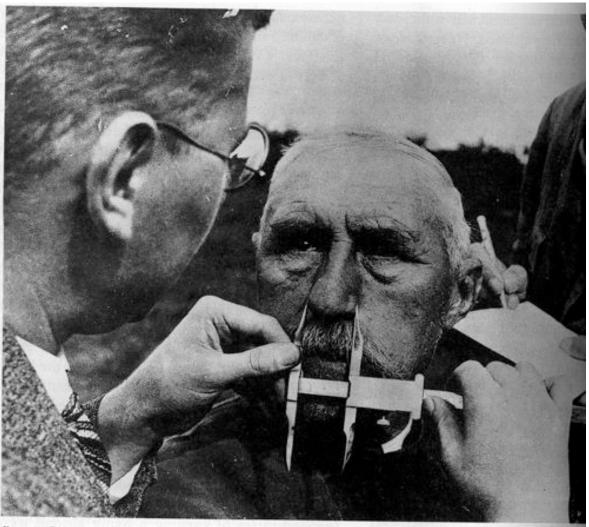
Nuremberg Laws and *Kristallnacht*

Gleichschaltung (literally "synchronizing") is a Nazi term for the process by which the Nazi regime successively established a system of totalitarian control over the individual, and tight coordination over all aspects of society and commerce.

Another possible translation is "making equal." The historian Richard Evans offered "coordination" in his most recent work on Nazi Germany. One goal of this policy was to eliminate individualism by forcing everybody to adhere to a specific doctrine and way of thinking.

~Nuremberg Laws ~ the Nazification of Germany



Eugenics Rampant. A German has his credentials as an Aryan measured by calliper rule.

Law for the Protection of Hereditary Health: The Attempt to Improve the German Aryan Breed, July 14, 1933



Books by Jewish authors and Communists are burned, 1933.



Only "Germans" could be Reich citizens. German Jews lost their political rights through this law.

Marriages between Jews and Germans were legally forbidden.



The signs read: "Germans, defend yourselves against the Jewish atrocity propaganda, buy only at German shops!" and "Germans, defend yourselves, buy only at German shops!" April 1, 1933



Nazis force three Jewish businessmen to march down Bruehl Strasse, one of the main commercial streets in central Leipzig.

They carry signs that read: "Don't buy from Jews; Shop in German businesses!"

April 1, 1933



Identification of Jews and others...



The yellow Star of David was a label Jews were forced to wear in Nazi Germany to identify, shame and separate them from other people.

Most countries controlled by Germany gradually forced their Jews to wear a "Jewish badge." Sept 1, 1941

As part of the Nuremberg Laws, German Jews ordered to wear yellow stars.



A Jewish man wearing the yellow star walks along a street in Germany.

The branding of Jews with a special sign in Nazi Germany and the occupied countries was designed to enable them to be distinguished from the general population, and consequently isolated from it and degraded in its eyes.

The Jews themselves were required to manufacture the badges and distribute them.



Reinhard Heydrich recommended that the Jews be forced to wear badges following the Kristallnacht pogrom in November 1938.

The German government first introduced mandatory badges in Poland in November 1939. Jews who failed to wear them risked death



Yellow Star of David outlined in black. The German word for "Jew" is written in Hebraic style.

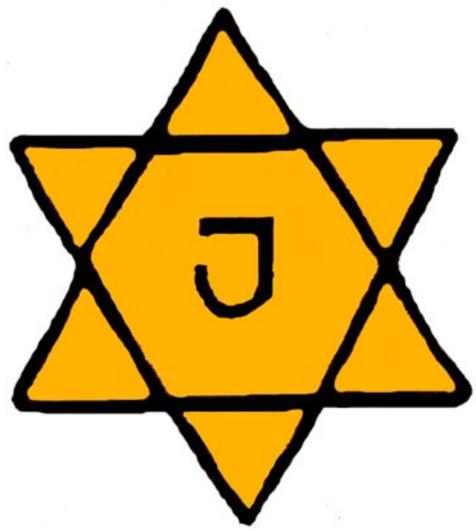


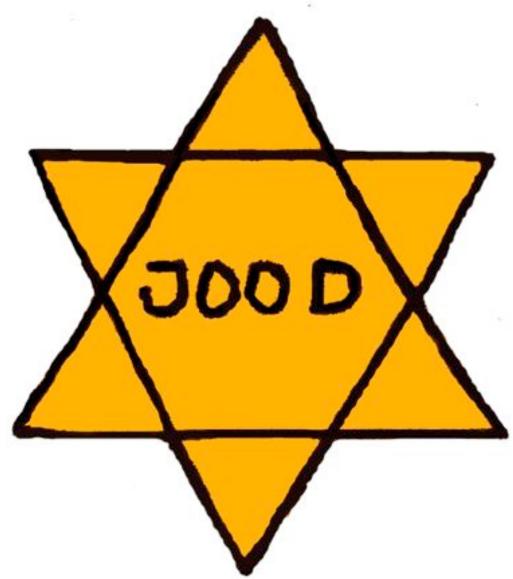
In France –

Yellow Star of David outlined in black. The French word for "Jew" is written in Hebraic style

