Document 1

The effective propagandist must be a master of the art of speech, of writing, or journalism, of the poster and of the leaflet. He must have the gift to use the major methods of influencing public opinion such as the press, film and radio to serve his ideas and goals, above all in an age of advancing technology. . . It may be good to have power based on weapons. It is better and longer lasting, however, to win and hold the heart of a nation.

SOURCE: Joseph Goebbels, German Minister of Propaganda, 1934.

Document 2

"Wherever rats turn up, they spread annihilation throughout the land, destroying property and food supplies. This is how they disseminate disease. Pestilence, leprosy, typhus, cholera, dysentery. Just like the Jews among mankind, rats represent the very essence of malicious and subterranean destruction." [excerpt from the script of the film]

"If one compares the directness and intensity of the effect that the various means of propaganda have on the great masses, film is without question the most powerful. The written and spoken word depend entirely on the content or on the emotional appeal of the speaker, but film uses pictures, pictures that for almost a decade have been accompanied by sound. We know that the impact of a message is greater if it is less abstract, more visual. That makes it clear why film, with its series of continually moving images, must have particular persuasive force." [Fritz Hipler, Nazi filmmaker, creator of film]

Adolf Hitler has led the German people to the realization that the Nordic race is the most creative, valuable race on earth. It has determined their nature, their culture, and their history. Therefore, caring for the valuable Nordic blood is their most important task. Each of us has a role. A consciousness of our proud ancestry must be the guiding force in our behavior. We do not want to be the last of a millennia old advanced culture that ends with us, rather 'members of an unending chain extending from our most ancient ancestors to our distant grandchildren.

SOURCE: Heinrich Himmler, 1943.
the first and the chief thing... I will have no intellectual training. Knowledge is ruin to my young men."

By 1939, about 90% of the "Aryan" children in Germany belonged to Nazi youth groups. A massive propaganda campaign was aimed at Germany's youth. The Nazis indoctrinated boys and girls in their duties to the state from a young age. They saw education as critical to the new Germany:

"National Socialist education is an education in the thinking of the German people, in understanding German traditions, in awakening the pure, uncorrupted and honest people's consciousness, their sense of belonging to the people. Only a pure member of the German race can have such an understanding of his people, crowning it with the willingness to sacrifice all for the people. . . . Race, military training, leadership, religion! These are the four unshakable foundations of the new German National Socialist education!

**SOURCE:** *The Educational Principles of the New Germany*, 1936.

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**Document 5**

SOURCE: Pictures from elementary school textbooks and storybooks during the 1930s.
Document 6

SOURCE: Pictures from elementary school textbooks and storybooks during the 1930s.

Document 7

The second law to which all life is subordinate is: Each life form strives to ensure the survival of its species...
The species goes before the individual. History provides us with enough examples to prove that mankind too is under this law. In the midst of their prosperity, the Romans lost the desire to have children. They sinned against the law of maintaining the species. Their state was undermined and overcome by foreign peoples in a short time. The ethnic traits of the Romans thus vanished. Our nation too once hung in the balance. National Socialism restored to the German people the will to have children, and preserved our people from certain decline, which would have been inevitable under the law of species and the law of the greater number of offspring. Here too we can recall the Führer's words: Marriage too cannot be an end in itself, rather it must have the larger goal of increasing and maintaining the species and the race. That only is its meaning and its task. (Mein Kampf) The goal of female education must be to prepare them for motherhood. (Mein Kampf)

SOURCE: From a 1942 biology textbook the Nazis wrote for 5th-grade girls.
(1) Whoever suffers from a heritable disease may be made unfruitful (sterilized) through surgical means if, in the experience of medical science, it may, with great likelihood, be expected that his descendants will suffer from serious heritable physical or mental defects.

(2) Whoever suffers from one of the following ailments is considered to be heritably diseased within the meaning of this law:

1. congenital feeble-mindedness
2. schizophrenia
3. manic-depression
4. congenital epilepsy
5. heritable St. Vitus's dance (Huntington's Chorea)
6. hereditary blindness
7. hereditary deafness
8. serious heritable malformations.
Further, anyone suffering from chronic alcoholism may also be made unfruitful.

2
(1) Entitled to request [sterilization], is he who is to be made unfruitful. If he should be incapacitated or under guardianship because of feeble-mindedness or not yet 18 years of age, then his legal representative is empowered to make the motion. In the other cases of limited capacity the request must be consented to by the legal representative. If the person is of age and has a nurse, the consent of the latter is necessary.

(2) The request is to be accompanied by a certificate from a physician accredited by the German Reich stating that the one to be sterilized has been enlightened regarding the nature and consequences of sterilization.

(3) The request for sterilization is subject to recall.

3
Sterilization may also be recommended by 1. the official physician, 2. the official in charge of the institution in the case of inmates of a hospital, sanitarium, or prison.

