

### KT1 F1.1 The origins of the Republic 1918-19

#### The legacy of the first world war

Defeat in the first world in 1918 led to revolution in Germany.

#### The revolution of October/November 1918-19

- The First World War started in 1914 and the USA joined the Allies in the war against Germany in April 1917. By the early autumn of 1918, the German army was being pushed back in France. The British naval blockade had resulted in shortages of food for the German people. German defeat was imminent.
- In early October 1918, a new government was formed led by Prince Max of Baden. He approached US President Wilson about ending the war. Wilson said that he would not discuss peace terms with Germany Kaiser Wilhelm and his military advisers were in control.
- At the end of October 1918, the German navy mutinied. Sailors at Kiel refused to put to sea and fight the British. Unrest began to spread across Germany.
- On 9 November, Kaiser Wilhelm's abdication was announced.
- On 10 November, a new republic was set up under Chancellor Ebert. The following day, Ebert signed the Armistice with the Allies.

### KT1 F1.2 The origins of the Republic 1918-19

#### The setting up of the Weimar republic

In January 1919, the new democratic constitution was drawn up.

It was finalised in August 1919 it had both strengths and weaknesses.

#### The strengths of the new constitution

- It established the most advanced democracy in Europe- men and women had the vote at the age 20 at the time in Britain the age was 21 men and 30 for women.
- The President was elected every 7 years and had the power to appoint the Chancellor (head of the government).
- The Reichstag (Parliament) had the power to pass and reject changes in the Law. Members of the Reichstag were elected by Proportional Representation every four years.
- It established the right of free speech and religious belief.

### KT1 F1.3 The origins of the Republic 1918-19

#### The weaknesses of the new constitution

- Article 48 said that in an emergency the President could make laws without going to the Reichstag. This gave the President too much power.
- Proportional Representation often led to many small parties gaining seats, including extremist groups such as the Nazis. No one party was large enough to gain a majority. Coalition governments were often weak and short lived.
- The Army generals and judges were the same men who had served the Kaiser many of them opposed the Weimar Republic.

### KT1 F1.4 The origins of the Republic 1918-19

#### Key Terms

**Armistice** The agreement ending hostilities in war

**Coalition government** Two or more political parties joining to form a government when no single political party gets a majority of the seats, in order to have sufficient support to pass laws.

**constitution** The basic principles according to which a country is governed

**Proportional Representation** The number of votes won by a party determines the number of seats they get in parliament.

**Weimar Republic** The republic that existed in Germany, 1919-13

#### Key Individuals

**Kaiser Wilhelm** The last German emperor, ruling from 1888 to 1918

### KT1 F2.1 The early challenges to the Weimar Republic 1919-23

#### Early unpopularity of the Republic

#### The stab in the back theory

.Many Germans thought the German army had been 'stabbed in the back' by the politicians ('the november criminals') who signed the armistice in November 1918.

#### The key terms of the treaty of versailles

.The military terms reduced the German army to 100,000 and demilitarised the Rhineland. Germany was not allowed tanks, military aircraft or submarines.

.The territorial terms robbed Germany of key industrial areas, such as the iron of Alsace-Lorraine and the coalfields of the saar. Germany lost thirteen percent of its land.

.The financial terms seemed too harsh- with reparations set at £6.6 billion.

. Germany has to accept the blame for starting the war (war guilt clause).

opponents to the Treaty described it as *diktat* or dictated peace.

### KT1 F2.2 The early challenges to the Weimar Republic 1919-23

#### challenges to the Republic from the left and right

the Republic faced threats from the left and right; there were several uprisings.

#### opposition from the left- the Spartacists

.The Spartacists, lead by Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht, demonstrated against the government in December 1918. Sixteen people died in clashes with the army.

.They formed the German Communist party and on 5 January 1919, staged an uprising in Berlin to overthrow the government and create a Communist state.

.The rising was crushed and Liebknecht and Luxemburg were killed.

#### Opposition from the right- the Kapp Putsch

.The *Freikorps* were furious about the Treaty of Versailles .In March 1920, they attempted to take power in Berlin, through a putsch lead by Dr Wolfgang Kapp.

.The Kapp set up a new right-wing government in Berlin. The army would not put the putsch down, showing its lack of support for the Weimar Republic.

.Berlin workers supported Weimar and went on strike; the putsch collapsed.

### KT1 F2.3 The early challenges to the Weimar Republic 1919-23

#### Early challenges of 1923

The German government couldn't pay its first reparations payment. In January 1923, the French government marched into the Ruhr industrial area, determined to get payment in kind by taking goods. The workers chose passive resistance to the occupation and went on strike. This meant that fewer goods were being produced. The German government printed more money to pay the strikers which, alongside fewer goods, turned inflation into hyperinflation. By November 1923, the German mark was worthless: 1\$ was worth 4200,000,000 German marks.

#### Hyperinflation losers

.old age pensions became worthless

.people's savings became worthless

.wages couldn't keep up with inflation and many people couldn't afford everyday necessities such as bread.

