

10 Stages of Genocide



Human Rights: Legislation Review

- What is the Genocide Convention Document?
 - a document adopted by the UN on 11 December 1946 that declared that genocide is a crime under international law
- When did the US ratify this document?
 - 1988

What is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?

- standard document that sets out, for the first time, fundamental human rights to be universally protected.
- When and why was the UDHR published?
 - 1948; written in response to the atrocities of the Holocaust

-



Who coined the term genocide?

Raphael Lemkin –

- Lemkin was a Polish-Jewish legal scholar who had fled Nazi-occupied Poland and arrived in the United States in 1941
- Was horrified by the atrocities of the Armenian genocide and how the crime was being repeated during the Holocaust
- He began to fight to give the “crime without a name” a name and fought to make this crime punishable under international law



What is genocide?

The term “genocide” was created during the Holocaust and declared an international crime in the 1948 United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The Convention defines genocide as any of the following acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group, as such:

- a. Killing members of the group;
- b. Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- c. Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- d. Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- e. Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

The “intent to destroy” particular groups is unique to the definition of genocide. A closely related category of international law—“crimes against humanity”—is defined as widespread or systematic attacks against civilians.



Ten Stages of Genocide

- Identifying warning signs of genocide can be an effective tool in genocide prevention
- The first SEVEN stages are warning signs



SEVEN *Warning* Stages

- Classification
- Symolization
- Discrimination
- Dehumanization
- Organization
- Polarization
- Preparation

GENOCIDE IS NOW OCCURING!

- Persecution
- Extermination
- Denial



How? ... Why? ... ???

So ... HOW, then, if these are *warning signs*, do situations continue to escalate into full blown genocides?

[UN Clip](#) – note to self: go to 1:10:50

Classification:

People are separated into us and them.



- Groups are classified by

Nationality

Ethnicity

Race

Religion

Political Affiliation

For Discussion:

In what are ways do we, as individuals, classify groups in our society today?

In United States history, how and why has our government classified groups?

Does our government classify people in groups today?

Symbolization-names or symbols
are given to the classifications.



Mod. 3



Amazina y'abana n'igite bavukiye
Noms, prénoms et date de naissance des
parents

| Amazina Noms et Prénoms | Yavutse Né le | Igitima Sexe |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Umunyazungu | 27/11/29B | |
| 2. Umuhazizi | 13/11/82 B | |
| 3. Umupanga | 16/11/88 B | |
| 4. Umunyeshi | 15/11/92 B | |
| 5. | | |
| 6. | | |
| 7. | | |
| 8. | | |
| 9. | | |
| 10. | | |
| 11. | | |
| 12. | | |

Ubwoko (Ikuru, Tutsi, Twa, Nyaturanyi)
Ethnicité

Aho yavukiye ... *Bushamara*
Lieu de Naissance

Itariki yavutseho ... *1954*
Date de Naissance

Umwuga ... *ngi*
Profession

Aho atuye ... *Rushero*
Lieu de domicile

Amazina y'umw bashakanye
Noms du Conjoint

N° C.I. *5104* *MARANDA*

Umukono cyangwa igikumwe cya nyirayo
Signature ou Tempérament du titulaire

KANGENZI

DEUTSCH REICH

J *1939*  

REISEPASS

Nr. *391/39*

NOME DES PASSAGERS
Loro Lara Oppenheimer

BEGLEITET VON *SEINER FRAU*

~~UND VON~~ ~~KINDERN~~

STAATSANGEHÖRIGKEIT
DEUTSCHES REICH

Form 100-1000 (1939)

