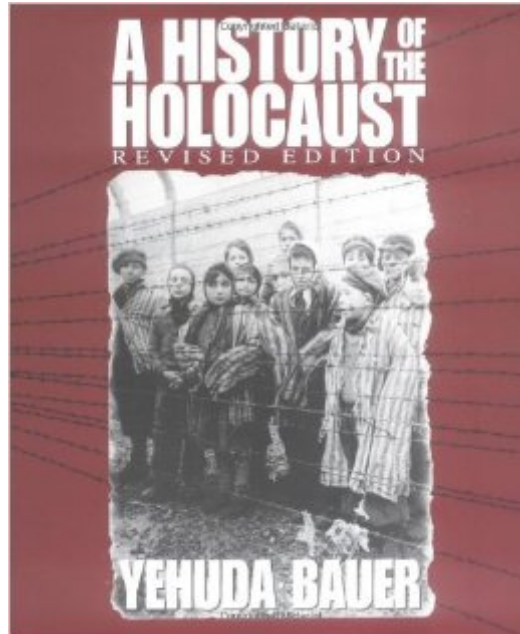


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A History Of The Holocaust (Single Title Social Studies)



Synopsis

The author traces the roots of anti-Semitism that burgeoned through the ages and provides a comprehensive description of how and why the Holocaust occurred.

Book Information

Series: Single Title Social Studies

Paperback: 432 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (20 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This review is based on the 1982 edition. This book traces the Holocaust from early anti-Jewish teachings, the emergence of racial anti-Semitism, the rise of Nazi ideology, the decision to murder the Jews, the implementation of the Holocaust, rescue attempts, Jewish resistance, theological and philosophical implications, etc. Bauer soundly repudiates any notion of the German death camps being erected in German-occupied Poland because of the presumed anti-Semitism of the local population (p. 210). It was simply a matter of practicality. Bauer notes that more than half of prewar Polish Jews were nonreligious (p. 177). Hlond-like comments about "Jews-as-freethinkers" can be understood in this light. To his credit, Bauer recognizes the essential difference between traditional Christian teachings about Jews and those of the later Nazis: "The term anti-Semitism was apparently first used by a racist ideologist in Germany, Wilhelm Marr, in 1878 and 1879...But in an increasingly secularized society in which there was no belief in Jesus, the question of who was responsible for his death seemed irrelevant. Marr, Duehring, de Lagarde, and the other racists, violently anti-Christian, saw Christianity--quite rightly, of course--as derived from Judaism and therefore utterly condemnable. They needed a 'modern', 'scientific' term, hygienic, neutral, that would not include the word Jew." (p. 43) When elaborating on efforts of the German-occupied nations to warn the outside world about what was being done to the Jews, Bauer writes: "The Polish

government-in-exile had been the first official body to lend unhesitating credence to the reports on planned mass murder.

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