4
The request is to be presented in writing to, or put into writing by the business office of, the Health-Inheritance Court (Erbgesundheitsgericht). The facts underlying the request are to be certified to by a medical document or in some other way authenticated. The business office of the court must notify the official physician....

7
(1) The proceedings before the Health-Inheritance Courts are secret....

10
...(3) The Supreme Health-Inheritance Court has final jurisdiction.

11
(1) The surgical operation necessary for sterilization may be performed only in a hospital and by a physician accredited by the German Reich....

18
This law becomes effective January 1, 1934.

SOURCE: The “Law to Prevent the Perpetuation of Heritable Disorders,” 1933.

Document 10

Thoroughly convinced by the knowledge that the purity of German blood is essential for the further existence of the German people and animated by the inflexible will to safe-guard the German nation for the entire future, the Reichstag has resolved upon the following law unanimously, which is promulgated herewith:

SECTION 1
1. Marriages between Jews and nationals of German or kindred blood are forbidden. Marriages concluded in defiance of this law are void, even if, for the purpose of evading this law, they are concluded abroad.
2. Proceedings for annulment may be initiated only by the Public Prosecutor.
SECTION 2
Relation outside marriage between Jews and nationals for German or kindred blood are forbidden.

SECTION 3
Jews will not be permitted to employ female nationals of German or kindred blood in their households.

SECTION 4
1. Jews are forbidden to hoist the Reich and national flag and to present the colors of the Reich.  
2. On the other hand they are permitted to present the Jewish colors. The exercise of this authority is protected by the State.

SECTION 5
1. A person who acts contrary to the prohibition of section 1 will be punished with hard labor.  
2. A person who acts contrary to the prohibition of section 2 will be punished with imprisonment or with hard labor.  
3. A person who acts contrary to the provisions of section 3 or 4 will be punished with imprisonment up to a year and with a fine or with one of these penalties.

SECTION 6
The Reich Minister of the Interior in agreement with the Deputy of the Fuehrer will issue the legal and administrative regulations which are required for the implementation and supplementation of this law.

SECTION 7
The law will become effective on the day after the promulgation, section 3 however only on 1 January, 1936.

Nuremberg, the 15th day of September 1935 at the Reich Party Rally of Freedom.

The Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor, Adolph Hitler  
The Reich Minister of the Interior, Frick  
The Reich Minister of Justice, Dr. Goertner  
The Deputy of the Fuehrer, R. Hess

SOURCE: Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor, Nuremberg, September 15, 1935.
Document 11

One People, One Government, One Leader!

SOURCE: Nazi Poster, 1930s.

Document 12

SOURCE: Map showing synagogues burned on the night of Kristallnacht [the “Night of Broken Glass”], November 9, 1938.
By order of the Reich Marshal, a Reich Central Office for Jewish Emigration was set up in January 1939 and the Chief of the Security Police and SD was entrusted with the management. Its most important tasks were:

a) to make all necessary arrangements for the preparation for an increased emigration of the Jews,

b) to direct the flow of emigration,

c) to speed the procedure of emigration in each individual case.

The aim of all this was to cleanse German living space of Jews in a legal manner.

All the offices realized the drawbacks of such enforced accelerated emigration. For the time being they had, however, tolerated it on account of the lack of other possible solutions of the problem.

Approximately 11 million Jews will be involved in the final solution of the European Jewish question, distributed as follows among the individual countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany proper</td>
<td>131,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>43,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern territories</td>
<td>420,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Government</td>
<td>2,284,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bialystok</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia</td>
<td>74,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia - free of Jews -</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>34,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>43,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>5,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France / occupied territory</td>
<td>165,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unoccupied territory</td>
<td>700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>69,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>160,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>48,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>330,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>2,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy including Sardinia</td>
<td>58,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rumania including Bessarabia  342,000
Sweden                        8,000
Switzerland                   18,000
Serbia                        10,000
Slovakia                      88,000
Spain                         6,000
Turkey (European portion)     55,500
Hungary                       742,800
USSR                          5,000,000
Ukraine                       2,994,684
White Russia excluding Bialystok 446,484
Total                          over 11,000,000

….The breakdown of Jews residing in the European part of the USSR according to trades was approximately as follows:

- Agriculture                  9.1 %
- Urban workers                14.8 %
- In trade                     20.0 %
- Employed by the state        23.4 %
- In private occupations such as medical profession, press, theater, etc. 32.7%

Under proper guidance, in the course of the final solution the Jews are to be allocated for appropriate labor in the East. Able-bodied Jews, separated according to sex, will be taken in large work columns to these areas for work on roads, in the course of which action doubtless a large portion will be eliminated by natural causes.

The possible final remnant will, since it will undoubtedly consist of the most resistant portion, have to be treated accordingly, because it is the product of natural selection and would, if released, act as a the seed of a new Jewish revival (see the experience of history.)

In the course of the practical execution of the final solution, Europe will be combed through from west to east. Germany proper, including the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, will have to be handled first due to the housing problem and additional social and political necessities.

The evacuated Jews will first be sent, group by group, to so-called transit ghettos, from which they will be transported to the East.

