

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:09,360

2

00:00:09,360 --> 00:00:12,950

It's not so easy to speak
in this coffeehouse.

3

00:00:12,950 --> 00:00:17,360

I haven't been here for many,
many years because this reminds

4

00:00:17,360 --> 00:00:21,680

me very much of the years
when there was a signboard

5

00:00:21,680 --> 00:00:26,320

downstairs saying, "Juden
unerwünscht," "Jews unwanted."

6

00:00:26,320 --> 00:00:31,150

Now this signboard
appeared not at once

7

00:00:31,150 --> 00:00:32,229

in all the coffeehouses.

8

00:00:32,229 --> 00:00:34,800

It appeared gradually,
one after the other.

9

00:00:34,800 --> 00:00:38,510

Probably, they were
told to put it up.

10

00:00:38,510 --> 00:00:41,780

And of course, we didn't go
in because there was always

11

00:00:41,780 --> 00:00:44,600

this danger of being
recognized by someone

12

00:00:44,600 --> 00:00:48,860

and possibly be denounced
and then arrested.

13

00:00:48,860 --> 00:00:51,410

Mind you, there were
some coffeehouses

14

00:00:51,410 --> 00:00:58,130

who had customers, Jewish
customers, for long years.

15

00:00:58,130 --> 00:00:59,690

And they made arrangements.

16

00:00:59,690 --> 00:01:03,020

I remember one coffeehouse down
here, it was called Hilbrich.

17

00:01:03,020 --> 00:01:06,170

I don't think it exists
anymore in Berlin.

18

00:01:06,170 --> 00:01:10,160

It arranged for a
little room for the Jews

19

00:01:10,160 --> 00:01:13,370

to meet in the evening so
that nobody could see them.

20

00:01:13,370 --> 00:01:17,750

There, they used to play cards
and have just one possibility

21

00:01:17,750 --> 00:01:20,210

to be out of their
homes for a change.

22

00:01:20,210 --> 00:01:23,100

When did it start,
this forbidding?

23

00:01:23,100 --> 00:01:24,950

It started at the
very beginning, or--?

24

00:01:24,950 --> 00:01:25,870

No, no.

25

00:01:25,870 --> 00:01:27,890

As I said, it was gradual.

26

00:01:27,890 --> 00:01:31,010

At the very beginning, I mean,
there was this 1st of April,

27

00:01:31,010 --> 00:01:33,060

the boycott.

28

00:01:33,060 --> 00:01:34,080

1933.

29

00:01:34,080 --> 00:01:35,500

1933.

30

00:01:35,500 --> 00:01:36,000

Yes.

31

00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:38,810

But it had nothing
to do with that yet.

32

00:01:38,810 --> 00:01:40,250

It appeared gradually.

33

00:01:40,250 --> 00:01:43,440

I can't really remember
exactly the years.

34

00:01:43,440 --> 00:01:45,560

But it was not with one stroke.

35

00:01:45,560 --> 00:01:50,690

I would actually say
that after the boycott,

36
00:01:50,690 --> 00:01:57,770
on the 1st of April 1933,
which meant that SE or SR posts

37
00:01:57,770 --> 00:02:03,290
a man who was standing in front
of Jewish shops, which was

38
00:02:03,290 --> 00:02:05,900
often disregarded by Germans.

39
00:02:05,900 --> 00:02:10,919
I mean, at the time, it was
also new, and looked so little

40
00:02:10,919 --> 00:02:12,750
dangerous, let's say.

41
00:02:12,750 --> 00:02:14,750
Yes, of course things happened.

42
00:02:14,750 --> 00:02:17,090
I mean, people were
beaten up, or people

43
00:02:17,090 --> 00:02:19,370
were told not to enter,
and things like this.

44
00:02:19,370 --> 00:02:23,660
But in comparison,
it was just nothing.

45
00:02:23,660 --> 00:02:27,000
And then there was another date
which perhaps was important,

46
00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:30,890
the 7th of April, when
the Nazis came out

47
00:02:30,890 --> 00:02:35,970
with a law which they called
die Wiederherstellung des

48
00:02:35,970 --> 00:02:38,210
Berufsbeamtentums.

49
00:02:38,210 --> 00:02:40,430
Which meant really,
that they threw out

50
00:02:40,430 --> 00:02:46,190
all of those people who had not
served in the First World War.

51
00:02:46,190 --> 00:02:48,240
All those Jews, of course.

52
00:02:48,240 --> 00:02:51,980
And did not allow other Jews
to enter professional life

53
00:02:51,980 --> 00:02:53,370
in Germany.

54
00:02:53,370 --> 00:02:54,860
So these were the
two dates which

55
00:02:54,860 --> 00:03:00,410
were really significant for
the Jews, in the beginning.

56
00:03:00,410 --> 00:03:03,275
But then, it was sort of quiet.

57
00:03:03,275 --> 00:03:06,140

58
00:03:06,140 --> 00:03:08,960
Nothing drastic really

happened, except that Jews,

59

00:03:08,960 --> 00:03:11,150
of course, with
a political past,

60

00:03:11,150 --> 00:03:12,980
like being socialists
or communists,

61

00:03:12,980 --> 00:03:15,920
were certainly arrested and
put into concentration camps.

62

00:03:15,920 --> 00:03:19,250
And at the time, everybody knew
that they existed concentration

63

00:03:19,250 --> 00:03:22,960
camps, because it was written
in the papers about it.

64

00:03:22,960 --> 00:03:27,130
And we also heard about torture
and all that sort of thing.

65

00:03:27,130 --> 00:03:32,420
But let's say the normal Jew
did not really suffer yet,

66

00:03:32,420 --> 00:03:36,510
in this sense, as
it was later on.

67

00:03:36,510 --> 00:03:41,070
But these signboards
like "Juden unerwünscht"

68

00:03:41,070 --> 00:03:46,910
appeared gradually, and I
presume it depended on the zeal

69

00:03:46,910 --> 00:03:53,360

of the various Blockwalter
or those who had the say

70
00:03:53,360 --> 00:03:54,410
in the district.

71
00:03:54,410 --> 00:03:58,090
You mean that they did it
out of their own free will,

72
00:03:58,090 --> 00:04:00,410
or they got orders?

73
00:04:00,410 --> 00:04:03,080
I would say there were some
who certainly did it out

74
00:04:03,080 --> 00:04:04,010
of their free will.

75
00:04:04,010 --> 00:04:07,020
There were some coffeehouses
if I am not mistaken,

76
00:04:07,020 --> 00:04:09,090
I don't want to accuse
anybody wrongly now,

77
00:04:09,090 --> 00:04:12,920
but I remember there was a
coffeehouse across here where

78
00:04:12,920 --> 00:04:15,800
it appeared, voluntarily.

79
00:04:15,800 --> 00:04:17,630
That means a man
was really a Nazi

80
00:04:17,630 --> 00:04:20,310
and that he put
it on by himself.

81

00:04:20,310 --> 00:04:23,000

But very many
coffeehouses, and that's

82

00:04:23,000 --> 00:04:25,630

really proven they
have done it on orders.

