

Nazi Party Primary Evidence

Read the excerpt on the back from *25 Points*, the Nazi party platform. On a separate piece of paper answer the following questions:

1. According to point #2, do the Nazis approve of the Treaty of Versailles? How is that related to point #3?
2. List all of the points that mention the Jews specifically.
3. In which point do the Nazis explain why Jews should be denied German citizenship? What is their reason?
4. Which point do you agree with the most and why?
5. Which point do you find the most offensive and why?

Graph A:

Election Results during the Weimar Republic in Germany
(Percent of all votes cast for each party)

Parties	1924	1928	1930	1932
Nationalist Socialist German Workers Party (Nazi Party)	3%	2.6%	18.3%	33.1%
German Nationalist People's Party (conservative)	20.5%	14.2%	7%	8.8%
Center Party (Catholic)	13.6%	12.1%	11.8%	11.9%
Democratic Party	6.3%	4.9%	3.8%	1%
Social Democrat Party (moderate socialists)	26%	29.8%	24.5%	20.4%
Communist Party	9%	10.6%	13.1%	16.9%

Graph B:

Number of People Who Were Unemployed in Germany

1924	1928	1930	1932
978,000	1,368,000	3,076,000	5,109,000

6. What happened to the popularity of the Nazi Party in Germany as unemployment increased?
7. Why do you think that is?
8. Did any other political party gain popularity as unemployment went up?
9. Why do you think that is?
10. Which party changed the least over time? Why do you think that is?

25 Points: The Program of the National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP/The Nazis), 24 Feb 1920

1. We demand the union of all Germans in a Great Germany on the basis of the principle of self-determination of all peoples.
 2. We demand that the German people have rights equal to those of other nations; and that the Peace Treaties of Versailles and St. Germain shall be abrogated.
 3. We demand land and territory (colonies) for the maintenance of our people and the settlement of our surplus population.
 4. Only those who are our fellow countrymen can become citizens. Only those who have German blood, regardless of creed, can be our countrymen. Hence no Jew can be a countryman.
 5. Those who are not citizens must live in Germany as foreigners and must be subject to the law of aliens.
 6. The right to choose the government and determine the laws of the State shall belong only to citizens. We therefore demand that no public office, of whatever nature, whether in the central government, the province, or the municipality, shall be held by anyone who is not a citizen.
 7. We demand that the State shall above all undertake to ensure that every citizen shall have the possibility of living decently and earning a livelihood. If it should not be possible to feed the whole population, then aliens (non-citizens) must be expelled from the Reich.
 8. Any further immigration of non-Germans must be prevented. We demand that all non-Germans who have entered Germany since August 2, 1914, shall be compelled to leave the Reich immediately.
 10. The first duty of every citizen must be to work mentally or physically. No individual shall do any work that offends against the interest of the community to the benefit of all.
 15. We demand a generous increase in old-age pensions.
 20. In order to make it possible for every capable and industrious German to obtain higher education, and thus the opportunity to reach into positions of leadership, the State must assume the responsibility of organizing thoroughly the entire cultural system of the people. The curricula of all educational establishments shall be adapted to practical life. The conception of the State Idea (science of citizenship) must be taught in the schools from the very beginning. We demand that specially talented children of poor parents, whatever their station or occupation, be educated at the expense of the State.
 23. We demand that there be a legal campaign against those who propagate deliberate political lies and disseminate them through the press. In order to make possible the creation of a German press, we demand:
 - (a) All editors and their assistants on newspapers published in the German language shall be German citizens.
 - (b) Non-German newspapers shall only be published with the express permission of the State. They must not be published in the German language.
 - (c) All financial interests in or in any way affecting German newspapers shall be forbidden to non-Germans by law, and we demand that the punishment for transgressing this law be the immediate suppression of the newspaper and the expulsion of the non-Germans from the Reich.
- Newspapers transgressing against the common welfare shall be suppressed. We demand legal action against those tendencies in art and literature that have a disruptive influence upon the life of our folk, and that any organizations that offend against the foregoing demands shall be dissolved.
24. We demand freedom for all religious faiths in the state, insofar as they do not endanger its existence or offend the moral and ethical sense of the Germanic race. The party as such represents the point of view of a positive Christianity without binding itself to any one particular confession. It fights against the Jewish materialist spirit within and without, and is convinced that a lasting recovery of our folk can only come about from within on the principle: **COMMON GOOD BEFORE INDIVIDUAL GOOD**
25. In order to carry out this program we demand: the creation of a strong central authority in the State, the unconditional authority by the political central parliament of the whole State and all its organizations.