Analyze the treatment of minorities in a one single party state

When Hitler became the chancellor of Germany in 1933, he began to change Germany into the Nazi Germany that has existed in his dream. In Nazi Germany, everyone would be Aryans and they would be the “master race”. They would be the superior country more than anyone else. This was his chance to unleash his hate on Jews and other minorities. There were many cruel ways of how these people were treated. Most infamous were concentration camps. In this essay, I am going to explain the treatment of different minorities, both asocial and biological outsiders, in different areas such as gradualism, Aryan supremacy, and bureaucracy, marking the enemies and harshly treated.

Gradualism is a term that means things are getting worse. The treatment towards Jews and disabled people clearly shows gradualism. To start with Jewish people, at first there were laws and restrictions that changed their lifestyle completely. In Germany at that time, Jewish people were less than 1% of the population. Most of them were civil servants and doctors. If not they were business owners. In 1933, the law of restoration was launched. This law restricted Jewish people to work as civil servants. In 1935, the Nuremburg law was launched. It abandoned any Jewish people’s German citizenship. This made them outlaws and this was when the discrimination really started. In 1938, Nazis made laws that restricted Jewish people to own businesses. By that time half the German Jews already left Germany. Those who stayed in Germany lived in horrible conditions. Soon after that, Jewish people were to be marked from the population. They had to wear a yellow star on their clothing so people could identify them as Jews. They also had a mark “J” in their passport. Jewish people were discriminated by people because of propaganda and how the Nazis shaped them. On one poster, the message was “the eternal Jews”. The poster had a man with big hands and nose, he is wearing a dark cloak. (1)This shows how the Nazis saw the Jews and how everyone else should look at them. It turned into a mass murder when *Kristallnacht -* the night of broken glass happened. It was an event when the Germans broke into Jewish people shops and took what they wanted, arrested Jews to concentration camps. The Nazis claimed that this action was done to revenge on the assassination Ernst von Rath, a German democrat killed by Jewish people. After that incident, concentration camps and ganging up on Jewish people became a common action in Germany. The most infamous concentration camp was Auschwitz where they gassed people to death. The second group of minorities who were gradually being treated worse was disabled people. The German Nazis wanted to clear these people who they thought were “imperfect” from Germany because they wanted Germans to become the master race. People who were classified as disabled were people who had epilepsy, blindness, deafness, mental illness, learning disabilities, physical deformity, and severe alcoholism. At first, propaganda was used in again to promote that these people were “useless” in the society. There was one poster, which said “60000 Reich marks. What this person suffering from is hereditary defects costs the People’s community during his lifetime. Comrade, that is your money too”. This is telling people that these disabled are wasting their money and they need to be eliminated. They began to be sterilized so that these people cannot reproduce. Then there was a program that euthanized these people. To conclude, as Hitler became more powerful, his treatment on minorities became more barbaric and inhumane.

When Hitler was in power, bureaucracy and systemization was often encouraged in the party. This applied to their treatment on minorities such as the Gypsies, the Jews, and homosexual people. There were only about 30000 gypsies in Germany. they classified them into different types of Gypsies according to their blood. For example, they gave gypsies different color of paper according to their origins. The full Gypsies had brown papers and were called Sinti. There were other types of gypsies such as Mischlinge and “nomads” with different colors of paper. (2) If they were full Gypsies, they would be forced to become an experiment or executed. If they were half gypsies, they would become forced labor. As for the Jews, they were banned from having marriage with German people, especially Aryans. That would make their blood “imperfect”. This shows how they wanted to separate the “pure” blood and the “imperfect” blood. They also set up curfews and made Jewish people wear yellow stars on their clothing. This was an example of bureaucracy because they were only allowed during certain times and they stood out from everyone else with the yellow star on their clothing. They also treated the homosexual people in the same way. The Nazis would list out the gay people, they would capture them and put them into concentration camps, and treat the exceptionally mean. In Nazi ideology, men were supposed to be the people who lead the country. Homosexuality is more unacceptable than other minorities because a capable male like themselves are soft, it shows the vulnerability. There were also quite a few homosexual members within the Nazi party, one of them were Ernst Röhm. That could be one of the reasons they are so harsh on them, so that they could disguise their homosexuality. They weren’t harsh on lesbians because they think that woman can be “changed” if they have met the right man to “straighten them up”. all these minorities and many others were placed in concentration camps to be exterminated. These actions by the German Nazis showed how cold blooded they were. The use of systemization on minorities showed how cold and harsh the Nazis were to treat people as something that can be categorized.

Hitler thought that if there was a group of people that the majority can hate on, that could make the Germans feel more united because they feel superior. That was one of the reason he used so much propaganda to promote hatred on minorities. Hitler himself also had the ambition to destroy minorities because of his own dreams. In all the minorities that he wanted to exterminate, homosexuals, people who suffer from hereditary illness, and Jews were the most promoted enemies. Again, the use of propaganda was very effective in persuading the majority to align and hate these people. There was one poster that I mentioned earlier, which is against people with hereditary illness. There were many posters like that all around Germany, promoting the fact that the disabled are worthless and shouldn’t be a part of Germany’s master race. Another poster about the Jewish person in the black cloak is another good example that shows how the Nazis wanted the majority to see Jewish people. There were also demonstrations that showed their hatred on certain group of people. These incidents include the night of broken glass (Kristallnacht). The night when people gang up, broke into Jews’ shops and arrested many of them. this demonstrated how they feel towards these minorities and how everyone else should feel. Their hatred on minorities showed in giving them actual marks and names. Homosexual people had to wear pink triangles, Jews had to wear yellow stars, and disabled people were named “useless eaters”. As we know, it got worse and there were laws against these minorities such as the Nuremberg law. While Hitler was created his perfect Germany, he also united the nation with the use of propaganda, shaping these people into a bad image, turning everyone against them, demonstrating the true meaning of Nazism.

Hitler’s ideology of master race only included Aryans. They were treated as superior with many other advantages. Hitler wanted to clear out all the other minorities because Aryans are superior in his eyes. This explained many of his cruel actions and treatments against minorities. First, he banned marriage between Aryans and non - Aryans. The children of Aryans and other minorities were either placed into concentration camps or treated as poorly as other minorities. he wanted “perfect blood” in Germany, it’s a very mean way to describe someone as “imperfect”. But in his eyes everyone else who was Ayrans doesn’t deserve to be a part of Germany. Besides banning marriage, he also gave financial support and advantages to them. Women were encouraged to marry an Aryan. This was done through propaganda and “the honour cross of German motherhood”. (2)This put pressure on women to get married and have children. While on the other side killing every single Jewish person there is. Jews dominated the doctors and dentistry industry. Aryans replaced their jobs after the Nazis banned them from working. There was the Reich Labour Service organization, which only helped Aryans to regain their jobs. There were also experimentation done on minorities, their purpose was to develop medicine for Aryans. Many of the actions done by Nazis were for the good of Aryans. This shows how highly valued they were in Nazi Germany.

When Germany was under Hitler’s control, the treatment on minorities was inhumane, barbaric and immoral. he killed many innocent people, his actions left a serious aftermath in Germany, it can still be seen nowadays. However, Hitler’s action doesn’t reflect how every country would be like under a one single-party state.

# Bibliography

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