83

00:04:25,630 --> 00:04:27,260

Yes.

84

00:04:27,260 --> 00:04:29,810

This means that it was not
a shock in the beginning.

85

00:04:29,810 --> 00:04:32,990

It was a slow process.

86

00:04:32,990 --> 00:04:34,580

It was a very slow process.

87

00:04:34,580 --> 00:04:37,540

Mind you, it was, of course,
also a shock, because--

88

00:04:37,540 --> 00:04:39,530

Could you describe this?

89

00:04:39,530 --> 00:04:43,190

Well, you see, the Jewish people
couldn't understand all this

90

00:04:43,190 --> 00:04:44,300

in the beginning.

91

00:04:44,300 --> 00:04:47,090

They were so German,
and they believed

92

00:04:47,090 --> 00:04:51,170

to belong to this
country so completely,

93
00:04:51,170 --> 00:04:55,220
that everything like this
was, of course, a shock.

94
00:04:55,220 --> 00:04:59,370
They took it, though,
because they thought,

95
00:04:59,370 --> 00:05:04,770
it's just in the beginning,
because the Nazis wanted

96
00:05:04,770 --> 00:05:09,620
to take hold on this country,
and there had been such,

97
00:05:09,620 --> 00:05:14,530
as they said, chaos in the
Weimar Republic, such disorder,

98
00:05:14,530 --> 00:05:16,110
so that one man had to come.

99
00:05:16,110 --> 00:05:17,850
I remember Jewish
people saying this,

100
00:05:17,850 --> 00:05:22,300
well, you see, I mean after
all, something had to happen.

101
00:05:22,300 --> 00:05:23,670
It couldn't go on like this.

102
00:05:23,670 --> 00:05:24,420
Even Jews?

103
00:05:24,420 --> 00:05:25,800
Even Jews said this.

104
00:05:25,800 --> 00:05:28,140

I remember this very well,
that friends of my father -

105
00:05:28,140 --> 00:05:30,480
my father was a
socialist, and of course,

106
00:05:30,480 --> 00:05:32,400
politically involved.

107
00:05:32,400 --> 00:05:35,640
And we had Jewish friends who
were not politically involved.

108
00:05:35,640 --> 00:05:37,950
Or who were rightists, even?

109
00:05:37,950 --> 00:05:39,620
Yes, but they were just--

110
00:05:39,620 --> 00:05:42,420
and I would say the
majority was like that.

111
00:05:42,420 --> 00:05:45,640
They were doctors, and
they were businessmen.

112
00:05:45,640 --> 00:05:48,360
They were interested in
their own business to go on

113
00:05:48,360 --> 00:05:50,790
and to be successful.

114
00:05:50,790 --> 00:05:55,910
And they said, well, a
man like this had to come.

115
00:05:55,910 --> 00:05:58,590
A man like this had to come
to make order in the state.

116

00:05:58,590 --> 00:05:59,600

A man like Hitler.

117

00:05:59,600 --> 00:06:01,750

A man like Hitler had to come.

118

00:06:01,750 --> 00:06:03,000

And then they said, look here.

119

00:06:03,000 --> 00:06:06,780

After all, even in Italy,
something like this happened.

120

00:06:06,780 --> 00:06:08,490

And you know what Mussolini did.

121

00:06:08,490 --> 00:06:11,370

Of course, in the beginning,
there were that such things

122

00:06:11,370 --> 00:06:13,620

which were called in
German "Äœbergriffe."

123

00:06:13,620 --> 00:06:15,690

I don't know the
English word for it now.

124

00:06:15,690 --> 00:06:20,700

But then afterwards, he dried
up the swamps, for example.

125

00:06:20,700 --> 00:06:21,810

Wasn't it wonderful?

126

00:06:21,810 --> 00:06:24,080

This is what will
happen here, too.

127

00:06:24,080 --> 00:06:27,360

And it was just one of the first
things that would smooth out.

128
00:06:27,360 --> 00:06:31,680
This is how they consoled
themselves, and took the things

129
00:06:31,680 --> 00:06:32,400
as it came.

130
00:06:32,400 --> 00:06:33,090
All right, then.

131
00:06:33,090 --> 00:06:36,270
We don't go to Kranzler
to have a coffee.

132
00:06:36,270 --> 00:06:37,363
We meet someplace else.

133
00:06:37,363 --> 00:06:39,030
There were, at the
time, of course, also

134
00:06:39,030 --> 00:06:40,830
Jewish-owned coffeehouses.

135
00:06:40,830 --> 00:06:46,080
There was a very famous one
here, only two corners away,

136
00:06:46,080 --> 00:06:48,960
two blocks away, Dobrin.

137
00:06:48,960 --> 00:06:49,930
That was Jewish.

138
00:06:49,930 --> 00:06:52,350
So I went to Dobrin
instead of to Kranzler.

139
00:06:52,350 --> 00:06:53,040
You understand?

140

00:06:53,040 --> 00:06:56,460

There were always possibilities,
still, to escape things.

141

00:06:56,460 --> 00:06:59,970

And did the Jewish coffeehouses
have to put the sign, too?

142

00:06:59,970 --> 00:07:00,720

No, of course not.

143

00:07:00,720 --> 00:07:02,700

"Juden unerwünscht"?

144

00:07:02,700 --> 00:07:04,060

Of course not.

145

00:07:04,060 --> 00:07:06,060

But I mean, they didn't
exist very much longer.

146

00:07:06,060 --> 00:07:09,180

I just can't remember
exactly the dates now.

147

00:07:09,180 --> 00:07:10,920

But gradually, they
had to disappear.

148

00:07:10,920 --> 00:07:14,860

That means they
were forced to sell.

149

00:07:14,860 --> 00:07:17,550

But at the beginning,
as I say, I'd had,

150

00:07:17,550 --> 00:07:19,740

always, this way out, you see.

151

00:07:19,740 --> 00:07:26,070

And as the Jews didn't believe,

really, that something drastic,

152

00:07:26,070 --> 00:07:28,130
which finally happened.

153

00:07:28,130 --> 00:07:28,950
They took it.

154

00:07:28,950 --> 00:07:31,410
They arranged themselves,
just as the Germans

155

00:07:31,410 --> 00:07:32,670
arranged themselves.

156

00:07:32,670 --> 00:07:34,680
You see, after all,
not all Germans

157

00:07:34,680 --> 00:07:39,180
were Nazis in the beginning, and
the socialists existed still.

158

00:07:39,180 --> 00:07:41,740
And the Democrats existed still.

159

00:07:41,740 --> 00:07:44,070
And they also sort of
arranged themselves.

160

00:07:44,070 --> 00:07:45,330
All right.

161

00:07:45,330 --> 00:07:49,140
After Hitler, there will
be another chance, you see,

162

00:07:49,140 --> 00:07:50,005
was the feeling.

163

00:07:50,005 --> 00:07:54,640
But between the boycott and

the Russian laws of 1935,

164
00:07:54,640 --> 00:07:58,730
of September 1935, how was it?

