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Summary

Imgard Obermeier (maiden name and birth date not stated) was born in Wahlwies, a small German town near Switzerland. She described her mother (Norbertina) as a simple woman who was very scared during the war. Her father was the main force in the family. Though raised a Catholic he became a Jehovah Witness and refused to join the Nazi Party. Their house was raided, and her father was taken away. Given the choice of joining the Party, being shot, or going to the war front, he chose the latter. He returned blinded in one eye. After the war he was sent to France for three years and then returned home.

Imgard was picked on by the other kids and even by a teacher in her school. She was seven when the war started. Her family was denied ration coupons for food, but her grandfather was able to get food from a farmer. There was never enough. The town was mostly Catholic, and most people became Nazi sympathizers. She said that it was very difficult to openly oppose the Nazis and that people in her town did not know about the concentration camps. Conditions after the war were very bad for a long time. But her school mates once again became friendly. No one talked about what happened during the war. Imgard and one of her sisters decided to go to Australia a few years after the war ended. They thought that they would only stay a short time, but they met their future husbands there and stayed. In 1969, she formally converted to become a Jehovah Witness. Her other sisters, a brother, and her parents stayed in Germany. She visited often and was impressed at the German recovery and was nostalgic at visiting her hometown.

Imgard reflected that we are all human beings and that no one has the right to take the life of another. She also believed that peace and guidance would come with belief in the Creator.