Symbolization in Nazi Germany

Kennzeichen für Schutzhäftlinge in den Konz. Lagern
Form und Farbe der Kennzeichen

| | Politisch | Berufs- Verweigerer | Emigrant | Bibel- forscher | Geno- sklavell | Rassist |
|--|---|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Grund- farben | Red inverted triangle | Green inverted triangle | Blue inverted triangle | Black inverted triangle | Pink inverted triangle | Black inverted triangle |
| Bänderchen für Häftlinge | Red inverted triangle | Green inverted triangle | Blue inverted triangle | Black inverted triangle | Pink inverted triangle | Black inverted triangle |
| Häftlinge der Straf- Kompanie | Red inverted triangle | Green inverted triangle | Blue inverted triangle | Black inverted triangle | Pink inverted triangle | Black inverted triangle |
| Bänderchen für Juden | Red Star | Green Star | Blue Star | Black Star | Pink Star | Black Star |
| Besondere Bänderchen | Yellow inverted triangle Jüd. Kasse- schänder | Orange Star Kass- schänderin | Red circle Flucht- verdächtig | Black square Häftlinge- nummer | Striped band Büchert | |
| | Red inverted triangle Pole | Red inverted triangle Hefechen | Red triangle Wetterschutz Angehörigen | Black circle Gäftlinge Ia | | |



Symbolization in Cambodia

People in the Eastern Zone, near Vietnam, were accused of having “Khmer bodies, but Vietnamese heads.”

They were deported to other areas to be worked to death.

They were marked with a blue and white checked scarf (Kroma)

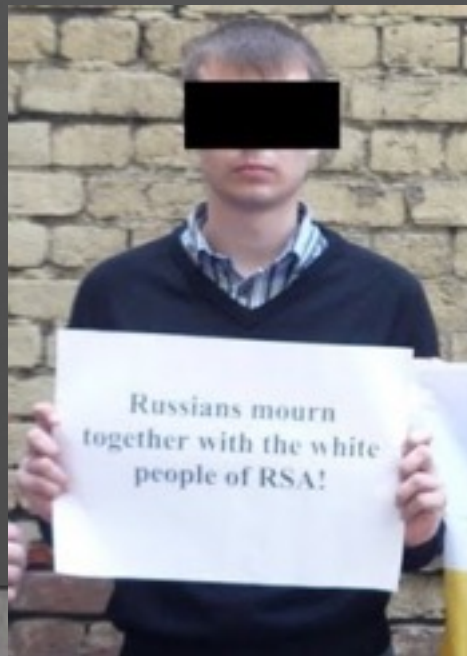


Do any of the groups we identified when talking about classification, have any symbols which identify them or make them stand out as different from the rest of society?

