

Youth in National Socialism - Integrated or Excluded and Criminalized

This study day looks at the situation for youngsters in Germany during the 1930s and 1940s, and the extremes of mobilization or exclusion they faced. The Nazi regime pursued its goal of forming a national body of loyal youth by a number of different methods. These included providing attractive sports and leisure activities through the HJ and the BDM as well as introducing racist and antisemitic material and methods to school education. Nonconforming boys and girls were isolated and exposed to severe disciplinary measures which destroyed the physical and mental health of many. As the war escalated, the state also demanded the youth's direct participation in military and civil defence.

Points and methods

Tour of the exhibition in view of:

- *the increasing politicization of youngsters' daily life through exposure to racist and antisemitic dogma*
 - *propaganda mechanisms*
 - *state control over private friendships and relationships*
 - *the stigmatization faced by nonconforming youngsters*
 - *the systematic isolation and deprivation of rights of Jewish youngsters*
-
- *Discussion of a film showing different life stories*
 - *Work groups on individual aspects of the main topic using library and multimedia resources*
 - *Analysis and categorization of prepared source material showing different perspectives, experiences and commentaries*
 - *Preparation of a presentation using a choice of creative media*
 - *Discussion on the violation and protection of young people's rights.*

This study day is particularly suited to groups of young students who would like to find out about the lives of people their age under National Socialism.