165
00:07:58,730 --> 00:08:03,120
So things went on
quietly, smoothly, or?

166
00:08:03,120 --> 00:08:04,350
I would say smoothly.

167
00:08:04,350 --> 00:08:06,360
People like my father suffered.

168
00:08:06,360 --> 00:08:09,180
I told you my father
was a socialist,

169
00:08:09,180 --> 00:08:11,510
or he is a socialist
still, today.

170
00:08:11,510 --> 00:08:13,850
He was a functionary,
and he was, of course,

171
00:08:13,850 --> 00:08:17,760
sworn out of his profession.

172
00:08:17,760 --> 00:08:19,300
He is a teacher.

173
00:08:19,300 --> 00:08:22,620
He was what you call in German,
an Oberstudienrat, which

174
00:08:22,620 --> 00:08:28,830
is the deputy headmaster of
a school, of a public school.

175
00:08:28,830 --> 00:08:32,669

And he had great
difficulties to find a job.

176
00:08:32,669 --> 00:08:35,070
He was given a very,
very small pension

177
00:08:35,070 --> 00:08:38,387
as a punishment for having
been an enemy of the state.

178
00:08:38,387 --> 00:08:39,929
He was called the
enemy of the state.

179
00:08:39,929 --> 00:08:45,420
It was a certain
paragraph, paragraph four,

180
00:08:45,420 --> 00:08:49,290
which was against the
enemies of the state.

181
00:08:49,290 --> 00:08:55,370
And for him, it was very
difficult to find a new job.

182
00:08:55,370 --> 00:08:59,900
Now, also, non-Jews
were sworn out

183
00:08:59,900 --> 00:09:04,220
of their employment
because of that.

184
00:09:04,220 --> 00:09:06,050
Mind you, because
of being socialists,

185
00:09:06,050 --> 00:09:07,470
you see, not being Jewish.

186
00:09:07,470 --> 00:09:14,110

But my father wanted then, to
be a teacher in a Jewish school,

187
00:09:14,110 --> 00:09:17,050
because he thought,
after all, I'm a teacher.

188
00:09:17,050 --> 00:09:18,490
There are Jewish schools.

189
00:09:18,490 --> 00:09:22,350
And now Jewish children flooded
into these Jewish schools

190
00:09:22,350 --> 00:09:23,490
after what happened.

191
00:09:23,490 --> 00:09:25,770
Because they had to leave
the ordinary schools?

192
00:09:25,770 --> 00:09:26,470
No, they didn't have to leave.

193
00:09:26,470 --> 00:09:27,720
They didn't have to leave yet.

194
00:09:27,720 --> 00:09:29,160
But there was a sort of feeling.

195
00:09:29,160 --> 00:09:34,410
It's perhaps better to send my
child to a Jewish school now.

196
00:09:34,410 --> 00:09:38,070
And the Jewish community
didn't accept my father

197
00:09:38,070 --> 00:09:41,010
because they said, but
if the state declares

198

00:09:41,010 --> 00:09:46,200
him an enemy of the state,
how can we employ him?

199
00:09:46,200 --> 00:09:50,400
And he found a place,
then, in a school

200
00:09:50,400 --> 00:09:55,410
which was called later on,
Theodor-Herzl-Schule, a Zionist

201
00:09:55,410 --> 00:09:57,480
school, a private
school which did not

202
00:09:57,480 --> 00:10:00,030
belong to the Jewish community.

203
00:10:00,030 --> 00:10:04,290
And there, he could be
a teacher until 1936.

204
00:10:04,290 --> 00:10:07,020
But your father was
not at all a Zionist?

205
00:10:07,020 --> 00:10:09,250
My father was not a Zionist, no.

206
00:10:09,250 --> 00:10:09,940
Not at all.

207
00:10:09,940 --> 00:10:13,740
He was, in the first place,
a socialist, and that was it.

208
00:10:13,740 --> 00:10:15,300
And that's how I grew up.

209
00:10:15,300 --> 00:10:16,740
And yourself at
the time, you were

210
00:10:16,740 --> 00:10:19,920
going in what kind of school?

211
00:10:19,920 --> 00:10:25,570
I was in a proper Lyzeum, we
called it, in a high school.

212
00:10:25,570 --> 00:10:26,280
A German one?

213
00:10:26,280 --> 00:10:27,840
A German high school.

214
00:10:27,840 --> 00:10:30,190
In the beginning,
as a matter of fact,

215
00:10:30,190 --> 00:10:36,570
for me, it was great
trouble because until '33, I

216
00:10:36,570 --> 00:10:39,530
was in a primary school.

217
00:10:39,530 --> 00:10:42,150
And exactly, in that
year, I had to change

218
00:10:42,150 --> 00:10:45,720
to a high school, which meant I
had to go to a new environment

219
00:10:45,720 --> 00:10:48,610
anyway, which is, for a
child, not an easy thing.

220
00:10:48,610 --> 00:10:52,570
And that was exactly the time
when my mother said to me,

221
00:10:52,570 --> 00:10:56,220

my child, you are Jewish.

222

00:10:56,220 --> 00:10:59,370

And you come from
a school which was

223

00:10:59,370 --> 00:11:02,550

at the time run,
these primary schools,

224

00:11:02,550 --> 00:11:06,140

there were primary
schools which I attended,

225

00:11:06,140 --> 00:11:10,260

which were run, really,
on socialist lines.

226

00:11:10,260 --> 00:11:11,500

There was no religion.

227

00:11:11,500 --> 00:11:13,320

There was everything
very progressive.

228

00:11:13,320 --> 00:11:20,680

229

00:11:20,680 --> 00:11:22,180

Das war die Zeit--

230

00:11:22,180 --> 00:11:24,130

oh, pardon.

231

00:11:24,130 --> 00:11:27,160

I had to change schools.

232

00:11:27,160 --> 00:11:29,120

I had to go to the high school.

233

00:11:29,120 --> 00:11:31,870

And this is, for every child--

234
00:11:31,870 --> 00:11:33,100
A shock.

235
00:11:33,100 --> 00:11:39,410
Not a shock, but change of,
entirely, of the environment.

236
00:11:39,410 --> 00:11:43,960
And this was exactly when my
mother said to me, my child,

237
00:11:43,960 --> 00:11:49,000
you are Jewish, and
you have now to show

238
00:11:49,000 --> 00:11:53,110
that you are something special,
that you are good pupil.

239
00:11:53,110 --> 00:11:54,730
You have to learn
well, and you have

240
00:11:54,730 --> 00:11:58,180
to show that you're really good.

241
00:11:58,180 --> 00:12:00,010
When she said to
me, you are Jewish,

242
00:12:00,010 --> 00:12:02,590
I really didn't
know what it meant.

243
00:12:02,590 --> 00:12:07,390
I grew up like a
child in Berlin,

244
00:12:07,390 --> 00:12:09,520
like any child in Berlin.

245

00:12:09,520 --> 00:12:12,340
Perhaps more so as
a socialist child,

246
00:12:12,340 --> 00:12:15,040
because I took a
greater interest

247
00:12:15,040 --> 00:12:18,610
in my parents' political fight.

