmler reported to Hitler on December 20, 1942, the following numbers of Jews shot in the Ukraine, Russia and Bialystok –
  
  - August 1942 - 31,246
  - September 1942 - 165,282
  - October 1942 - 95,735
  - November 1942 - 70,948
  - Total - 363,211

• According to these reports, 900,000 Jews
• Other German Documents Used Euphemisms

• 1. A document from Goering to Heydrich on July 31, 1941, on the preparation of a plan for the Final Solution to the Jewish problem.

• “In completion of the task which was entrusted to you in the Edict dated January 24, 1939, of solving the Jewish question by means of emigration or evacuation in the most convenient way possible, given the present conditions, I herewith charge you with making all necessary preparations for an overall solution (Gesamtlösung) of the Jewish question in the German sphere of influence in Europe... I further charge you with submitting to me promptly an...
• A document dated March 1943 by Richard Korherr, chief statistician of the Third Reich. In late 1942, Himmler asked Korherr to prepare an interim report on the implementation of the Final Solution to the Jewish question. According to his 16-page document, about four million Jews had been given “special
reports from the German railway authority (Deutsche Reichsbahn), composed by various bureaucrats in the German transport ministry. One of the many reports, dated January 6, 1943, contains the dates of deportations, point of departure, destinations, and number of deportees. This report speaks of 16,000 Polish Jews who were taken to Auschwitz or Treblinka.
There are several types of Jewish documents:

1. Those written in the ghetto by individuals (diaries, letters).
2. Those written in the ghetto by institutions (the Judenrat) and underground bodies. Examples are *The Lodz Ghetto Chronicles* and the *Oneg Shabbat* collection from the Warsaw ghetto.

- Their info incl.: ghetto industries, production quantities, quantities of food that reached the ghetto, death and birth rates, deportation of Jews who had arrived from the...
3. Testimonies of Jews who managed to escape the extermination camps or whose writings came to light after the war. Examples are *The Last Testament of the Jews of Chelmno* and *The Scrolls of Auschwitz*, written by the Sonderkommando that worked at the crematorium in Birkenau.

4. Survivors’ postwar testimonies.

*Oneg Shabbat*: one of the most important documents in this collection is the report on “The Destruction Jewish Warsaw” dated November 15, 1942. This document, smuggled out of the ghetto by the Jewish underground and forwarded to the Polish government-in-exile in London, describes in great detail the
• According to Oneg Shabbat, from July 22-31, 66,701 people were deported from the ghetto.

• August, a total of 142,525 people were deported from the ghetto; 135,120 were sent to Treblinka and 7,403 to the Dulag (a transit camp from whence they were sent to labor camps in Germany).

• During this period, 4,517 people died: 2,305 were shot, 155 committed suicide, and 2,057 died of other causes. From
Other reports came from Jews who escaped from Auschwitz-Birkenau in April-May 1944. The most significant report was by Rudolf Vrba (formerly Walter Rosenberg) and Alfred Wetzler, who fled Auschwitz-Birkenau on April 7, 1944. Vrba, taken to Auschwitz from Slovakia at the age of 19, worked from August 1942 to June 1943 in the section of the camp known as “Canada.”

Their testimony was indeed handed to the Soviet Army and forwarded to the central Soviet archives in Moscow. They became known as the Auschwitz Protocols.
COPY / ORDER /

J A TOPF & SONS

Erfurt, 12th February 1943

SS and Police Central Construction Management
Oswiecim

CONCERNING: Krematorien 2 and 3, POW camp

We acknowledge receipt of your telegram of 10th February reading as follows:

We once again confirm receipt of your order for five triple muffle furnaces, including two electric lifts for the corpses and one provisional hoist for corpses. Also the order for a practical device for charging coal and a device for transporting ashes. You are to deliver the whole installation for Krematorium 3. We expect you to take the necessary steps to immediately despatch all machines and parts. The complete installation must come into service on 10th April 1943.