Discrimination

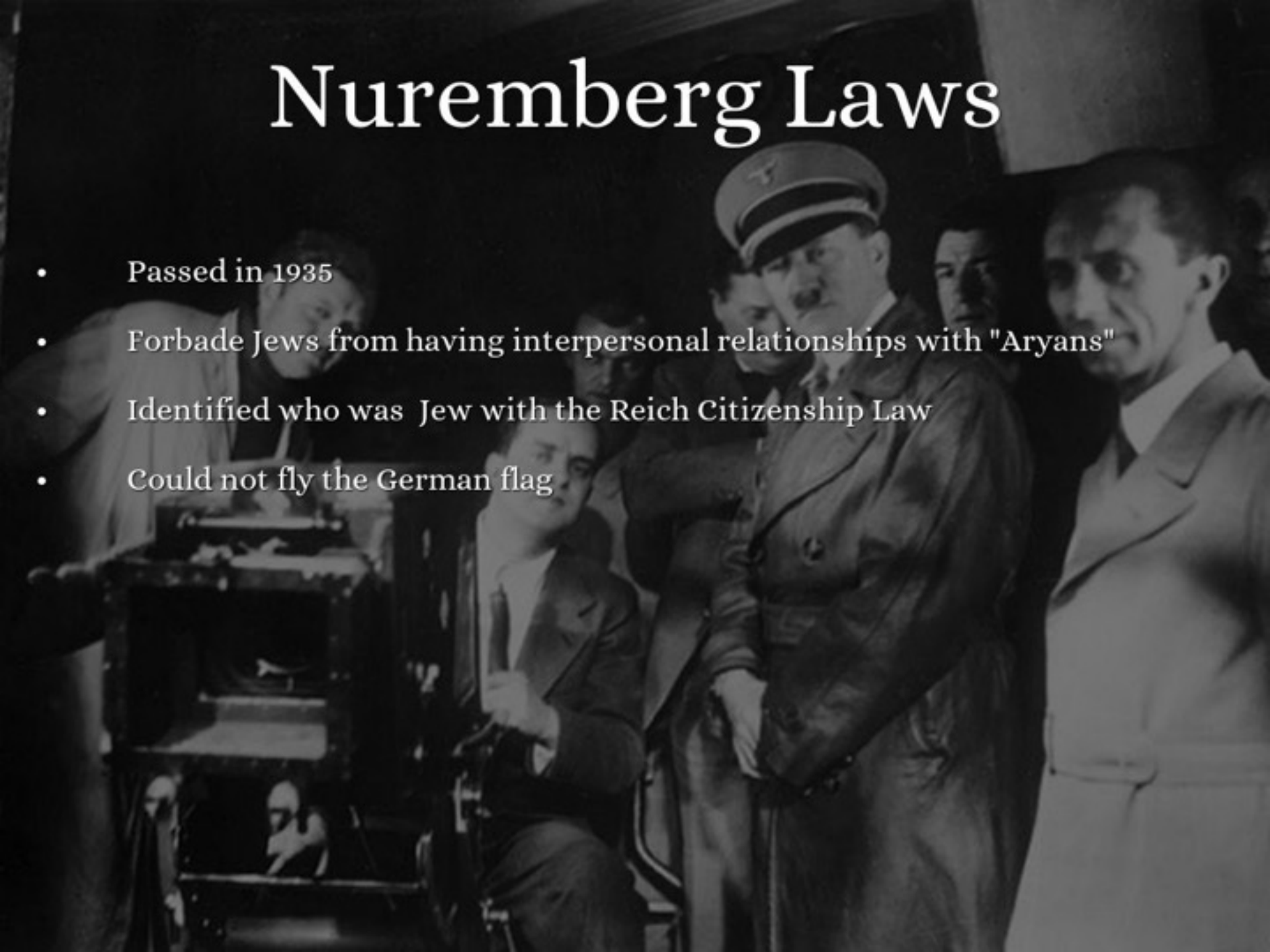
A dominant group uses law, custom, and political power to deny the rights of other groups.

The powerless group may not be accorded full civil rights or even citizenship.



Nuremberg Laws

- Passed in 1935
- Forbade Jews from having interpersonal relationships with "Aryans"
- Identified who was Jew with the Reich Citizenship Law
- Could not fly the German flag