#### Hyperinflation winners

.Businesses were able to pay off debts

.The rise in food prices helped farmers

### KT1 F2.4 The early challenges to the Weimar Republic 1919-23

#### *freikorps*

Private armies set up by German army officers at the end of the first world war; mainly consisted of ex-soldiers.

#### Hyperinflation

Extremely high inflation, where the value of money plummets and it becomes almost worthless.

#### Putsch

An attempt to seize power by force.

#### Reparations

War damages (money) to be paid by Germany to countries it had fought against.

#### Spartacists

A communist group who wanted to create a communist state.

#### Stab in the back theory

The belief that Germany could have won the war and that politicians had stabbed the army in the back at the end of the war.

#### The treaty of versailles

The peace treaty ending the First World War signed on 28 June 1919

<p><b>KT1 F3.1 The recovery of the Republic 1924-29</b></p> <p><b>TITLE</b>  <b>The Role of Stresemann</b></p> <p>Text</p> <p>In August 1923, Gustav Stresemann was appointed Chancellor to deal with the problems of hyperinflation. It was his decision to call off passive resistance in the Ruhr and to negotiate the Dawes Plan.</p>	<p><b>KT1 F3.2 The recovery of the Republic 1924-29</b></p> <p>Title  The Rentenmark</p> <p>Text</p> <p>In November 1923, Stresemann introduced the Rentenmark to replace the German mark. This was a temporary measure in order to stabilise the currency and restore confidence. The Rentenmark's value was based on property values rather than on gold reserves. It was converted into the Reichsmark the following year, backed by gold reserves.</p>
<p><b>KT1 F3.3 The recovery of the Republic 1924-29</b></p> <p><b>TITLE</b>  <b>The Dawes Plan</b></p> <p>Text</p> <p>The Dawes Plan of 1924 recognised Germany's reparation payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~ Payments were staged to match Germany's capacity to pay.</li> <li>~ Payments began at 1 billion marks for the first year and increased over a period of four years to 2.5 billion marks a year.</li> <li>~ In return, the French withdrew their troops from the Ruhr.</li> <li>~ The Dawes Plan also aimed to boost the German economy through US loans.</li> <li>~ Over the next six years, US companies and banks gave loans of nearly \$3 billion.</li> </ul>	<p><b>KT1 F3.4 The recovery of the Republic 1924-29</b></p> <p><b>TITLE</b>  <b>The Young Plan</b></p> <p>Text</p> <p>In 1929, Germany negotiated a further change to reparations known as the Young Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~ A timescale for payment was set, with Germany making payments until 1988.</li> <li>~ The reparation figure was reduced from £6 billion to £1.85 billion.</li> </ul>

<p><b>KT1 F4.1 Changes in society 1924-29</b></p> <p><b>TITLE Changes in the standard of living</b> Text-</p> <p><b>Wages-</b> The real value of wages increased each year after 1924- benefiting German worker. By 1928, Germany had some of the best paid workers in Europe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- While unemployment fell generally, it remained high in the professions such as lawyers, civil servants and teachers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Housing-</b> Weimar governments also attempted to deal with a shortage of housing. Between 1924 and 1931 more than 2 million new homes were built and by 1928, homelessness had been reduced by more than 60 percent.</p> <p><b>Architecture-</b> A new group of architects and designers emerged, called the <i>Bauhaus</i> who used bold designs and unusual materials, and basic shapes and colours.</p> <p><b>Unemployment insurance-</b> The Unemployment Insurance Law (1927) required workers and employees to make contributions to a national scheme for Unemployment welfare.</p>	<p><b>KT1 F4.2 Changes in society 1924-29</b></p> <p><b>TITLE Changes in the position of women</b> Text</p> <p>Debate about the status of women was an important feature of Weimar Germany.</p> <p><b>Politics-</b> In 1919, women over 20 were given the right to vote.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Weimar constitution introduced equality in education, equal opportunity in civil service appointments and equal pay in the professions.</li> <li>- By 1926, there were 32 women deputies in the Reichstag.</li> </ul> <p><b>Leisure-</b> Women enjoyed much more freedom, socially. They:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Went out unescorted and drank and smoked in public.</li> <li>- Were fashion conscious, often wearing shorter skirts.</li> <li>- Had their hair cut short and wore make-up.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment-</b> There was a growing number of women in new areas of employment, most noticeably in public employment such as the civil service and teaching, but also in shops and on the assembly line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Those women who worked in the civil service earned the same as men.</li> <li>- By 1933, there were 100,000 women teachers and 3000 women doctors.</li> </ul>
<p><b>KT1 F4.3 Changes in society 1924-29</b></p> <p><b>TITLE Cultural change</b> Text</p> <p>Some of the most exciting art and culture in Europe emerged in this period.</p> <p><b>Art-</b> <i>Neue sachlichkeit</i> (new objectivity) was a new approach to art which portrayed society in an objective way. It was associated with painters such as George Grosz and Otto Dix.</p> <p><b>Cinema-</b> This was a golden age for the German cinema. Fritz Lang was as its best known director. He produced <i>Metropolis</i> (1927), the most technically advanced film of the decade. German actress Marlene Dietrich became one of the most popular film stars in the world, often playing strong and glamorous women.</p>	<p><b>KT1 F4.4 Changes in society 1924-29</b></p> <p><b>TITLE Key terms and tips</b> Text</p> <p><b>Bauhaus-</b> An architectural and design movement, means 'school of building'.</p> <p><b>Unemployment welfare-</b> Payments made to the unemployed by the state.</p> <p><b>Exam tip-</b> Cultural changes are generally not as well revised as the recovery of the republic under Stresemann. Ensure you have precise knowledge of these changes.</p> <p><b>Revision task-</b> Summarise in no more than ten words the changes to women in Germany in the years 1924-29.</p>

