

## What Was That About the Holocaust

As we approach the centennial of the Holocaust, it would seem that a hundred years of research has laid bare everything about those events. But what do we really know? We know the mechanics. We know the numbers, six million dead Jews and an equal number of dead gentiles. We know about the countless survivors still struggling with PTSD. We know about the brutality, the “experiments”, the systematic horror. We know about the brave altruistic souls who clandestinely tried to help. But what do we really know? What turned three thousand years of anti-Semitism into the horrific conflagration of death camps, gas chambers, crematoriums, and worst of all, acceptance by an educated disciplined populace?

The questions are never asked, which is bad. The answers never emerge, which is worse. If we don’t have the answers, we will be in Santayana’s trap of repeating history. Further, it is my contention that the true root causes of the Holocaust are still there, and like a pile of dried leaves, only need a spark to be reignited.

Why do we know so little? The answer to that is simple. The sheer magnitude of the horror overwhelms a sane mind. The events flood our psyches as surely as morphine overwhelms pain receptors, leaving us mentally numb. It also leaves us embarrassed that it ever happened. And it makes it even more important to keep probing.

The next time it may not be the Jews, although Jews usually sit in the front row when these things start. It could be any “minority” group, with “minority” being very loosely defined, perhaps even politically defined. (The Soviets were good at that trick.)

Can’t happen? Think again. From the BBC News January 14, 2023:

*Canada prepares to expand its euthanasia law to include those with mental illness.....*

Bear in mind that the German psychiatric establishment was neck deep in creating the Holocaust.

*“Without the initiative and support of psychiatrists and other doctors, the national socialist „euthanasia“ programme could not have been implemented.”*

-DGPPN Website (*German Association for Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics*)

So let’s dig a bit deeper. Consider the issues:

- It requires a totalitarian regime. – Only a totalitarian regime can focus the energy and the resources needed to produce a Holocaust.
- It requires an underlying prejudice. – There is enough of that going around, more need not be said.
- It requires a strong driving force, be it religion or pseudo-science. – In the case of the Holocaust this was clearly the pseudo-science of eugenics.
- It requires an intelligent, disciplined force to carry it out. – The primary responsibility for carrying out the German policy of “racial purity” fell to the SS. Common thinking is that the SS was composed of ignorant brutes. Would it surprise you to know that the members of the SS were the intellectual elite of Germany? The number of PhDs in the SS was far above that of the German populace in general.
  - In 1933 we have approximately 5,000 PhDs in the SS
  - In 1940 we have approximately 60,000 PhDs in the SS
  - By the end of the war, we have close to a *quarter million* PhDs in the SS.

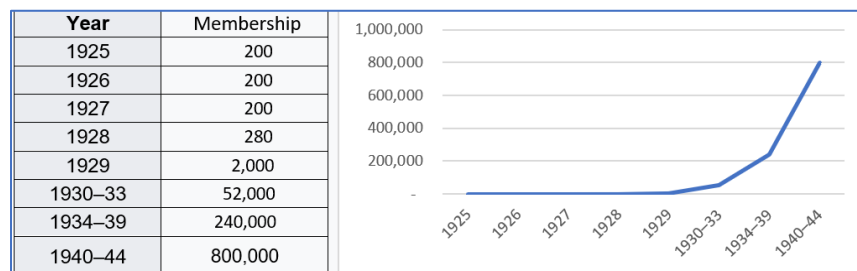


Figure 1 - PhDs in the SS

There are simply questions that are never asked, and answers never spoken. That is bad.

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