248
00:12:18,610 --> 00:12:20,810
And I helped them, also.

249
00:12:20,810 --> 00:12:24,130
I forwarded leaflets for
the Social Democratic Party

250
00:12:24,130 --> 00:12:26,120
when I was six years old.

251
00:12:26,120 --> 00:12:28,900
So we did have Jewish
friends, but it

252
00:12:28,900 --> 00:12:32,080
didn't matter to me what was
Jewish, what was non-Jewish.

253
00:12:32,080 --> 00:12:33,710
I didn't understand this.

254
00:12:33,710 --> 00:12:36,730
And I remember very
well, to this day, that I

255
00:12:36,730 --> 00:12:39,520
didn't ask what does this mean.

256
00:12:39,520 --> 00:12:43,270
She didn't explain,
but I felt very clearly

257

00:12:43,270 --> 00:12:47,710

that this was something
not so pleasant.

258

00:12:47,710 --> 00:12:52,600

And I accepted, of course, her
orders to be something special,

259

00:12:52,600 --> 00:12:57,070

also, because I had been to
a school which was, in a way,

260

00:12:57,070 --> 00:12:58,180

a political school.

261

00:12:58,180 --> 00:13:01,600

My primary school, it was
run on socialist lines,

262

00:13:01,600 --> 00:13:03,850

meaning it was a free school.

263

00:13:03,850 --> 00:13:06,820

It was progressive, without
religion and all this.

264

00:13:06,820 --> 00:13:13,510

And I remember when my
mother went in '33, when

265

00:13:13,510 --> 00:13:20,950

she went to the school
to register me there,

266

00:13:20,950 --> 00:13:23,710

the headmaster sneered
and said, what?

267

00:13:23,710 --> 00:13:25,840

She has been to such a school?

268

00:13:25,840 --> 00:13:28,450

Well, at that time, of course,
he could say things like this.

269
00:13:28,450 --> 00:13:32,370
At any rate, so I went
to a proper Lyzeum,

270
00:13:32,370 --> 00:13:34,390
a proper high school.

271
00:13:34,390 --> 00:13:39,290
And we were a minority
of Jewish children.

272
00:13:39,290 --> 00:13:44,050
And I couldn't say that
people were bad to me

273
00:13:44,050 --> 00:13:45,620
or treated me badly.

274
00:13:45,620 --> 00:13:47,418
I wouldn't think so.

275
00:13:47,418 --> 00:13:48,460
I wouldn't remember this.

276
00:13:48,460 --> 00:13:53,470
But I remember I had
trouble with a teacher

277
00:13:53,470 --> 00:13:57,490
for Jewish religion because
I was so terribly ignorant,

278
00:13:57,490 --> 00:14:00,130
and she had never seen
a child like that.

279
00:14:00,130 --> 00:14:05,230
There were some Jewish
children who were sometimes

280

00:14:05,230 --> 00:14:07,100
nagged by others.

281

00:14:07,100 --> 00:14:09,490
There were children
who were so scared.

282

00:14:09,490 --> 00:14:11,800
They were not used
to fight like myself.

283

00:14:11,800 --> 00:14:13,517
So of course, children
were very cruel

284

00:14:13,517 --> 00:14:15,100
and noticed there
was something wrong,

285

00:14:15,100 --> 00:14:18,340
and they used to say to them,
you Judenmadchen or something

286

00:14:18,340 --> 00:14:19,240
like that.

287

00:14:19,240 --> 00:14:21,250
This never happened
to me, I must say.

288

00:14:21,250 --> 00:14:25,660
I remember very well
that a girl from the BDM,

289

00:14:25,660 --> 00:14:33,930
from the Nazi Girls Association,
was very friendly with me.

290

00:14:33,930 --> 00:14:36,550
And every day, we went
home together because we

291

00:14:36,550 --> 00:14:39,520
had the same way home.

292
00:14:39,520 --> 00:14:42,520
And she used to say, heil
Hitler when she left me.

293
00:14:42,520 --> 00:14:44,590
And I said, auf Wiedersehen.

294
00:14:44,590 --> 00:14:46,330
And this was it, you see.

295
00:14:46,330 --> 00:14:48,490
But I had no real
trouble, I wouldn't think.

296
00:14:48,490 --> 00:14:51,790
And then I had to change the
school, because we moved out

297
00:14:51,790 --> 00:14:53,050
of that district.

298
00:14:53,050 --> 00:14:55,660
My father was so well
known in that district

299
00:14:55,660 --> 00:14:59,020
as a socialist and a Jew
that it was very risky

300
00:14:59,020 --> 00:15:00,640
for us to remain there.

301
00:15:00,640 --> 00:15:04,630
It was in the Prenzlauerberg, in
the northern part of the city,

302
00:15:04,630 --> 00:15:06,160
a working class area.

303

00:15:06,160 --> 00:15:08,350

So we moved, actually,
to this district here,

304

00:15:08,350 --> 00:15:11,680

to Uhlandstrasse, where
we were not at all known.

305

00:15:11,680 --> 00:15:15,710

So I went to another school,
which is not far from here.

306

00:15:15,710 --> 00:15:18,790

And there were,
still, I would say,

307

00:15:18,790 --> 00:15:23,350

half the class
were Jewish girls.

308

00:15:23,350 --> 00:15:25,260

There were many Jews
living in this area.

309

00:15:25,260 --> 00:15:26,950

So it happened this way.

310

00:15:26,950 --> 00:15:30,220

And I must say,
we had no trouble

311

00:15:30,220 --> 00:15:31,660

at all in these first years.

312

00:15:31,660 --> 00:15:36,340

On the contrary, it
sounds very mad today.

313

00:15:36,340 --> 00:15:41,418

We went, from time to time, to a
recreation home for the school.

314

00:15:41,418 --> 00:15:43,210

That means, from time
to time, the children

315
00:15:43,210 --> 00:15:45,970
had a week in that
house together,

316
00:15:45,970 --> 00:15:49,720
playing and excursions
and things like this.

317
00:15:49,720 --> 00:15:55,605
And that home was called
Robula, meaning Robert Burg

318
00:15:55,605 --> 00:15:57,210
Landschulheim.

319
00:15:57,210 --> 00:16:00,460
Robert Burg was a former
headmaster of that school,

320
00:16:00,460 --> 00:16:02,140
and he was a Jew.

321
00:16:02,140 --> 00:16:06,460
This means that this house, this
Landschulheim, this recreation

322
00:16:06,460 --> 00:16:10,990
center for this school
was still called

323
00:16:10,990 --> 00:16:14,460
after the Jewish headmaster
during the Hitler regime.

324
00:16:14,460 --> 00:16:18,130
Now I remained there
until '35 only,

325
00:16:18,130 --> 00:16:21,910
because then

suddenly, it started

326

00:16:21,910 --> 00:16:24,250
that Jewish children
were no longer allowed

327

00:16:24,250 --> 00:16:26,530
to go on excursions,
no longer allowed

328

00:16:26,530 --> 00:16:30,040
go out to this recreation
house, no longer allowed

329

00:16:30,040 --> 00:16:31,510
to learn swimming.