### KT2 F1.1 Early development of the Nazi Party 1920-22

#### TITLE: Hitler's early career

Hitler was born in Austria 1889. When he was sixteen, he went to Vienna to become an artist. This did not work out. From 1908 to 1913 he was virtually a 'down-and-out' on the streets of Vienna. It was during these years that Hitler developed his hatred to Jews:

Anti- Semitism was widespread in Vienna. He was envious of the wealthy Jews and blamed them for his own problems. In 1914, Hitler joined the German army and served with distinction, winning the Iron Cross. He found it hard to accept the armistice, believing that Germany was on the verge of winning the war when it was betrayed by the politicians.

Hitler stayed in the army after the war, working for the intelligence services. He came across the German Workers Party (DAP), led by Anton Drexler, and it joined it in 1919. In 1920, the party was renamed the Nationalist Socialist German Workers Party (NSDAP or Nazi Party).

### KT2 F1.3 Early development of the Nazi Party 1920-22

#### TITLE Key features of the Twenty-Five Point Programme

The union of all Germans to form a Greater Germany.

Getting rid of the Treaty of Versailles.

Citizenship of the state to be granted only to people of German blood. Therefore no Jew was to be a citizen of the nation.

The government to nationalise all businesses that had been formed into corporations. All newspaper editors and contributors to be German, and non-German papers to appear only with permission of the government.

### KT2 F1.2 Early development of the Nazi Party 1920-22

#### TITLE The early growth and features of the Nazi Party

Hitler was good at public speaking and in February 1920 he was put in charge of recruitment and propaganda, attracting new members to the party. By 1921, he was strong enough to challenge Drexler and take over leadership of the party himself.

The political meetings generated much violence. In order to protect Nazi speakers, protection squads were used. These developed into the Sturmabteilung (SA) in 1921. It attracted many ex- soldiers, especially from the Freikorps. The SA would disrupt the meetings of Hitler's opponents, especially the Communists, and often beat up opposition supporters.

By 1922, the Nazi Party had 6000 members, rising to 50,000 two years later. The Nazi Party drew up a Twenty-Five Point Programme. This was their political manifesto. It was vague and deliberately designed to appeal to as many groups as possible.

### KT2 F1.4 Early development of the Nazi Party 1920-22

#### Key terms

Anti Semitism- Hatred of Jews

German Workers Party (DAP)- An anti- Weimar government party set up by Anton Drexler

Nationalise- To change from private ownership to state ownership

Nazi Party- The National Socialist German Workers Party set up by Hitler in 1920

SA- Hitler's private army set up to protect Nazi meetings and disrupt those of his opponents

Twenty-Five Point Programme- The main aims and principles of the Nazi Party.

Text

### **KT2 F2.1 The Munich Putsch and the lean years 1923-29**

#### **The Munich Putsch and The Lean Years, 1923-29**

Text: - the Weimar Republic was more unpopular than ever due to the effects of hyperinflation

- Hitler wanted to overthrow the Republic by organising a Putsch in Bavaria and then march on Berlin
- In 1922, the Italian leader, Mussolini, had successfully marched on Rome and taken over the Italian government with the support of the regular army. Hitler knew that he would have to win over the German army to be successful .
- Hitler thought the Bavarian leaders would support him including Gustav von Kahr, Otto von Lossow and Hans Seisser.

### **KT2 F2.2 The lean years 1924-29**

#### **The lean Years 1924-29**

- The Nazi party survived in secret until the ban was lifted in 1924. The period 1924-29 was a time of mixed fortunes for The Nazi Party

#### **The party did not do well:**

- There were quarrels and disagreements during Hitler's period in prison.
- Economic recovery meant there was little support for extremist parties.
- It only won twelve seats in the 1928 elections

#### **The Party Made Progress:**

- It won 32 seats in the 1924 elections
- Mein Kampf provided key ideas for the development of the Nazi Party with its focus on the importance of propaganda and anti-Semitism
- Hitler recognised the party to make it more efficient, with party branches run by Gauleiters
- At the 1926 Bamberg Party conference, Hitler continued to strengthen his position. Possible rivals to Hitler's leadership were won over or removed
- Membership increased to 100000 members by 1928.

### **KT2 F2.3 The Munich Putsch and the lean years 1923-29**

#### **Events of the Putsch:**

- On 8 November 1923, Hitler and the SA burst into a beer hall, disrupting a political meeting attended by Kahr Seisser and Lossow.
- The three Leaders were held at gunpoint until they offered their support for the Putsch. They were then released.
- The following day, Hitler and Ludendorff, with about 3000 supporters, including SA members of the SA, marched through Munich hoping to win mass public support. Seisser and Lossow had changed their minds and organised troops and police to resist them. Sixteen marches were killed. Hitler Fled.
- On 11 November, Hitler was arrested and the Nazi Party was banned.