In Belgium –

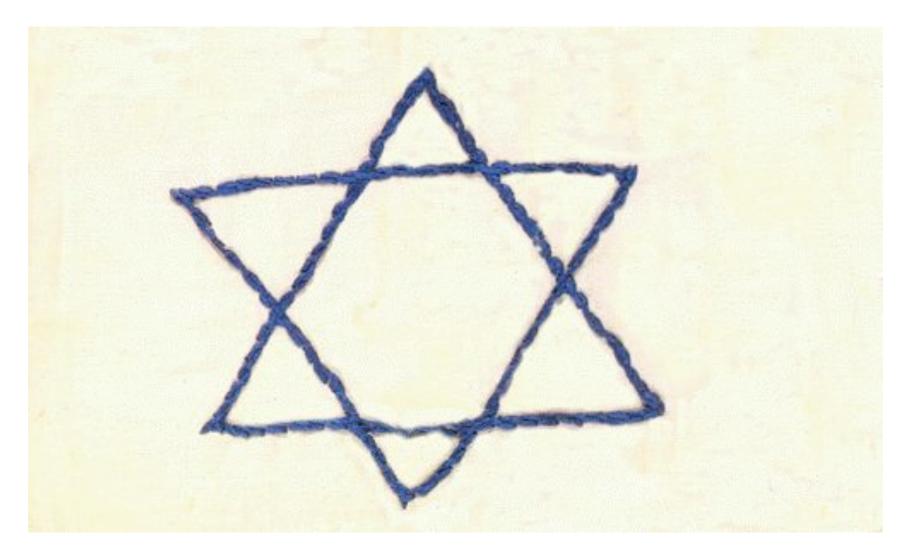
Yellow Star of David outlined in black. The Hebraic letter is an abbreviation of the word "Jew."





In Holland –

Yellow Star of David outlined in black. The Dutch word for "Jew" is written in Hebraic style.



In parts of Poland, East and Upper Silesia –

Blue Star of David on a white armband.

Red was for Communists, Social Democrats, anarchists, and other "enemies of the state"

Green was for German criminals

Blue was for foreign forced laborers

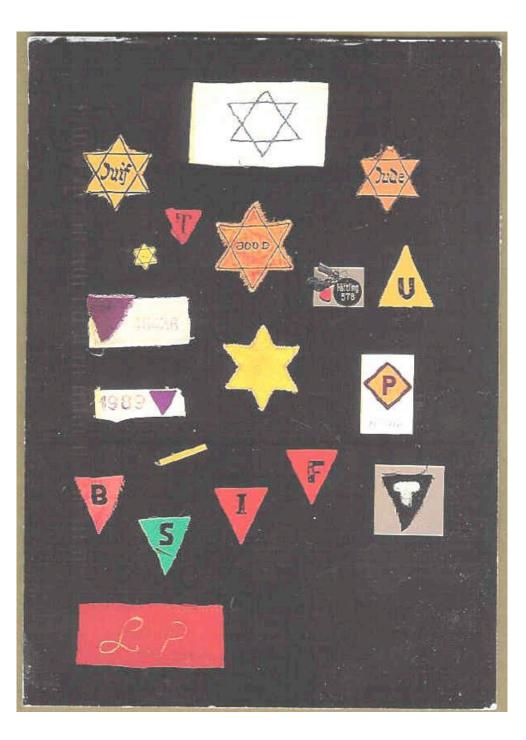
Brown was for Gypsies

Pink was for homosexuals

Purple was for Jehovah's Witnesses

Black was for asocials, a catch-all term for vagrants, bums, prostitutes, hobos, alcoholics who were living on the streets, or anyone who didn't have a permanent address.

The "work-shy," or those who were arrested because they refused to work, wore a black badge. (In some of the camps, the "work-shy" wore a white badge.)



Assignment

- What were the Nuremberg Laws?
- How did these laws give Hitler more power?
- Why would it be instrumental for Hitler to "scapegoat" the Jews in this way?

Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass



During Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass, a synagogue burns in Siegen, Germany. November 10, 1938.



(Photo credit: The Pictorial History of the Holocaust, Yitzhak Arad, Ed., Macmillan Publishing Co., NY, 1990, p. 58, courtesy of Shamash: The Jewish Internet Consortium.)

German children watch as a synagogue in Kuppenheim, Baden Germany, burns during *Kristallnacht*, the Night of Broken Glass.

November 10, 1938.