330

00:16:31,510 --> 00:16:37,090
All sorts of deprivations and
discriminations, and my father

331

00:16:37,090 --> 00:16:41,980
thought, that's not good for
a child to be singled out.

332

00:16:41,980 --> 00:16:44,370
And he said, now
has come the time

333

00:16:44,370 --> 00:16:47,020
to send her to a Jewish school.

334

00:16:47,020 --> 00:16:49,240
This was in 1935.

335

00:16:49,240 --> 00:16:52,920
But I would say in
those first years,

336

00:16:52,920 --> 00:16:56,995
the normal Jew did
not really suffer.

337

00:16:56,995 --> 00:17:01,090

Or perhaps today, it's
also minimal in comparison.

338

00:17:01,090 --> 00:17:03,310

One has also lost all
proportions, of course,

339

00:17:03,310 --> 00:17:04,869

after what happened.

340

00:17:04,869 --> 00:17:09,050

We had some trouble, of course.

341

00:17:09,050 --> 00:17:12,460

We were always the
socialists and remained that.

342

00:17:12,460 --> 00:17:17,560

I remember that we lived here
in Uhlandstrasse in one house

343

00:17:17,560 --> 00:17:22,180

together with friends,
non-Jewish friends.

344

00:17:22,180 --> 00:17:27,130

Also people who had
left their district

345

00:17:27,130 --> 00:17:32,260

to live in a totally different
district, and by accident, it

346

00:17:32,260 --> 00:17:36,550

was really an accident, they
found a flat in the same house.

347

00:17:36,550 --> 00:17:40,830

So we made no secret out of
our friendship with them.

348

00:17:40,830 --> 00:17:44,410

They also didn't, which
shows you there was not yet

349

00:17:44,410 --> 00:17:45,940

the sort of discrimination.

350

00:17:45,940 --> 00:17:49,390

There was still possible for
a Jew to mix with a Christian,

351

00:17:49,390 --> 00:17:50,830

or with a non-Jew.

352

00:17:50,830 --> 00:17:55,540

And then it happened
that people in the house

353

00:17:55,540 --> 00:18:00,040

suddenly denounced
us to the Gestapo.

354

00:18:00,040 --> 00:18:03,100

They claimed, as
we later found out,

355

00:18:03,100 --> 00:18:09,850

that my father, who was trying
to make a living after he

356

00:18:09,850 --> 00:18:12,940

had been thrown
out of the school,

357

00:18:12,940 --> 00:18:17,350

with administrating houses.

358

00:18:17,350 --> 00:18:19,600

Now my father was
allowed to work

359

00:18:19,600 --> 00:18:24,190

in these Theodore-Herzl-Schule,

as I told you,

360
00:18:24,190 --> 00:18:30,160
only until this day,
until the Nazis decided

361
00:18:30,160 --> 00:18:34,630
that he was not fit even
to teach Jewish children.

362
00:18:34,630 --> 00:18:36,160
So he lost, also, that job.

363
00:18:36,160 --> 00:18:38,360
And he had to find something
else to make a living.

364
00:18:38,360 --> 00:18:41,230
And so he took on
administration of houses.

365
00:18:41,230 --> 00:18:44,470
And he was not really the
right type of man for this,

366
00:18:44,470 --> 00:18:46,040
but we had to live.

367
00:18:46,040 --> 00:18:48,460
So he typed a lot
on his typewriter,

368
00:18:48,460 --> 00:18:52,090
and these people thought
he was typing leaflets.

369
00:18:52,090 --> 00:18:55,150
And upstairs, there
were these friends,

370
00:18:55,150 --> 00:18:58,840
and there was a daughter
who was a nurse.

371
00:18:58,840 --> 00:19:02,110
And very often, she went with a
big suitcase out of the house,

372
00:19:02,110 --> 00:19:04,030
as nurses do.

373
00:19:04,030 --> 00:19:07,720
And so they claimed
that in these suitcases,

374
00:19:07,720 --> 00:19:10,430
there were those leaflets
for distribution.

375
00:19:10,430 --> 00:19:13,870
So the Gestapo came to our
house and searched the house,

376
00:19:13,870 --> 00:19:18,730
and confiscated Marx und
Juden and things like this.

377
00:19:18,730 --> 00:19:24,460
But they did not find anything
that pleased them, so to speak.

378
00:19:24,460 --> 00:19:25,830
And nothing happened.

379
00:19:25,830 --> 00:19:32,140
And this sort of incident
gave us a feeling, well,

380
00:19:32,140 --> 00:19:35,370
there is still
justice in Germany.

381
00:19:35,370 --> 00:19:39,740
But do you remember, did it
exist, already, at the time,

382

00:19:39,740 --> 00:19:43,267

for instance, the StÃ¼rmer,
The StÃ¼rmerkasten,

383

00:19:43,267 --> 00:19:44,350

did it exist at this time?

384

00:19:44,350 --> 00:19:45,070

Of course.

385

00:19:45,070 --> 00:19:48,440

Well, that started really at the
beginning, the StÃ¼rmerkasten.

386

00:19:48,440 --> 00:19:50,950

Or rather, I would say,
if I'm not mistaken,

387

00:19:50,950 --> 00:19:53,770

that existed before
Hitler came to power.

388

00:19:53,770 --> 00:19:57,580

I remember in the
area where we lived

389

00:19:57,580 --> 00:20:03,100

before, there was an
inn, what in Berlin, you

390

00:20:03,100 --> 00:20:10,540

call a Kneipe, which was
frequented by the SA.

391

00:20:10,540 --> 00:20:15,780

And they had, of course, these
Kasten, these big showcases.

392

00:20:15,780 --> 00:20:17,860

And there, there was
the Schwarze Korps,

393

00:20:17,860 --> 00:20:21,280
and there was a StÃ¼rmer in
there and all these Nazi papers.

394
00:20:21,280 --> 00:20:22,630
They displayed them.

395
00:20:22,630 --> 00:20:25,500
So I mean, that existed,
of course, from the start.

396
00:20:25,500 --> 00:20:27,310
Did you look at them yourself?

397
00:20:27,310 --> 00:20:29,755
I remember a picture,
which I've never forgotten.

398
00:20:29,755 --> 00:20:35,980
And maybe that had something to
do with my being a young child.

399
00:20:35,980 --> 00:20:41,290
I remember a picture of the
then Berlin police president,

400
00:20:41,290 --> 00:20:43,540
by the name of Weisz.

401
00:20:43,540 --> 00:20:44,800
He was a Jew.

402
00:20:44,800 --> 00:20:47,860
And obviously, the
Nazis disliked the Jew

403
00:20:47,860 --> 00:20:49,750
as a police president.

404
00:20:49,750 --> 00:20:54,340
And he was shown in a photograph
in a very discriminating manner

405

00:20:54,340 --> 00:20:56,320
with a woman.