### **KT2 F2.4 The Munich Putsch and the lean years 1923-29**

#### **TITLE: Consequences Of The Putsch**

- In February 1924, Hitler was put on trial. The charge was high treason
- Hitler turned his trial into Propaganda success, using it to attack the Weimar Republic. It provided him with nationwide publicity.
- The court was sympathetic to Hitler and gave him a minimum sentence for the offence - 5 years
- Hitler was imprisoned in Landsberg prison for only nine months. He wrote Mein Kampf, which contained his political views.
- Hitler realised that he needed complete control over the party and that in future he would try to gain power by legal methods - winning elections

### KT2 F3.1 The growth in support for the Nazis 1929-32

#### TITLE The growth of unemployment- causes and impact

In October 1929, the stock market crash led to US loans being recalled and, as a result, many German businesses sacked workers and were forced to close. German farmers also suffered as prices fell further. By 1932, over 6 million people were unemployed. The Weimar Republic failed to deal with unemployment and lost support. There was a growth in support for right- and left-wing parties, such as the Nazi Party and Communist Party.

- The Weimar Republic was blamed for allowing the economy to become too dependent on US loans
- There was disagreement in government about the level of unemployment contribution. Chancellor Müller resigned in March 1930.
- Brüning became Chancellor after Müller. Brüning's reduction of government spending, pay cuts, cuts to unemployment benefits and increase in taxes lost him support. In May 1932, he resigned.
- Elections were called in July and November 1932. The Communist Party gained 100 seats (16.9%) in the November 1932 elections.

### KT2 F3.3 The growth in support for the Nazis 1929-32

#### TITLE The SA

- By 1932, the SA numbered 600,000. It organised parades through towns and cities, impressing many Germans who saw order and discipline in a time of chaos.
- It was used to intimidate and oppose, especially the Communists.

#### Goebbels

Josef Goebbels was a master of propaganda and used every possible method to get across the Nazi message:

- Posters targeted different audiences and were timed to have maximum impact. Their message was generally simple but clear.
- He chartered planes to fly Hitler all over Germany to speak to four or five rallies per day.

### KT2 F3.2 The growth in support for the Nazis 1929-32

#### TITLE Reasons for growth in support in the Nazi party

In the September 1930 elections, the Nazi Party won 107 seats and, by July 1932, it was the largest party, with 230 seats. This increased support was due to several reasons. Three of the main ones are outlined below.

#### Hitler

- Posters and rallies built Hitler up as a superman. The campaigns focused around his personality and his skills, especially as a speaker.
- Unemployment had hit everyone; thus Hitler tried to appeal to all sections of society. The Nazi message was that the Weimar Republic had caused the economic crisis and that weak coalition governments had no real solutions to offer. The Nazis alone could unite Germany in a time of economic crisis.
- Hitler provided the German people with a scapegoat- blaming the Jews for Germany's problems.
- Hitler won support from business and industrialists who donated funds to the Nazi Party. They were especially concerned at increased support for the Communist Party.

### KT2 F3.4 The growth in support for the Nazis 1929-32

#### TITLE

Text

### KT2 F4.1 How Hitler became Chancellor 1932-33

#### Political development

A series of changes of government in 1932 further weakened the Weimar Republic:

- After Brüning stepped down in May 1932, **Franz von Papen**, a friend of President Hindenburg, was appointed chancellor. He was leader of the Centre Party but only had 68 supporters in the Reichstag and was dependant on government by decree.
- In July 1932, Von Papen held elections, hoping to gain more supporters. The elections however, were a great success for the Nazis, who won 230 seats and became the largest party in the Reichstag. Hitler demanded the post of Chancellor. Hindenburg who disliked Hitler, refused to appoint him.
- In November, Von Papen arranged another election for the Reichstag, hoping to win more support. This time he won even fewer seats. The Nazi party's seats fell to 196
- Von Papen suggested abolishing the Weimar constitution. Von Schleicher, an army leader, persuaded Hindenburg that this would result in civil war. Hindenburg lost confidence in Von Papen, who resigned.
- In the following month, Hindenburg appointed von Schleicher as Chancellor, who lasted less than two months.

### KT2 F4.2 How Hitler became Chancellor 1932-33

#### TITLE The part played by Hindenburg and von Papen

- Von Papen was determined to regain power. To this end he met Hitler in early January 1933 when they agreed that Hitler should lead a government with von Papen as the Vice-Chancellor
- They had the support of the army, major landowners and leaders of industry who disliked von Schleicher's plans to bring together different strands from the left and right parties and were worried about a communist takeover
- Von Papen convinced President Hindenburg that a coalition government with Hitler as Chancellor would save Germany and bring stability. Von Papen said that he would be able to control Hitler.
- On the 31st of January 1933, Hindenburg invited Hitler to become Chancellor.