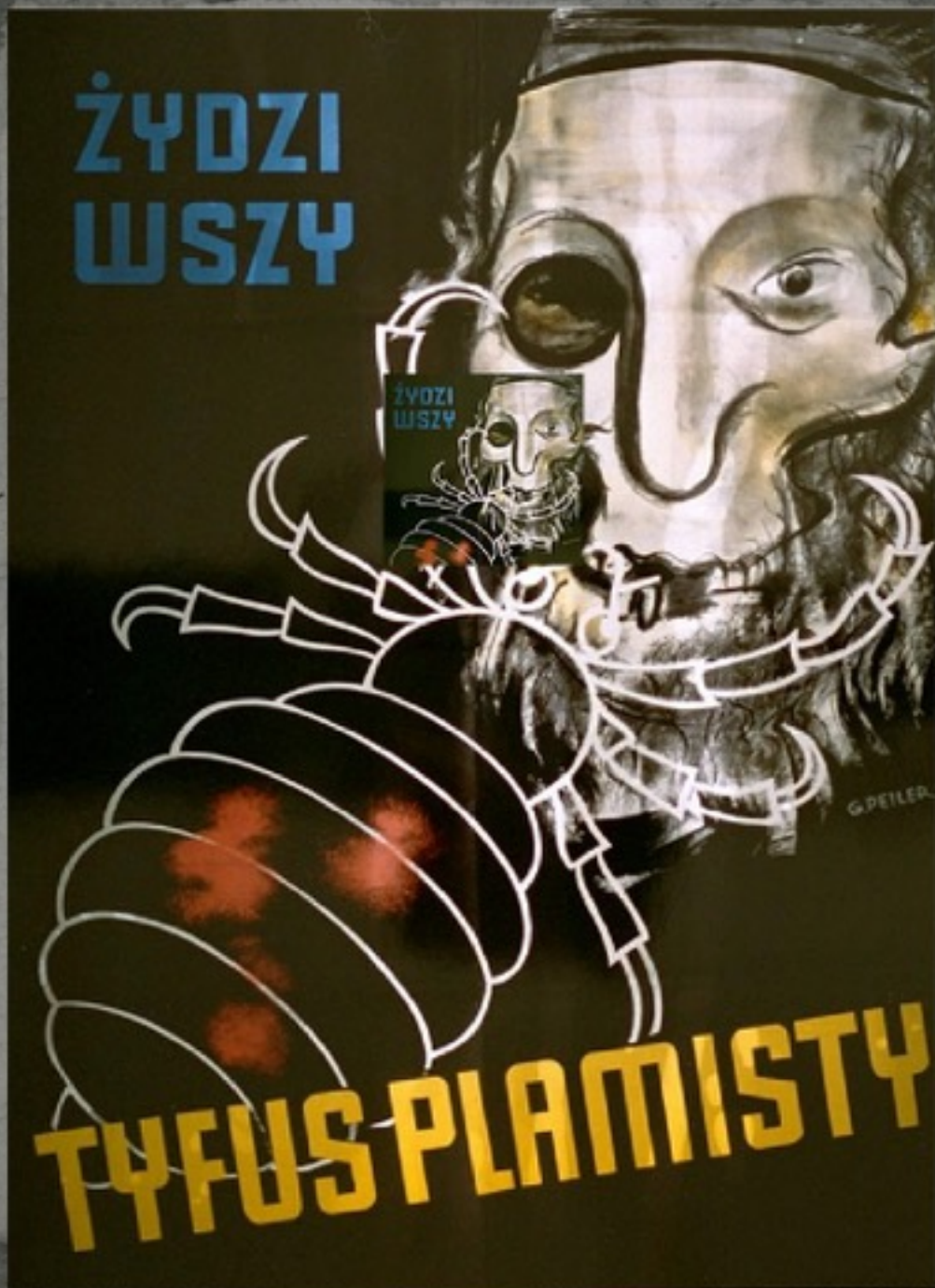


Denial of Citizenship to the Rohingya Muslim minority in Burma

Dehumanization

One group denies the humanity of another

The “other” group is equated with animals, vermin, insects or diseases.



An antisemitic poster published in Poland in March 1941.

The caption reads, "Jews are lice; They cause typhus."