406

00:20:56,320 --> 00:21:00,330
They wanted to make clear,
of course, an Aryan woman.

407

00:21:00,330 --> 00:21:04,420
They wanted to make clear what
type this man, Weisz, was.

408

00:21:04,420 --> 00:21:06,110
And I've never
forgotten this picture.

409

00:21:06,110 --> 00:21:08,620
To this day, I see this
picture in front of my eyes.

410

00:21:08,620 --> 00:21:11,500
But I would say that is
probably something to do

411

00:21:11,500 --> 00:21:14,490
with the manner it was taken.

412

00:21:14,490 --> 00:21:16,090
How was the picture?

413

00:21:16,090 --> 00:21:19,930
Well, he was half-lying
on her, you see.

414

00:21:19,930 --> 00:21:21,640
On the very blonde girl.

415

00:21:21,640 --> 00:21:23,890
I just can't tell
you whether this

416

00:21:23,890 --> 00:21:27,280
was what you call a photo

montage, or whether this was--

417

00:21:27,280 --> 00:21:29,550

I don't know where the
picture comes from.

418

00:21:29,550 --> 00:21:34,750

But I remember in the
showcase of this Nazi Kneipe,

419

00:21:34,750 --> 00:21:39,210

this Nazi inn, this
display of papers.

420

00:21:39,210 --> 00:21:43,210

And do you know something
about this book, which

421

00:21:43,210 --> 00:21:47,140

was written for the
non-Jewish children in Germany

422

00:21:47,140 --> 00:21:49,990

by a woman called
Johanna Haarer,

423

00:21:49,990 --> 00:21:52,230

and the title of the book
is Mutter, erzähl von Adolf

424

00:21:52,230 --> 00:21:53,110

Hitler.

425

00:21:53,110 --> 00:21:56,570

426

00:21:56,570 --> 00:21:57,070

Nein.

427

00:21:57,070 --> 00:21:57,570

Nein.

428

00:21:57,570 --> 00:21:58,510
You didn't see this?

429
00:21:58,510 --> 00:22:01,940
This an extraordinary thing,
completely antisemitic.

430
00:22:01,940 --> 00:22:03,720
Nein.

431
00:22:03,720 --> 00:22:04,220
Nein.

432
00:22:04,220 --> 00:22:04,887
Ich weiss nicht.

433
00:22:04,887 --> 00:22:05,470
I don't know.

434
00:22:05,470 --> 00:22:08,530
It may have been in
other parts of Germany,

435
00:22:08,530 --> 00:22:10,300
or maybe it didn't reach me.

436
00:22:10,300 --> 00:22:14,750
I mean, I don't claim to know
everything of what happened.

437
00:22:14,750 --> 00:22:15,260
Yes.

438
00:22:15,260 --> 00:22:19,158
And now, let's come to 1935,
when the racial laws were

439
00:22:19,158 --> 00:22:20,450
passed-- the Nuremberg Gesetze.

440
00:22:20,450 --> 00:22:26,140

441
00:22:26,140 --> 00:22:31,740
Did the Russian laws
of September 1935,

442
00:22:31,740 --> 00:22:35,120
the so-called
Nuremberg Gesetzte,

443
00:22:35,120 --> 00:22:38,140
did they mark a real change?

444
00:22:38,140 --> 00:22:39,010
I would say yes.

445
00:22:39,010 --> 00:22:42,760
It was like a form of cleavage.

446
00:22:42,760 --> 00:22:47,110
You see, it interfered in the
lives of the people, meaning,

447
00:22:47,110 --> 00:22:49,630
for example, that
the Jewish doctor

448
00:22:49,630 --> 00:22:53,470
was no longer allowed to have
an assistant who was not Jewish.

449
00:22:53,470 --> 00:22:56,260

450
00:22:56,260 --> 00:22:57,850
Of course, today
it sounds funny,

451
00:22:57,850 --> 00:23:00,550
but many Jews had
maids at the time.

452
00:23:00,550 --> 00:23:02,500

They had to give them notice.

453

00:23:02,500 --> 00:23:05,140

A non-Jewish maid
was not allowed

454

00:23:05,140 --> 00:23:08,020

to serve in a Jewish household.

455

00:23:08,020 --> 00:23:10,840

And such things
which-- and in shops,

456

00:23:10,840 --> 00:23:15,730

for example, the
non-Jewish shop assistant

457

00:23:15,730 --> 00:23:18,010

was not allowed to be
employed by a shopkeeper,

458

00:23:18,010 --> 00:23:19,150

by a Jewish one.

459

00:23:19,150 --> 00:23:22,990

So there was, of course, anti--

460

00:23:22,990 --> 00:23:27,250

And these laws were really
immediately implemented?

461

00:23:27,250 --> 00:23:28,415

Immediately implemented.

462

00:23:28,415 --> 00:23:29,560

With full force?

463

00:23:29,560 --> 00:23:30,970

With full force.

464

00:23:30,970 --> 00:23:35,080

And of course, there was a

good deal of fear, scare,

465

00:23:35,080 --> 00:23:37,420

among the Jews,

because there were also

466

00:23:37,420 --> 00:23:42,610

Jewish men who had friendships,

affairs, with non-Jewish girls.

467

00:23:42,610 --> 00:23:45,630

Until 35, there was

no trouble about this.

468

00:23:45,630 --> 00:23:46,750

And this was forbidden?

469

00:23:46,750 --> 00:23:48,180

This was, of course, forbidden.

470

00:23:48,180 --> 00:23:54,260

It was considered a

defilement of the Aryan blood.

471

00:23:54,260 --> 00:23:55,330

Rassenschande.

472

00:23:55,330 --> 00:23:57,400

What you call

Rassenschande, yes.

473

00:23:57,400 --> 00:24:02,020

And there are the very

funny explanations.

474

00:24:02,020 --> 00:24:04,330

What do you call it?

475

00:24:04,330 --> 00:24:07,390

There's a lot of legal

expression for it, how--

476

00:24:07,390 --> 00:24:12,100
Auslegung, how to
imply this law.

477
00:24:12,100 --> 00:24:13,660
For example, I
remember there was

478
00:24:13,660 --> 00:24:14,980
a-- we laughed our head off.

479
00:24:14,980 --> 00:24:17,380
I mean, this was
perhaps my education.

480
00:24:17,380 --> 00:24:20,090
In my house, my
parents and I, we

481
00:24:20,090 --> 00:24:21,520
used to laugh
about these things.

482
00:24:21,520 --> 00:24:23,500
What else could one
do, really, if one

483
00:24:23,500 --> 00:24:25,570
wanted to keep up one's spirit?

484
00:24:25,570 --> 00:24:29,500
For example, there was talk
about sexual intercourse

485
00:24:29,500 --> 00:24:32,200
in the aeroplane between
a Jew and a non-Jew.

486
00:24:32,200 --> 00:24:37,660
Now imagine, things like
that, back then, of course,

487
00:24:37,660 --> 00:24:38,890

there was this business.

488

00:24:38,890 --> 00:24:41,470

I mean, there was
also this feeling.