### KT2 F4.3 How Hitler became Chancellor 1932-33

#### TITLE key individuals

**Paul von Hindenburg:** a leading general in the First World War, becoming chief of the general staff in 1916. He retired from the army in 1918 and supported the "stab in the back" theory. President of Germany 1925-34

**Franz von Papen:** Entered politics in 1918 as a member of the Catholic Centre Party and four years later was elected to the Reichstag. He eventually became a favourite of Hindenburg. When Hitler became Chancellor, in January 1933, von Papen was his Vice-Chancellor



### KT3 F1.1 The creation of a dictatorship 1933-34

#### Setting up the dictatorship

From January 1933 to August 1934, Hitler secured the control of the German state, removing all opposition.

#### The Reichstag fire, February 1933

- On 27 February 1933, the Reichstag building was burned down. A Dutch communist, Marius Van der Lubbe, was put on trial and found guilty of starting the fire. Hitler blamed the communist party for the fire.
- Hitler persuaded Hindenburg to pass an emergency decree—the 'Decree for the Protection of the People and the State'—giving the police powers to detain people without trial.

#### The Enabling Act, March 1933

The 'Enabling Act' gave Hitler the power to make laws without the Reichstag's consent.

Using the powers Hitler:

- Removed further opposition to the Nazi government, including banning all trade unions. The unions were merged into a 'German Labour Front'.
- Banned all other political parties. By July 1933, Germany was a one-party state.

### KT3 F1.2 The creation of a dictatorship 1933-34

#### The Night of the Long Knives, 30 June 1934

The SA led by Rohm was a threat to Hitler's power. He removed this threat by purging the SA in 'The Night of the Long Knives'.

#### Reasons for the Purge

- The SA were increasingly out of control at a time when Hitler was trying to establish a dictatorship through legal methods.
- Rohm wanted a social revolution: to bring about greater equality in society.
- Leading Nazis such as Himmler were concerned about Rohm's growing influence. Himmler wanted to replace the SA with his own SS.

#### Events of the Night of the Long Knives

- Hitler arranged a meeting with Rohm and 100 other SA leaders. They were arrested by the SS, taken to Munich and shot.
- About 400 people were murdered in the purge.

#### Results

- Hitler got rid of would-be opponents.
- The SA now had a minor role.
- After Hindenburg died in August 1934, the Army leaders swore an oath of allegiance to Hitler, giving him unconditional obedience.

### KT3 F1.3 The creation of a dictatorship 1933-34

#### Hitler becomes Fuhrer

After Hindenburg's death, Hitler declared himself 'Fuhrer', combining the post of Chancellor and President. He called a referendum and more than 90% of the voters (38 million) agreed with his action.

#### Key terms

**Fuhrer**-German title meaning leader

**Night of the Long Knives**- 30 June 1934, when Hitler purged Rohm and the SA

**Oath of allegiance**-A promise made by the German armed forces to be loyal to Hitler

**Reichstag**-German state parliament

**SS-Schutzstaffel** or 'protection squad'. Originally Hitler's bodyguards, they became the most powerful troops in the Third Reich, and wore distinctive black uniforms

**Trade unions**-Organisations set up to protect and improve the rights of workers

### KT3 F2.1 The police state

#### The Gestapo, SS and SD

The Nazis created a police state through the use of these different agencies - establishing a climate of fear.

The SS ( protection squad )

- Led by Himmler, the SS were responsible for the removal of all opposition and became the main means of intimidating Germans into obedience.
- By 1934, the SS had more than 50,000 members, growing to 250, 000 by 1939.

The Gestapo ( secret police )

- Set up in 1933 by Goering, in 1936 the Gestapo came under the control of Himmler and the SS
- It could arrest and imprison without trial those suspected of opposing the state.
- Only it had the power to send political opponents to concentration camps.

The SD

- Set up in 1931, the SD was the intelligence agency of the Nazi Party under the command of Himmler, and organised by Heydrich.
- It's main aim was to find actual and potential enemies of the Nazi Party and ensure that they were removed.

### KT3 F2.3 The police state

#### Nazi control of legal system

- All judges had to become members of the National Socialist League for the Maintenance of Law. this meant Nazi views were upheld in the courts.
- In 1934, the people's Court was established to try cases for treason. The judges were loyal Nazis
- In October, the German Lawyers Front was established. Lawyers had to swear that they would follow the course of the Fuhrer. There were more than 10,000 members by the end of the year.

### KT3 F2.2 The police state

#### Concentration camps

- In 1933, the the Nazis established concentration camps to detain political prisoners. They were run by the SS and SD.
- Prisoners were classified into different categories, each denoted by wearing a different coloured triangle. For example, black triangles were for vagrants and red triangles were for political prisoners.
- By 1939, there were more than 150,000 people under arrest for political offences

Key terms:

- Concentration camps - Prisons for political prisoners and enemies of the state
- Concordat - An agreement between the Pope and the government concerning the legal status of the Catholic Church
- Gestapo - *Geheime Staatspolizei*, the Nazi secret police of the regime
- Reich Church - Official Protestant Church of the Nazi regime
- SD - *Sicherheitsdienst*, the intelligence agency of the Nazis

### KT3 F2.4 The police state

#### The Catholic Church

Hitler was determined to reduce the influence of the Catholic Church:

- Catholics owed their first allegiance to the Pope, not Hitler. They had divided loyalties. Hitler said a person with either a christian or German but not both.
- There were Catholic schools and youth organisations who message to the youth was at odds to the Nazi party.
- Catholic schools were made to remove Christian symbols and eventually abolished.
- Priests were harassed and arrested. Many criticised the Nazi and ended up in concentration camps.
- Catholic youth movements were closed down.

