

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—KENTUCKY
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

Under 18 [TERMINATE]	--
18-24	26%
25-29	24%
30-34	25%
35-39	25%
40+ [TERMINATE]	--

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	21%
No	79%

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Survey Questions

Intro: Thank you for your participation in this survey. The next questions in the survey are going to ask you about a particular historical topic that you may or may not know much about – the Holocaust. All answers and responses are confidential, so please be as honest and open as you can.

1. Have you ever seen or heard the word Holocaust before?

Yes, I have definitely heard about the Holocaust	77%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	15%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	6%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	2%

IF NO, SKIP TO Q7

2. Who or what do you think caused the Holocaust? [OPEN ENDED AND MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED]

Adolf Hitler	74%
The Nazis	60%
Germany	35%
World War I	10%
Jews	7%
The Great Depression	7%
The United States	2%
Israel	2%
Palestine	2%
Other	5%
Not sure	5%

3. Who were victims during the Holocaust? [SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]

The Jewish people	93%
Homosexuals	32%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	30%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	23%
Resistance Workers	19%
Non-Jewish Poles	15%
Jehovah's Witnesses	14%
Rescuers	9%
Communists	9%
Other	8%
Not sure	4%

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4. In which country or countries listed below did the Holocaust take place? [SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]

Germany	75%
Poland	31%
Europe (Generally)	24%
Austria	18%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	11%
Hungary	8%
Former Soviet Union	8%
Belgium	6%
Former Yugoslavia	6%
Denmark	6%
Romania	6%
France	5%
The Netherlands (Holland)	5%
Ukraine	5%
Italy	4%
Lithuania	3%
The United States	3%
Latvia	3%
Estonia	2%
Greece	2%
North Africa	1%
Australia	1%
All of the above	3%
Not sure	9%

5. During the Holocaust, Jews and many others were sent to concentration camps, death camps, and ghettos. Can you name any concentration camps, death camps, or ghettos you have heard of? [OPEN-ENDED AND MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED]

Auschwitz	46%
Dachau	6%
Bergen-Belsen	1%
Belzec	1%
Buchenwald	1%
Other incorrect response	10%
Don't know/None	41%

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6. With which of the wars listed below is the Holocaust associated with?

The Civil War	5%
World War I	27%
World War II	56%
The Vietnam War	2%
Not sure	10%

7. You will now see the names of some historical figures who are associated with a particular point in history. For each, please indicate whether or not you are familiar with him or her.

- Adolf Hitler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	90%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	8%
Very familiar	65%
Familiar	25%
Not very familiar	6%
Not at all familiar	2%
Not sure	2%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	84%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	12%
Very familiar	52%
Familiar	32%
Not very familiar	8%
Not at all familiar	4%
Not sure	4%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	31%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	54%
Very familiar	11%
Familiar	20%
Not very familiar	27%
Not at all familiar	27%
Not sure	15%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	28%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	57%
Very familiar	11%
Familiar	17%
Not very familiar	25%
Not at all familiar	32%
Not sure	15%

Intro: The term Holocaust refers to the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of the Jewish people by the Nazi regime and its collaborators during World War II. You will now see some questions about the Holocaust.

8. Who was the leader of Nazi Germany during the Holocaust? [OPEN ENDED]

Adolf Hitler	91%
Other	1%
Not sure	8%

9. Approximately how many Jews were killed during the Holocaust?¹ Please select from the following list:

25,000	3%
100,000	5%
1 million	14%
2 million	12%
6 million	39%
20 million	13%
Not sure	14%

¹ UCL Study <https://www.holocausteducation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/What-do-students-know-and-understand-about-the-Holocaust1.pdf>

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10. Okay, and how was the Holocaust carried out? [OPEN ENDED AND MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED]

Concentration camps	33%
Shooting	30%
Gassing	18%
Slave labor camps	10%
Death camps	9%
Ghettos	6%
Starvation	5%
Medical experiments	3%
Other	22%
Not sure	15%

11. From what you know or have heard, what was Auschwitz? [OPEN ENDED AND MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED]

Concentration camp	48%
Death/extermination camp	13%
Forced labor camp	3%
Other	12%
Not sure	30%

Intro: Thank you for your answers so far. You will now be asked some questions regarding your opinion about the Holocaust. After each, please select the answer choice that best represents what you think.

