

## The Nuremberg Laws, 1935

On 15 September 1935, two new laws increased the persecution of Jews.

### The Reich Law on Citizenship

- Only those with German blood were German citizens.
- Jews were 'subjects' not 'citizens'.
- Jews therefore could not vote, hold office or hold a passport.
- They had to wear a yellow star in order to be easily identified.

### The Reich Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honour

- Jews forbidden from marrying German citizens.
- Jews forbidden from having sex with German citizens.

## DO IT!

Compare the timeline of Jewish persecution to the persecution of other minorities. Describe how the persecution changed as Germany moved closer to war.

Anyone with at least three practising Jewish grandparents was considered a Jew.

### Kristallnacht

On the night of 9 November 1938, hundreds of Jewish homes, shops and synagogues were destroyed in the 'Night of the Broken Glass', named for the shattered glass in the streets.

**7 November:** German shot in Paris embassy by a young Jew.

**8 November:** Goebbels stirs up retaliation in Hanover against local Jews.

**9 November:** First victim dies. Goebbels and Hitler turn violence into a nationwide campaign.

**Overnight:** Around 100 Jews are killed, over 800 shops, 170 homes and 190 synagogues are destroyed by uniformed and non-uniformed groups. The police are told to stay away.

**Aftermath:** The Jews are blamed by Goebbels and fined 1 billion marks to pay for the damage. 20,000 Jews are arrested.

## CHECK IT!

- 1 Describe in a paragraph how Nazi policies on women and youth aimed to encourage the development of a new generation of loyal Nazis.
- 2 Explain in a paragraph how Weimar 'new women' differed from the Nazi ideal and how women's status changed during the Nazi regime.
- 3 'Life in Nazi Germany improved for working people.' Give three arguments in support of this statement and three against.
- 4 Describe in a paragraph the impact of Nazi racial theory on minorities in Germany.