489

00:24:41,470 --> 00:24:43,060

Perhaps it was a
very normal thing

490

00:24:43,060 --> 00:24:45,640

that people wanted
to relieve themselves

491

00:24:45,640 --> 00:24:49,690

of the pressure that was set
upon them because of laws

492

00:24:49,690 --> 00:24:50,500

like this.

493

00:24:50,500 --> 00:24:52,360

There were many jokes about it.

494

00:24:52,360 --> 00:24:54,630

For example, I
remember the one where

495

00:24:54,630 --> 00:24:58,990

an old non-Jewish maid
who had served for years

496

00:24:58,990 --> 00:25:04,270

in a Jewish household writes
in her very simple language

497

00:25:04,270 --> 00:25:07,180

to her girlfriend, who is
also non-Jewish, and says,

498

00:25:07,180 --> 00:25:09,700

I don't understand this anymore.

499

00:25:09,700 --> 00:25:14,500

You see, I come at 8
o'clock, and here, Mr Cohen

500

00:25:14,500 --> 00:25:18,010

has already left at 7 o'clock.

501

00:25:18,010 --> 00:25:21,640

Now I leave the
house at 3 o'clock,

502

00:25:21,640 --> 00:25:25,540

and then he comes home,
this Mr Cohen, at 4 o'clock.

503

00:25:25,540 --> 00:25:28,600

Now how can he defile me?

504

00:25:28,600 --> 00:25:32,730

Now as this type of
joke, I mean, made us--

505

00:25:32,730 --> 00:25:34,380

roar with laughter, at the time.

506

00:25:34,380 --> 00:25:36,760

And as I say, it was perhaps
a sort of relieving oneself

507

00:25:36,760 --> 00:25:38,410

of the pressure.

508

00:25:38,410 --> 00:25:40,990

And perhaps this
was the only way

509

00:25:40,990 --> 00:25:42,670

to live, or to get over this.

510

00:25:42,670 --> 00:25:45,850

But of course, it caused,
also, difficulties

511

00:25:45,850 --> 00:25:50,400
to some men, who, as I said, had
affairs with non-Jewish women.

512

00:25:50,400 --> 00:25:56,800
And if there was
a nasty German, he

513

00:25:56,800 --> 00:25:59,920
could denounce the Jew
for having this affair,

514

00:25:59,920 --> 00:26:04,670
and then the Jew was put on
trial as a Rassenschande.

515

00:26:04,670 --> 00:26:07,810
And of course, this could
either be a concentration camp,

516

00:26:07,810 --> 00:26:13,840
or it could be at a
prison or both, yourself.

517

00:26:13,840 --> 00:26:17,840
At this time, and
even before, in '33,

518

00:26:17,840 --> 00:26:23,390
did the Jews think
of emigrating?

519

00:26:23,390 --> 00:26:28,350
In '33, there was perhaps a wave
of emigration of those people

520

00:26:28,350 --> 00:26:31,410
who would not have any
more a career in Germany.

521

00:26:31,410 --> 00:26:33,930
As I told you, they

were not allowed

522

00:26:33,930 --> 00:26:37,830
to remain as teachers if they
hadn't served in the World War,

523

00:26:37,830 --> 00:26:38,830
for example.

524

00:26:38,830 --> 00:26:42,210
So it means that the young
teacher, the young doctor,

525

00:26:42,210 --> 00:26:44,220
or even the one
who wanted to study

526

00:26:44,220 --> 00:26:46,210
and couldn't any more
study, those were

527

00:26:46,210 --> 00:26:48,990
the ones who emigrated then.

528

00:26:48,990 --> 00:26:53,280
But of course, many German
Jews said, why emigrate?

529

00:26:53,280 --> 00:26:54,630
This is ridiculous.

530

00:26:54,630 --> 00:26:56,370
Look, I mean, this will pass.

531

00:26:56,370 --> 00:26:59,190
You see, nobody really
took it seriously then.

532

00:26:59,190 --> 00:27:02,160
But the figure was
perhaps highest in '33

533

00:27:02,160 --> 00:27:05,280
because of what I said, those
people who had no future.

534
00:27:05,280 --> 00:27:08,370
I think there were about
37,000 or something

535
00:27:08,370 --> 00:27:12,060
like this who emigrated in
'33, whilst in the years

536
00:27:12,060 --> 00:27:16,320
after, '34, '35,
the figures dropped.

537
00:27:16,320 --> 00:27:22,530
And the majority of German
Jews did not feel the urge.

538
00:27:22,530 --> 00:27:25,230
They took these discriminations.

539
00:27:25,230 --> 00:27:27,510
They arranged
themselves, somehow.

540
00:27:27,510 --> 00:27:31,770
And I would say many of them
also had German friends, still.

541
00:27:31,770 --> 00:27:34,950
So they thought they could
sort of get over all this,

542
00:27:34,950 --> 00:27:38,580
and who would have believed
that Hitler would last so long?

543
00:27:38,580 --> 00:27:44,040
But there must have been a real
difference between the big city

544

00:27:44,040 --> 00:27:48,120
capital town like Berlin and
the small province towns.

545
00:27:48,120 --> 00:27:49,860
That's very correct.

546
00:27:49,860 --> 00:27:51,120
I know.

547
00:27:51,120 --> 00:27:53,520
I mean, I haven't
experienced it myself,

548
00:27:53,520 --> 00:27:57,750
but I know that the situation
in small towns was dreadful.

549
00:27:57,750 --> 00:27:59,790
I mean, there, the
Jews really suffered

550
00:27:59,790 --> 00:28:02,790
from the very first day,
terrible discriminations.

551
00:28:02,790 --> 00:28:05,800
I mean, everybody knew there,
where Dr. Cohen was living,

552
00:28:05,800 --> 00:28:08,720
whilst here in this big city,
I mean, there were so many Dr.

553
00:28:08,720 --> 00:28:11,430
Cohens or somebody else.

554
00:28:11,430 --> 00:28:16,350
It didn't really attract
the eye so much, you see.

555
00:28:16,350 --> 00:28:18,790
And if in a small town,

there are suddenly

556

00:28:18,790 --> 00:28:21,470
orders that the Jew, Dr.
Cohen, had to be punished,

557

00:28:21,470 --> 00:28:24,900
then of course, the people were
afraid, also, not to do this,

558

00:28:24,900 --> 00:28:25,980
you understand.

559

00:28:25,980 --> 00:28:29,130
There was this fear complex,
also, for the Germans, you see.

560

00:28:29,130 --> 00:28:34,170

561

00:28:34,170 --> 00:28:38,640
Your own father didn't
think of emigrating in 1935?

562

00:28:38,640 --> 00:28:41,970
My father was so convinced
that this was a passing phase,

563

00:28:41,970 --> 00:28:43,320
and this is so mad.

564

00:28:43,320 --> 00:28:45,080
Sometimes I think about it.

565

00:28:45,080 --> 00:28:49,480
I remember him, in 1933,
and although I was a child,

566

00:28:49,480 --> 00:28:53,140
I remember him standing
on little heaps of snow.