### KT3 F3.1 Controlling and influencing attitudes

#### Controlling and influencing attitudes

Goebbels and the ministry of propaganda  
Censorship and propaganda were used to ensure that people accepted and conformed to nazi thinking. In 1933 Goebbels was appointed as Minister of public propaganda and enlightenment.

#### Censorship

No books could be published without Goebbels' permission  
Newspapers that opposed nazi views were closed down  
The Radio was controlled

#### Propaganda

- Posters were used to put across the Nazi message
- Goebbels ordered the mass production of cheap radios, By 1939, 70% of the Germans homes had radio It was important that the Nazi message was heard.
- Mass rallies and marches projected the image of power and terror. Every year a party rally was held at nuremberg
- Success in sports was important to promote the nazi regime.

### KT3 F3.2 Controlling and influencing attitudes

#### Art

- Hitler hated modern art which he believed was backward, unpatriotic and jewish. Such art was called 'degenerate' and was banned. Art highlighting germany's great past and the strength and the power of the third reich was encouraged.

#### Theatre

- Theatre concentrated on germany's history and political drama. Cheap theatre was available to encourage people to see plays which of often had a Nazi political or racial theme.

### KT3 F3.1 Controlling and influencing attitudes

#### The berlin olympics of 1936

- A major sporting showcase was designed to impress the outside world and was a public relation success
- Hitler's plan to highlight the superiority of the aryan race were sabotaged by the success of the black athletes that in the US Olympics team, especially Jess owens who won the 100 meters, 200 meter , long jump and 4x100.

### KT3 F3.2 Controlling and influencing attitudes

#### The Nazi control of culture and the arts

Nazis used culture and the arts to promote their ideals. Artists were encouraged to use 'Aryan themes' such as family, national community and heroism.

#### Music

- Hitler hated modern music. Jazz, which was 'black' music, was seen as racially inferior and was banned. Instead, the nazis promoted traditional German folk music and the classical music of Brahms, Beethoven and especially Richard wagner.

#### Films

- The nazis also controlled the cinema. All the films were accompanied by a 45-minute official newsreel which gloried Hitler and Germany

### KT3 F3.4 Controlling and influencing attitudes

#### Architecture

- Hitler encouraged the 'monumental' style for public buildings. These large stone buildings were often copies from ancient greece or rome and showed the power of the third Reich. Hitler admired the greek and roman style of building because he said the Jews had not contaminated it.

#### Literature

- All books,plays and poems were carefully censored and controlled to put across the Nazis message. Encouraged by Goebbels, student in berlin burned 20,000 books written by Jews, communists and anti-nazis university professors. Ina massive bonfire in Berlin, in May 1933.

### KT3 F4.1 Opposition, resistance and conformity

#### The extent of support for the Nazi regime

Many Germans gained much from Hitler's successes after 1933 and consequently supported him:

- There were economic successes which began to erase the depression.
- Germany's international standing grew, seeming to remove the shame of the Treaty of Versailles. The Saar was returned in 1935, the army was built up after 1935 and in 1936 the Rhineland was remilitarised.
- Some Germans were happy to see the communists, Socialists and SA leaders removed.

### KT3 F4.2 Opposition, resistance and conformity

#### Opposition from the Churches

Many Catholic priests opposed Nazi policies and were arrested. At least 400 were sent to Dachau concentration camp. In many respects this had the opposite effect to what the Nazis wanted. Priests who were sent to concentration camps were seen as martyrs (A person who is persecuted and/or killed because of their Religious or other beliefs). Catholic Churches were packed every Sunday.

Many Protestant pastors opposed Hitler and the Reich Church. They were led by Pastor Niemöller, who set up the 'Confessional Church' (Protestant Church set up by Pastor Niemöller in opposition to the Reich Church). Niemöller and many other pastors were arrested and sent to concentration camps. Nazi repression did not destroy Protestant opposition. Instead it created martyrs.

### KT3 F4.3 Opposition, resistance and conformity

#### Opposition from the young

Although many young people joined the Hitler Youth (An Organisation set up for the young to convert them to Nazi ideals), it was not popular with some of its members. Not all young people accepted the Nazi ideas and some set up other groups.

#### The Edelweiss pirates

The Edelweiss Pirates (A loosely organised youth group who rebelled against Nazi ideals). Were not a unified group but a loose band across many cities, first emerging in 1934. In Cologne they were called the Navajos, and Essen had the Roving Dudes.