SS-Obergruppenführer Heydrich went on to say that an important prerequisite for the evacuation as such is the exact definition of the persons involved.

It is not intended to evacuate Jews over 65 years old, but to send them to an old-age ghetto - Theresienstadt is being considered for this purpose.

In addition to these age groups - of the approximately 280,000 Jews in Germany proper and Austria on 31 October 1941, approximately 30% are over 65 years old - severely wounded veterans and Jews with war decorations (Iron Cross I) will be accepted in the old-age ghettos. With this expedient solution, in one fell swoop many interventions will be prevented.

The beginning of the individual larger evacuation actions will largely depend on military developments. ….

IV.

In the course of the final solution plans, the Nuremberg Laws should provide a certain foundation, in which a prerequisite for the absolute solution of the problem is also the solution to the problem of mixed marriages
and persons of mixed blood.

The Chief of the Security Police and the SD discusses the following points, at first theoretically, in regard to a letter from the chief of the Reich chancellery:

1) Treatment of Persons of Mixed Blood of the First Degree

Persons of mixed blood of the first degree will, as regards the final solution of the Jewish question, be treated as Jews.

From this treatment the following exceptions will be made:
   a) Persons of mixed blood of the first degree married to persons of German blood if their marriage has resulted in children (persons of mixed blood of the second degree). These persons of mixed blood of the second degree are to be treated essentially as Germans.
   b) Persons of mixed blood of the first degree, for whom the highest offices of the Party and State have already issued exemption permits in any sphere of life. Each individual case must be examined, and it is not ruled out that the decision may be made to the detriment of the person of mixed blood.

The prerequisite for any exemption must always be the personal merit of the person of mixed blood. (Not the merit of the parent or spouse of German blood.)

Persons of mixed blood of the first degree who are exempted from evacuation will be sterilized in order to prevent any offspring and to eliminate the problem of persons of mixed blood once and for all. Such sterilization will be voluntary. But it is required to remain in the Reich. The sterilized "person of mixed blood" is thereafter free of all restrictions to which he was previously subjected.

2) Treatment of Persons of Mixed Blood of the Second Degree

Persons of mixed blood of the second degree will be treated fundamentally as persons of German blood, with the exception of the following cases, in which the persons of mixed blood of the second degree will be considered as Jews:

   a) The person of mixed blood of the second degree was born of a marriage in which both parents are persons of mixed blood.
   b) The person of mixed blood of the second degree has a racially especially undesirable appearance that marks him outwardly as a Jew.
   c) The person of mixed blood of the second degree has a particularly bad police and political record that shows that he feels and behaves like a Jew.

Also in these cases exemptions should not be made if the person of mixed blood of the second degree has married a person of German blood.

3) Marriages between Full Jews and Persons of German Blood.

Here it must be decided from case to case whether the Jewish partner will be evacuated or whether, with regard to the effects of such a step on the German relatives, [this mixed marriage] should be sent to an old-age ghetto.

4) Marriages between Persons of Mixed Blood of the First Degree and Persons of German Blood.

a) Without Children.
   If no children have resulted from the marriage, the person of mixed blood of the first degree will be evacuated or sent to an old-age ghetto (same treatment as in the case of marriages between full Jews and persons of German blood, point 3.)
   b) With Children.
   If children have resulted from the marriage (persons of mixed blood of the second degree), they will, if they are to be treated as Jews, be evacuated or sent to a ghetto along with the parent of mixed blood of the first degree. If these children are to be treated as Germans (regular cases), they are exempted from evacuation
as is therefore the parent of mixed blood of the first degree.


In these marriages (including the children) all members of the family will be treated as Jews and therefore be evacuated or sent to an old-age ghetto.


In these marriages both partners will be evacuated or sent to an old-age ghetto without consideration of whether the marriage has produced children, since possible children will as a rule have stronger Jewish blood than the Jewish person of mixed blood of the second degree.

SS-Gruppenführer Hofmann advocates the opinion that sterilization will have to be widely used, since the person of mixed blood who is given the choice whether he will be evacuated or sterilized would rather undergo sterilization.

State Secretary Dr. Stückart maintains that carrying out in practice of the just mentioned possibilities for solving the problem of mixed marriages and persons of mixed blood will create endless administrative work. In the second place, as the biological facts cannot be disregarded in any case, State Secretary Dr. Stuckart proposed proceeding to forced sterilization.

Furthermore, to simplify the problem of mixed marriages possibilities must be considered with the goal of the legislator saying something like: "These marriages have been dissolved."

With regard to the issue of the effect of the evacuation of Jews on the economy, State Secretary Neumann stated that Jews who are working in industries vital to the war effort, provided that no replacements are available, cannot be evacuated.

SS-Obergruppenführer Heydrich indicated that these Jews would not be evacuated according to the rules he had approved for carrying out the evacuations then underway.

**SOURCE:** Excerpts from the Wansee Protocol, 1942.