Rwanda

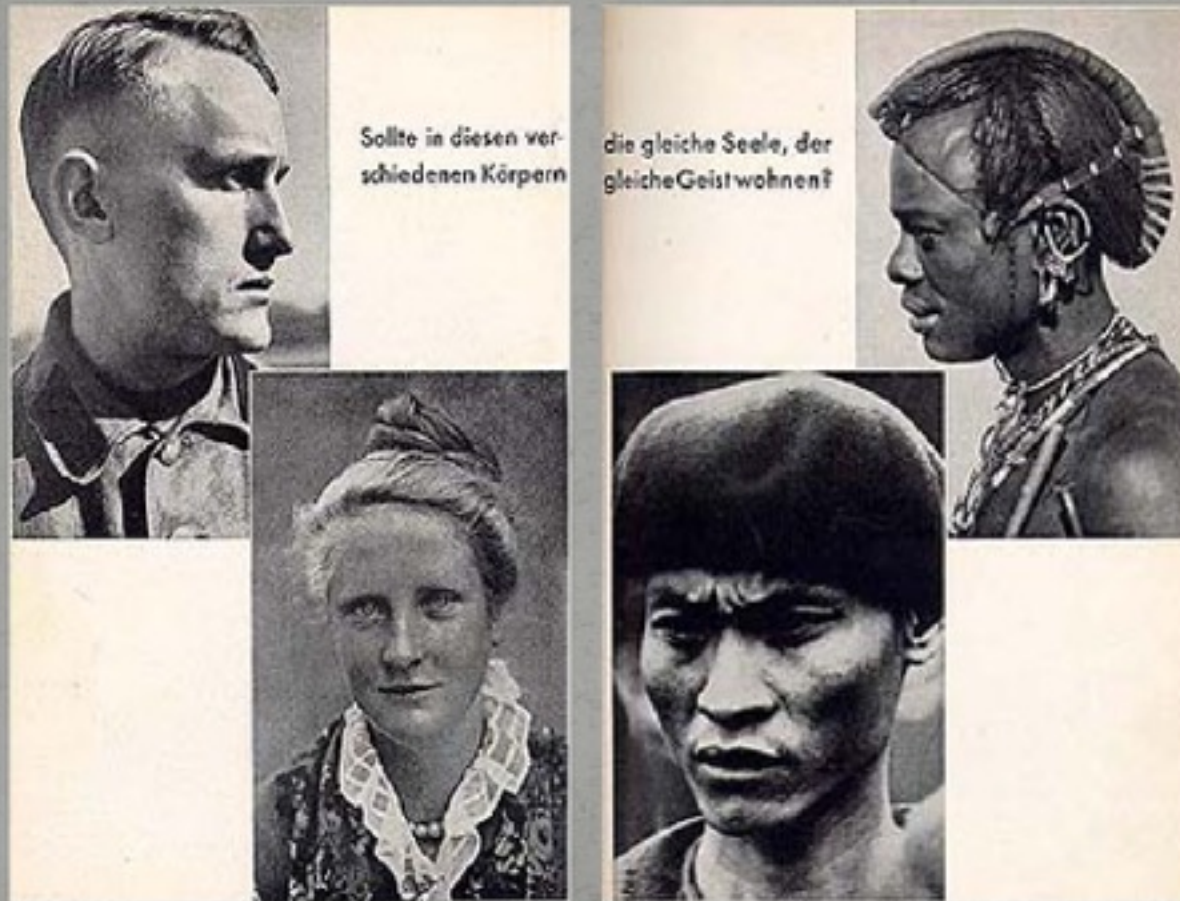
Messages of hate were broadcast over the radio, encouraging the killing of Tutsi and opponents to the Hutu regime.

The messages portrayed Tutsis as evil cockroaches and rats.



Dehumanization

From a Nazi SS Propaganda Pamphlet:



Caption: Does the same soul dwell in these bodies?

Why is it necessary for a dominant power to dehumanize the victims of genocide?

Why would it be impossible for a genocide to be successful without this stage?



Organization

- Genocide is always organized, usually by the state
- Genocide is systematic and planned
- Special army units or militias are organized and armed (often uses militias or groups of people to provide deniability of state responsibility – i.e. the Janjaweed in Darfur)
- Financial and military logistics are mapped out

Organization – The Holocaust



Organization - Rwanda

Hutu Power elites
armed youth militias
called Interahamwe,
Those Who Stand
Together.

The government and
businessmen provided
militias with over
500,000 machetes
and arms and set
up training camps
to prepare them to
“protect their villages”



Genocide is systematic!!!

What logistics would have to be worked out by the enactors, the government or leaders, of a genocide?

Polarization

The groups are driven even further apart ideologically.

Hate groups begin broadcasting propaganda with greater frequency.

Laws typically are enacted to forbid any sort of relations between the two groups.

Opposition is silenced.



"The radio will be to the twentieth century what the press was to the nineteenth"
-Josef Goebbels, 1933.



