

# Hitler's Rise to Power and the Youth of Germany

⚡ In 1930, 70% of Nazi Party members were under the age of 40. What does this mean?

⚡ To youth, the future looked bleak – Hitler promised them a future full of idealism and hope.

**Aryan – Aryan means “noble” in ancient Sanskrit (the ancient language of India). The Nazi Party believed that the Aryans, a superior race of people, were forced from India and settled in the lands now known as Germany. The Nazi Party created policies to protect the “Aryan” race.**

**Propaganda - a message (using all kinds of different media) aimed at influencing the opinions or behavior of people.**



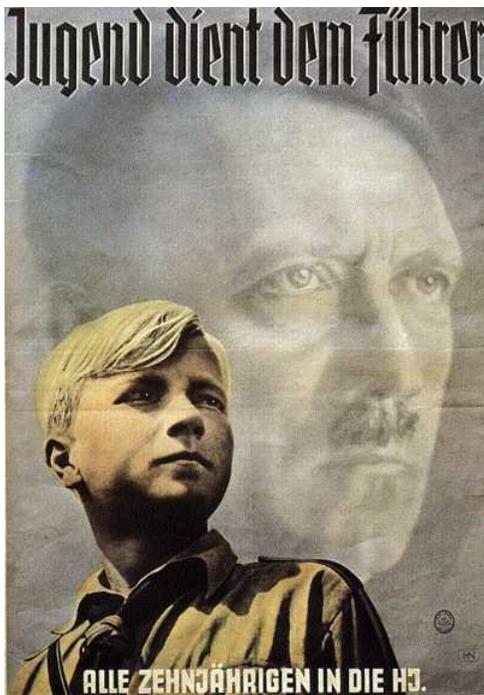
⚡ Thousands of audio recordings of Hitler's speeches were put into circulation.

⚡ Huge rallies were organized to encourage huge crowds to gather in support of the Nazi Party. Hitler knew he had to manipulate them in order to take control of the country. Hitler wrote in *Mien Kempf* that “ . . . all effective propaganda must . . . harp . . . until the last member of the public understands what you want them to understand.”

⚡ Books like *All Quiet in the Western Front* were banned. In May 1933, the Nazi Government organized a huge book-burning ceremony to rid Germany of Jewish, socialist, and other writers that they felt were against Germany.

⚡ The Nazi Government used Pump Priming, which is stimulating the economy by ordering huge construction projects (examples: building tanks, ships, and the *Autobahn*). Unemployment in Germany was reduced from 6,000,000 in 1932 to 1,600,000 in 1936.

⚡ In June 1933, Hitler introduced a bill to encourage Germans to marry and have children with other Germans. Loans were given to young married couples (these loans did not have to be repaid once the couple had 4 children).



⚡ Joining the Hitler Youth (Hitler Jugend) became mandatory for boys and girls over the age of 10. Children were taught to report on adults who they were suspicious of – including their parents.

⚡ The Nuremberg Laws were passed in 1935 that specifically deprived Jews of German citizenship, and forbade them from marrying “Aryan” Germans. Jews were defined by their ancestry.

⚡ As an example of what happened after the Nuremberg Laws, doctors with the T4 project poisoned (using carbon monoxide) 200,000 handicapped and elderly people in their efforts to improve the “Aryan Race.”

