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Americans and the Holocaust

A Reader

Edited by Daniel Greene and Edward Phillips

Foreword by Sara J. Bloomfield

DESCRIPTION

What did the American people and the US government know about the threats posed by Nazi Germany? What could have been done to stop the rise of Nazism in Germany and its assault on Europe's Jews?

Americans and the Holocaust explores these enduring questions by gathering together more than one hundred primary sources that reveal how Americans debated their responsibility to respond to Nazism. Drawing on groundbreaking research conducted for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's *Americans and the Holocaust* exhibition, these carefully chosen sources help readers understand how Americans' responses to Nazism were shaped by the challenging circumstances in the United States during the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s, including profound economic crisis, fear of communism, pervasive antisemitism and racism, and widespread isolationism.

Collecting newspaper and magazine articles, popular culture materials, and government records, *Americans and the Holocaust* is a valuable resource for students and historians seeking to shed light on this dark era in world history.

To explore further, visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's digital exhibit, available here: <https://exhibitions.ushmm.org/americans-and-the-holocaust>

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DANIEL GREENE is president and librarian at the Newberry Library and an adjunct professor of history at Northwestern University. He curated *Americans and the Holocaust*, an exhibition at the United States

Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

EDWARD J. PHILLIPS joined the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1994 and directed its exhibitions program from 2008 until his retirement in 2018. He contributed to nearly fifty exhibition projects, including *Americans and the Holocaust*, the basis for this reader.

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