Onlookers watch as the local fire department prevents the fire from spreading to nearby houses, but makes *no* attempt to stop the synagogue from burning.

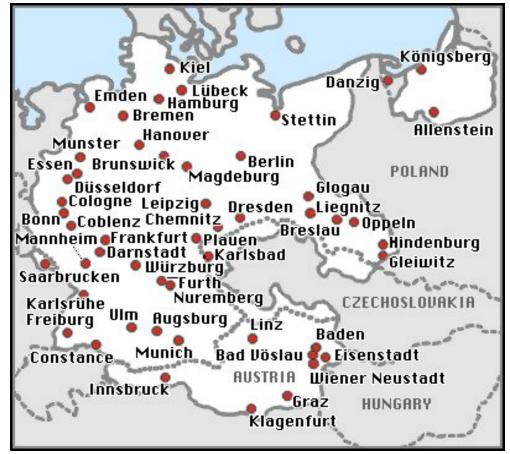
A synagogue burns in Ober Ramstadt during *Kristallnacht*.



Nearly 200 synagogues were set afire on November 9, 1938, in an officially orchestrated evening of widespread violence and vandalism of Jewish property.

In addition to the burning of synagogues, Jewish businesses and shops were severely vandalized throughout Germany. Josef Goebbels, the propaganda minister under Adolf Hitler, masterminded this Night of Broken Glass, or

Kristallnacht.

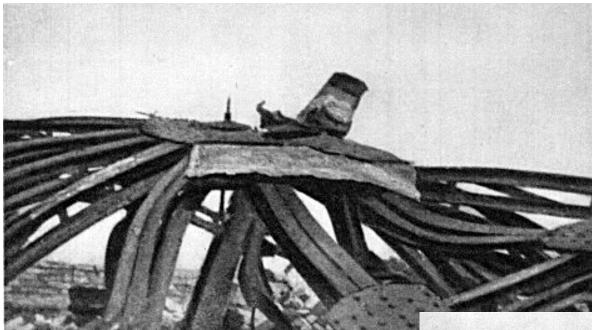


Red = Cities where synagogues were destroyed.

Germans pass by the broken shop window of a Jewish-owned business that was destroyed during *Kristallnacht* in Berlin, Germany.



The "Night of Broken Glass" was a planned series of acts of violence against Jews throughout Germany. November 10, 1938.

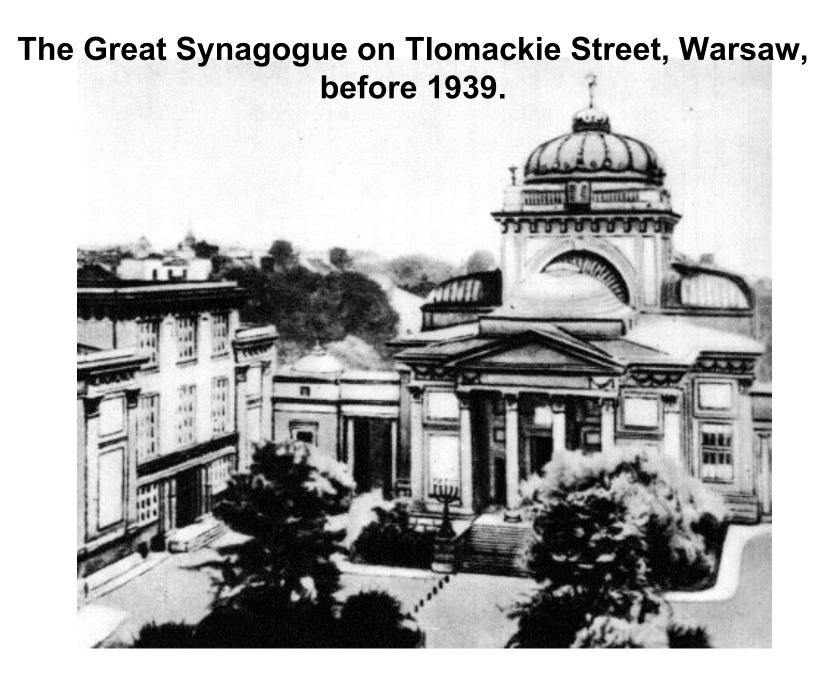


The twisted steel vault of a huge synagogue in Bialystok.

On June 27, 1941, the Nazis burned alive about 1,000 Jews in this temple.

Fragments of a destroyed synagogue in Lódz, Poland.





The Great Synagogue on Tlomackie Street, Warsaw, destroyed. The temple was blown up by the SS and Police General, Jürgen Stroop, on April 16, 1943, as a sign of the completion of the "Great Operation" against the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.



Assignment

- What was *Kristallnacht*? Be really specific – use details as your support.
- Why would Hitler condone this type of activity? What did it succeed in doing?