J A TOPF & SONS

[certified a true copy]
Captain / KUNIN /
[Top left: Rubber stamp of the Topf management secretariat, dated 6th December 1941, with the initials of the directors: «LT» for Ludwig Topf and «ET» for Ernst-Wolfgang Topf, and the inscriptions «For reply» and «Replied on»]

Erfurt, 6th December 1941

To Messrs
Ludwig and Ernst Wolfgang Topf
inside the house

Dear Messrs Topf,

As you know, I designed both the 3 muffle and the 8 muffle cremation furnaces, and this using mainly my free time - at home.

These furnace constructions pioneer the way for the future and I venture to hope that you will grant me a bonus for the work involved.

Heil Hitler!
Kurt Prüfer

On the order of LT/ET,
150 RM paid 24/12/41
[initials]
An die
Eh-akt. Unter.-Stelle
Zur Weiter-Meldung, Mbracht,  
Auschwitz, 3/46

Abg. Nachzubrachten zur Untersuchung auf Sterbeurkunden, hinausgelassen am 9.7.1944, von folgenden Häftlingen von Block
34:

L. Nr. H.-Nr. Name und Vorname

1. 29987 Weiner Berthold
2. 64982 Poderst Franz
3. 73631 Kraus August
4. 73699 Schinkels Max
5. 84967 Mancz Gustav
6. 102573 Tenzer Wolf
7. 103787 Loth Vincenz
8. 106963 Lewin Leo
9. 107942 Zielinski Wilhelm
10. 112508 Kugelki Franz
11. 118693 Martin Ludwig
12. 118928 Klein Rudolf
13. 118932 Alein Eugen
14. 118994 Kranzer Anton
15. 119978 Weidman Herrmann
16. 120997 Bayer Johann
17. 120568 Erner Janos
18. 121876 Spiess Robert
19. 123251 Lappan Jan
20. 124594 Glass Georg
21. 125099 Kisselch Fritz
22. 130516 Seidler Richard
23. 130415 Kulig Karl
24. 131027 Steindl Leopold
25. 131375 Granek Henrik
26. 135912 Bertsch Ernst
27. 146953 Freilich Bernhard
28. 151237 Nowak Willy
29. 151340 Stonaly Josef
30. 156413 Klein Johann Heinrich
31. 158268 Karooschka Franz
32. 158342 Schic Josef
33. 158646 Kusch Walter

D. W.
• Overall, very few survived some of the death camps. Only two Jews are known to have survived Chelmno, and another two survived Belzec — Rudolf Rader and Haim Hirshsman.

• about 70 prisoners from Treblinka, which was razed after the revolt of the permanent Jewish prisoners on August 2, 1943, were alive at the end of the war. From Sobibor, which had its own prisoners’ uprising on October 14, 1943, an estimated 50-70 Jews lived to see liberation day.

• approximately 12,000 prisoners remained alive at the Majdanek concentration/death camp when it was liberated by the Soviet Army in July.
SOVIET DOCUMENTS

The entire systematic murder of Jews by the Einsatzgruppen and in the death camps took place in areas that were liberated by the Soviet Army in 1943-1945.

When the Soviets liberated the Majdanek death camp in July 1944, the first photographs that documented the results of the Nazis’ annihilation program reached the west.
• When the Soviet Army liberated Auschwitz in January 1945, Tass, the official Soviet new agency, published a full report of the annihilation that had taken place there on the basis of the testimony of more than 2,000 survivors.
the trials of Nazi war criminals and their assistants at the end of the war may be divided into three types:

- The first international military tribunal (IMT), comprised of American, British, French, and Russian judges, sat from October 18, 1945, to October 1, 1946, and prosecuted 21 leaders of the Third Reich.

- Another 12 trials were held from 1946-8 concerning various groups: SS, bureaucrats, and industrialists
• Enigma, Bletchley Park, and the NSA – “Eavesdropping on Hell”
• Credits:
  – Ephraim Kaye and the Yad Vashem International School for Holocaust Studies