- They listen to forbidden swing music and daubed walls with anti-Nazi graffiti.
- They could be recognised by their badges, for example the Edelweiss or skull and crossbones.
- They wore clothes which were considered outlandish by the Nazis - checked shirts, dark short trousers and white socks.
- By 1939 they had a membership of 2000.
- They created no-go areas for Hitler Youth in their cities.

### KT3 F4.4 Opposition, resistance and conformity

#### The Swing Youth

Swing Youth (Young people who loved swing music and challenged Nazi views about the young). Tended to come from the middle classes. They loved swing music, which was hated by the Nazis who classed it as non-German, developed by 'Negroes' and Jews. They rebelled against the order and discipline of the Nazis and took part in activities which were frowned upon.

#### KT4 F1.1 Nazi policies towards women

##### Nazi views on women and the family

The Nazis wanted to reverse the development of the 1920s (see page 10). They thought women should be homemakers and childbearers, and not go out to work. Their slogan '*Kinder, Kirche, Kiiche*' summed up their view:

- They wanted to increase the birth rate and strengthen the Third Reich.
- Women had a central role in producing the genetically pure Aryan race, ensuring the future of a strong Nazi state.

#### KT4 F1.2 Nazi policies towards women

##### Nazi policies towards women

Nazi policies brought changes in women's employment, domestic roles and appearance.

- *Employment*: women were encouraged to give up their jobs, get married and have large families. Women doctors, civil servants and teachers were forced to leave their professions. Girls were discouraged from higher education and gaining the qualifications needed for professional careers.
- *Marriage and family*: in 1933, the Law for the Encouragement of Marriage provided loans to help young couples marry, as long as the wife left her job. Couples kept one-quarter of the loan for each child born, up to four children. Maternity benefits were also increased. On Hitler's mother's birthday (12 August) medals were awarded to women with large families.
- *Appearance*: the ideal Nazi woman was blonde, blue-eyed and sturdily built with broad hips for childbearing. She wore traditional clothes and did not smoke or drink. Women were discouraged from wearing trousers, high heels and makeup. Dyeing or styling hair was frowned on, as was slimming, which was seen as bad for childbearing.

#### KT4 F1.3 Nazi policies towards women

##### Successes and failures of Nazi policies

There were successes:

- In the first few years the number of married women in employment fell.
- The number of marriages and the birth rate increased.
- The German Women's Enterprise organised Mothers' Schools to train women in household skills, as well as courses, lecture and radio programmes on household topics. It had 6 million members.

However, there were limitations and even failures:

- The number of women in employment increased from 4.85 million in 1933 to 7.14 million in 1939. From 1936 there was a labour shortage and more workers were needed in heavy industry due to rearmament.
- Many employers preferred women workers because they were cheaper. Women's wages remained only two-thirds of men's
- Some women resented the loss of more professional jobs such as doctors, lawyers and schoolteachers.

#### KT4 F1.4 Nazi policies towards women

##### Key term

*Kinder, Kirche, Küche* Nazi slogan meaning Children, Church and Cooking

### KT4 F2.1 Nazi policies towards the young

#### Nazi control of the young through education

Teachers had to accept and put across Nazi ideals or be sacked. Nearly all joined the Nazi Teachers Association.

The curriculum changed to put across key Nazi ideals and prepare students for their future roles. Textbooks were rewritten to fit the Nazi view of history and racial purity and had to be approved by the ministry of education. *Mein Kampf* became a standard text.

With boys, the emphasis was on preparation for the military. Girls learned needlework and cookery to become good homemakers and mothers.

- History: This was rewritten to glorify Germany's past and the Nazi party.
- Physical education: Took fifteen percent of the curriculum time to ensure that girls were fit to be mothers and boys were prepared for military service.
- Eugenics: A new subject about selective breeding, especially the creation of the master race. Children were taught that they should not marry so-called inferior races, such as Jews.
- Race studies: A new subject to put forward Nazi ideas on race, in particular the superiority of the Aryan race
- Geography: Pupils were taught about lands which were once a part of Germany and the need for more living space (*lebensraum*) for Germans

### KT4 F2.2 Nazi policies towards the young

#### Hitler youth and the league of German maidens

The Nazis wanted to control the leisure time of the young. They closed down all youth movements belonging to other political and the Churches. There were four separate youth organisations for 10-18 year olds, under the control of Baldur von Shirach, youth leader of the Reich:

- German young people for boys aged 10-13
- Young Girls for girls aged 10-14
- Hitler Youth for boys aged 14-18
- League of German Maidens for girls aged 14-18

From 1936 membership was compulsory, although many did not join.

For the boys, the focus was on military training, sport hiking and camping. The girls were kept separate from the boys. The main emphasis was on physical fitness and preparing them for motherhood through domestic skills. They were taught how to make beds and cook.

### KT4 F2.3 Nazi policies towards the young

#### Successes and failures of the Nazi policies

There were some successes:

- Membership of the Hitler Youth expanded from 5.4 million in 1936 to 7 million in 1939
- Many young people enjoyed the exciting and interesting activities such as camping.
- Others enjoyed the great sense of comradeship and belonging to something that seemed powerful.

On the other hand, there were failures:

- At least 3 million youngsters had not joined Hitler Youth by the end of the 1938.
- Some members found the activities boring, especially military training.