567

00:28:53,140 --> 00:28:56,310

It was during the
election campaign.

568

00:28:56,310 --> 00:28:58,790

It was the last free
election in Germany.

569

00:28:58,790 --> 00:29:01,470

And there was my little father,
he was very small in stature,

570

00:29:01,470 --> 00:29:06,030

standing on heaps of snow,
saying, Hitler means war.

571

00:29:06,030 --> 00:29:09,430

Hitler means terrible things.

572

00:29:09,430 --> 00:29:12,030

And then in the end, he himself
didn't believe it, really.

573

00:29:12,030 --> 00:29:13,710

Because in 1935, he--

574

00:29:13,710 --> 00:29:16,080

He didn't believe
in what he say?

575

00:29:16,080 --> 00:29:24,630

In a sense, because in 1935, he
was offered a job in Australia.

576

00:29:24,630 --> 00:29:28,310

The Australian government was
looking for qualified teachers.

577

00:29:28,310 --> 00:29:30,720

And he could have gone easily.

578

00:29:30,720 --> 00:29:34,050

And at the time, you know

that most people could still

579

00:29:34,050 --> 00:29:36,300

take their money with them,
and it was much easier

580

00:29:36,300 --> 00:29:38,940

to emigrate than later on.

581

00:29:38,940 --> 00:29:41,430

But my father thought
this was not for him.

582

00:29:41,430 --> 00:29:47,850

He said, look, after all,
I'm a Prussian civil servant.

583

00:29:47,850 --> 00:29:50,440

And he got a little
pension, so he said,

584

00:29:50,440 --> 00:29:53,190

I just can't run away like this.

585

00:29:53,190 --> 00:29:54,420

I just can't run away.

586

00:29:54,420 --> 00:29:55,920

I just can't run away like this.

587

00:29:55,920 --> 00:29:56,630

I belong.

588

00:29:56,630 --> 00:30:00,330

And in '35, it is a
very comic situation.

589

00:30:00,330 --> 00:30:04,710

He also was given a decoration.

590

00:30:04,710 --> 00:30:09,270

He was a volunteer in

the First World War.

591

00:30:09,270 --> 00:30:12,130

And not only he,
all his brothers.

592

00:30:12,130 --> 00:30:13,290

There were four brothers.

593

00:30:13,290 --> 00:30:17,400

And I remember my
grandmother was very proud

594

00:30:17,400 --> 00:30:19,350

that her four sons
had volunteered

595

00:30:19,350 --> 00:30:21,330

to fight for Germany.

596

00:30:21,330 --> 00:30:26,130

And so he had been given
something like the Iron Cross.

597

00:30:26,130 --> 00:30:28,650

I don't remember which degree.

598

00:30:28,650 --> 00:30:31,620

But anyhow, we had at
home, this Iron Cross.

599

00:30:31,620 --> 00:30:34,710

And in '35, he
was suddenly asked

600

00:30:34,710 --> 00:30:39,660

to come to the police station
here, not far from this place.

601

00:30:39,660 --> 00:30:43,590

And there, the man in
charge of the police station

602

00:30:43,590 --> 00:30:47,970

said, Dr. Deutschkron, in
the name of the Fuhrer,

603

00:30:47,970 --> 00:30:52,553

I have to give you a citation
and the German people

604

00:30:52,553 --> 00:30:53,970

are grateful to
you, what you have

605

00:30:53,970 --> 00:30:56,370

done for the German nation.

606

00:30:56,370 --> 00:31:00,240

And we have at home still this,
in the name of the Fuhrer,

607

00:31:00,240 --> 00:31:02,470

and it's signed by
I don't know whom.

608

00:31:02,470 --> 00:31:02,970

Anyway.

609

00:31:02,970 --> 00:31:04,080

Probably by the Fuhrer.

610

00:31:04,080 --> 00:31:05,730

I can't remember it now.

611

00:31:05,730 --> 00:31:09,060

So he was congratulated
with a handshake,

612

00:31:09,060 --> 00:31:12,160

and this was in 1935.

613

00:31:12,160 --> 00:31:15,190

So of course, my father said,
what is the point of leaving?

614
00:31:15,190 --> 00:31:16,390
This will pass.

615
00:31:16,390 --> 00:31:21,320

616
00:31:21,320 --> 00:31:25,620
Yes, and then, of course,
this was a big mistake.

617
00:31:25,620 --> 00:31:30,210
From the Nuremberg laws
onwards, I would say,

618
00:31:30,210 --> 00:31:33,260
it started to escalate.

619
00:31:33,260 --> 00:31:40,380
And then they ordered that
all the Jewish shops were

620
00:31:40,380 --> 00:31:43,020
signed with the Jewish names.

621
00:31:43,020 --> 00:31:45,930
I remember here, on
this Kurfürstendamm,

622
00:31:45,930 --> 00:31:52,800
the shops with big letters,
white letters on their shop

623
00:31:52,800 --> 00:31:59,490
windows, the Jewish name on it,
which was to show the public,

624
00:31:59,490 --> 00:32:02,380
the general public, that
this was a Jewish shop.

625
00:32:02,380 --> 00:32:04,050

And they were marked.

626
00:32:04,050 --> 00:32:07,200
And the public stopped
to go into Jewish shops,

627
00:32:07,200 --> 00:32:08,150
or did they went on?

628
00:32:08,150 --> 00:32:11,130

629
00:32:11,130 --> 00:32:16,110
I would not say that
they flocked in masses,

630
00:32:16,110 --> 00:32:18,600
but there were people
who didn't care.

631
00:32:18,600 --> 00:32:20,310
This was in Berlin.

632
00:32:20,310 --> 00:32:22,350
I, again, stress.

633
00:32:22,350 --> 00:32:26,120
I doubt whether it was
like this in smaller towns.

634
00:32:26,120 --> 00:32:29,310
Here, people are
anonymous, you see.

635
00:32:29,310 --> 00:32:30,540
So they went in.

636
00:32:30,540 --> 00:32:34,590
But of course, it
meant a deprivation.

637
00:32:34,590 --> 00:32:38,970

It meant, of course, that
the business decreased

638
00:32:38,970 --> 00:32:40,310
for the Jewish shopkeeper.

639
00:32:40,310 --> 00:32:42,520
There is no doubt about it.

640
00:32:42,520 --> 00:32:45,390
And so it went on, one
thing after the other.

641
00:32:45,390 --> 00:32:49,710
You see, it was a
very slow process

642
00:32:49,710 --> 00:32:55,680
of cutting the Jew out of
economic and social life

643
00:32:55,680 --> 00:32:56,700
in Germany.

644
00:32:56,700 --> 00:32:57,870
Step by step.

645
00:32:57,870 --> 00:32:58,830
Step by step.

646
00:32:58,830 --> 00:32:59,700
Gradual.

647
00:32:59,700 --> 00:33:01,200
Yes.

648
00:33:01,200 --> 00:33:02,750
Yes.

649
00:33:02,750 --> 00:33:24,096