

TEACHER KEY: Incremental Escalation: Ghettos -Camps - “Final Solution” Lesson
Describe the incremental escalation of anti-Jewish policies that led to “The Final Solution”

The early purpose of anti-Jewish policies enacted by the Nazi government in Germany was to **isolate Jews from society and drive them out of the country.**

Step	Anti-Jewish Policy	Give an example / Explain
1	Anti-Jewish Laws & Decrees / Legislation	{Select any one of the anti-Jewish laws & decrees covered previously in class or within the USHMM Timeline cards}
2	Economic Boycotts	Nazis ordered a boycott of Jewish businesses in Germany in an attempting to put them out of business.
3	State-Sponsored Violence	Kristallnacht – “Night of Broken Glass”; looting of Jewish businesses, homes, synagogues; beating, killing, arresting Jews

After Sept. 1939 when Germany invaded Poland (starting WWII), anti-Jewish policies **escalated to imprisonment and eventually to mass murder on an industrial scale.**

Step	Anti-Jewish Policy	Give an example / Explain
4	Ghettos	Jews were confined to an area of a city; conditions included overcrowding, unsanitary, lack of food & medicine, not free to move around.
5	Camps (Concentration & Forced labor)	Concentration camps and forced labor camps; camps were built all over Europe to remove Jews from regular society and keep them confined within the camp; conditions included overcrowding, unsanitary, lack of food & medicine, worked to death, exposure to elements, lack of proper clothing.
6	Einsatzgruppen / Mobile Killing Squads	Entire communities were rounded up and either shot by Mobile Killing Units ~ typically in a forest and the pit/mass grave was covered before moving on to the next community; considered “too slow and too messy” and required “too many resources” (ammunition, people to round up, shoot, & bury); sometimes Mobile Gas Vans were brought in but there weren’t enough of these for large populations which made it more time-consuming.
7	“The Final Solution”	Instead of Nazis going to Jewish communities (like Einsatzgruppen / Mobile Killing Squads), now Jews would be deported to Killing Centers located in Nazi-Occupied Poland; these centers were specifically built to kill Jews on an industrial scale using Zyklon B (gas chambers) and crematoriums to burn the bodies.