#### KT4 F3.1 Employment and living standards

##### Nazis policies to reduce unemployment

Hitler was determined to reduce unemployment. This stood at 6 million in 1932 and had more or less been removed by 1938.

##### **Job-creation schemes**

In 1933, 18.4 billion marks were spent on job-creation schemes, rising to 37.1 billion by 1938. One scheme was a massive road-building programme to create **autobahns**. This improved the efficiency of German industry by allowing goods to cross the country more quickly and enabled the swift transportation of German troops.

##### **The Reich Labour Service (RAD)**

The **Reich Labour Service** provided young men with manual labour jobs. From 1935, it was compulsory for men aged 18-25 to serve for 6 months.

Workers lived in camps, wore uniforms, received very low pay and carried out military drill as well as work.

#### KT4 F3.1 Employment And Living Standards

##### **Invisible Unemployment**

Some unemployed people were 'invisible' and not counted an official unemployment figures:

- ~ Jews dismissed from their jobs. From 1933, many Jews were forced out of their jobs, especially in the professions such as lawyers and doctors.
- ~ Women doctors, civil servants and teachers dismissed from their jobs.
- ~ Women who had given up work to get married.
- ~ Unmarried men under 25 who were pushed into RAD schemes.
- ~ Opponents of the regime held in concentration camps.

##### Rearmament

Rearmament, especially after 1936, created more jobs:

- ~ More money was spent on manufacturing weapons, and other heavy industry grew, such the iron industry. By 1939, 26 billion marks were spent on Rearmament.
- ~ From 1935, all men aged 18-35 helped to do two years' military service. The army expanded from 100,000 in 1933 to 1,400,000 by 1939.

#### KT4 F3.2 Employment and living standards

##### **Changes in the standard of living**

There is a debate about whether Germans were better or worse off during the period 1933-39.

##### Better off

- ~ There was more or less full employment.
- ~ The strength through joy tried to improve the leisure time of German workers through leisure and cultural trips. These included concerts, theatre visits, sporting events, weekend trips, holidays and cruises.
- ~ Beauty of labour tried to improve working conditions. It organised the building of canteens, swimming pools, and sports facilities. It installed better workplace lighting and improved noise levels.

#### KT4 F3.4 Employment and living standards

##### **Changes in the standard of living**

There is a debate about whether Germans were better or worse off during the period 1933-39.

##### Worse off

- ~ Lack of freedom. German workers lost their rights under the nazis. In 1933, trade unions were banned ( replaced by the german labour front ). The labour front did not permit workers to negotiate for better pay of reduced hours of work. Striked were banned.
- ~ Volkswagen swindle. This idea to encourage people to put aside money every week to buy Volkswagen was a con trick. By 1939 not a single customer had taken delivery of a car. None of the money was refunded.
- ~ Invisible unemployment

#### KT4 F4.1 The persecution of minorities

##### Nazi racial belief and policies

Central to the Nazis' policy was the aim to create a pure Aryan racial state. They thought this could be achieved by selective breeding and destroying the Jews. Jews and Slavs were seen as inferior Untermenschen or subhumans.

#### KT4 F4.2 The persecution of minorities

##### The treatment of minorities

Germans with disabilities were seen as a 'burden on the community'. There were also socially undesirable groups such as homosexuals and Gypsies.

##### People with disabilities

The 1933 Sterilisation Law allowed the sterilisation of those suffering from physical deformity, mental illness, epilepsy, learning difficulties, blindness and deafness.

##### Homosexuals

Homosexuality remained illegal. Nazi views about the importance of family life meant that same-sex relationships could not be tolerated. Gay men were arrested and sent to concentration camps.

##### Gypsies

The Nazis wanted to remove Germany's 30,000 Gypsies because they were non-Aryan and threatened racial purity. In 1935, the Nazis banned all marriages between Gypsies and Germans.

#### KT4 F4.3 The persecution of minorities

##### The persecution of the Jews

The persecution of the Jews gradually increased in the years 1933-39

##### Early Policies, 1933-34

- In 1933, the SA organised a boycott of Jewish shops and businesses.
- Jews were excluded from government jobs.
- In 1934, local councils banned Jews from public spaces as parks.

##### The Nuremberg Laws, 1935

The Nuremberg Laws were a series of measures aimed against the Jews, including:

- The Reich Citizenship Law stated that only those of German blood could be German citizens. Jews lost their citizenship, and the right to vote and hold government office.
- The Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honour forbade marriage or sexual relations between Jews and German citizens.

#### KT4 F4.4 The persecution of minorities

##### Kristallnacht and after

On 8 November 1938, Goebbels organised anti-Jewish demonstrations which involve attacks on Jewish property, shops, homes and synagogues. So many windows were smashed that the events of 9 November 1938 became known as the 'Night of the Broken Glass' or Kristallnacht. Worse persecution of the Jews followed.

In January 1939, the SS was given the responsibility for eliminating Jews from Germany.

This would be achieved by force emigration:

- On 30 April, Jews were forced in ghettos.
- By the summer of 1939, about 250,000 Jews had left Germany