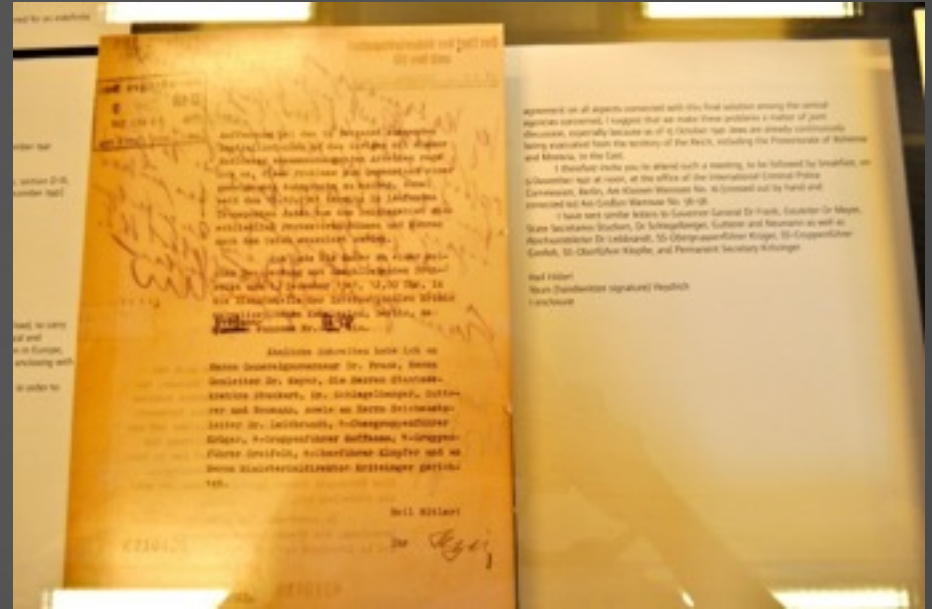
Describe propaganda you may have seen that attacks a targeted group.

Which groups are sometimes targeted in our society?



Preparation

- National or perpetrator group leaders plan the “Final Solution” to the Jewish, Armenian, Tutsi, or other targeted group “question.”
- Often cloak intentions with euphemisms, referring to their goals as “ethnic cleansing,” “purification,” or “counter-terrorism.”
- They build armies, buy weapons, and train their troops and militias.
- They continue to build the fear of the victim group: i.e. “If we don’t kill the, they will kill us.”



- Wannsee Conference, Berlin, January 20, 1942
- Leaders met at this conference to discuss how to best eradicate the world of the “Jewish problem”
- Was supposed to be held on 7. Dec. 1941 – can anyone guess why it was moved?
- Bombing of Pearl Harbor

Wannsee Conference

Taliban training camp

and

Taliban “Children of God” –

Children as young as five years are trained to be soldiers – more feared than adults.

Why?



Persecution

- Victims are identified and separated out because of their ethnic or religious identity (i.e. sent to ghettos, concentration camps, or famine-struck areas to starve)
- Property often expropriated



Armenian Genocide, 1915-1917

- Death lists are created.
- Genocidal massacres begin.



Targeted groups may be deported to famine struck regions, resulting in intentional starvation.



Assuming that at this stage, the world cannot help but notice that the victimized group is being forced from their homes in preparation to be slaughtered, why wouldn't this be the stage where every genocide ends?

This is not a rhetorical question...

Extermination-mass killing of group begins

Most genocides are committed by governments.



Extermination- mass killing of group begins



What previous stage or stages allow extermination to happen so quickly?

If you think that the answer is “all of them,” please identify which stage or stages most enable the rapidity of the extermination.

Denial- the perpetrators cover up the evidence of the crime, deny the crimes and block investigations into the crimes. They stay in power until they are removed by force.



5000 or 500,000



Think about the psychological factors that would contribute to the effectiveness of the denial.

How could someone who witnessed or took part in a genocide come to believe that a genocide had not occurred?



Smallest Witnesses <https://www.ushmm.org/confront-genocide/cases/sudan/sudan-video-gallery/smallest-witnesses>