12. Some believe that the Holocaust did not happen. Do you believe the Holocaust happened?

Yes, I believe the Holocaust happened	92%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	1%
Not sure	7%

13. Which of the following statements comes closest to your views about the Holocaust in Europe during World War Two? ²

The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	--
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	8%
The Holocaust happened, and the number of Jews who died in it have been fairly described	85%
Not sure	7%

² ADL Global 100 https://global100.adl.org/static/ADL_GLOBAL_100_SURVEY_QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf

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Intro: We will now be asking you about Holocaust denial and distortion. Holocaust denial is defined as a claim that the Holocaust did not take place. Distortion of the Holocaust intentionally excuses or minimizes the Holocaust’s impact, such as the number of victims; blames the Jews for the Holocaust, or portrays the Holocaust as a positive event.

14. Have you seen Holocaust denial or distortion on social media or elsewhere online?

TOTAL YES	49%
TOTAL NO	44%
Yes, often	7%
Yes, occasionally	22%
Yes, but only once or twice	20%
No	44%
Not sure	7%

Intro: Switching gears slightly, you will now see a list of statements that have been made about the Holocaust. For each, please tell me if you agree or disagree:

15. People still talk too much about the Holocaust.³

TOTAL AGREE	13%
TOTAL DISAGREE	67%
Strongly agree	3%
Agree	10%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	16%
Disagree	31%
Strongly disagree	36%
Not sure	4%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	55%
TOTAL DISAGREE	26%
Strongly agree	21%
Agree	34%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	16%
Disagree	10%
Strongly disagree	16%
Not sure	3%

³ Adapted from ADL Global 100 https://global100.adl.org/static/ADL_GLOBAL_100_SURVEY_QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf

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17. Holocaust education should be compulsory in school.

TOTAL AGREE	55%
TOTAL DISAGREE	26%
Strongly agree	21%
Agree	34%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	16%
Disagree	10%
Strongly disagree	16%
Not sure	3%

18. It is important to continue teaching people about the Holocaust, in part, so it doesn't happen again.

TOTAL AGREE	84%
TOTAL DISAGREE	4%
Strongly agree	53%
Agree	31%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	10%
Disagree	1%
Strongly disagree	3%
Not sure	2%

Intro: You will now be asked some questions about how you learned about the Holocaust as well as questions on Holocaust education in the United States today.

19. Where did you first hear about the Holocaust?

At school	75%
At home	9%
Books	5%
Television	2%
Movies	3%
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	2%
From a friend	1%
Social media	--
Online, not on social media	--
Museums	--
Other	--
Not sure	3%

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**20. [IF book/television program/movie/site] Okay, and through what book/television program/movie/site did you first learn about the Holocaust?
 [OPEN ENDED]**

Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	24%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	22%
Night (book)	11%
Social Media	4%
Schindler’s List	4%
Shoah (film)	4%
Other	4%
Not sure	27%

21. At what level of school did you learn about the Holocaust? [SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]

Middle school/Junior high school	61%
High school	33%
Elementary school	22%
All of the above	6%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	5%
Not sure	4%

**22. [If ANY CHOICE BESIDES “Did not learn about the Holocaust in school”]
 Okay, and in which class or classes did you learn about the Holocaust at school?**

History/European history/World history	55%
Social studies/Government/Civics	27%
English/Language arts	4%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	2%
Special assembly	2%
Not sure	10%

23. In your opinion, are lessons taught in schools about the Holocaust historically accurate?

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	30%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	52%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	3%
Not sure	15%

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24. Who do you think should be responsible for providing education about the Holocaust?

Schools/teachers	64%
The government	12%
Parents	5%
The private sector	3%
Religious institutions	2%
It is no one's responsibility	2%
Not sure	12%

**25. In your opinion, what are the biggest benefits of teaching the Holocaust in school?
 [MULTIPLE CHOICES ALLOWED]**

The Holocaust is a historically significant event	66%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	52%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	44%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	38%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	13%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	8%
Other	2%
None	5%

26. Have you personally or has anyone you know visited a Holocaust museum in the United States?

I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	22%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	26%
I have not visited a Holocaust museum and do not know anyone who has visited one	40%
Not sure	12%

27. Do you personally know or know of a survivor of the Holocaust?

I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	5%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	4%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	18%
I do not know or know of a survivor of the Holocaust	64%
Not sure	9%

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INTRO: We're almost finished. We are now going to ask some questions about the United States today.

28. Have you personally seen Nazi symbols in your community or on the social media platforms you visit or have used in the past 5 years?

Some common examples of Nazi symbols include: flags with swastikas, pictures idealizing Hitler, flyers with pro-Nazi messages, pictures glorifying Nazi soldiers, "Heil Hitler" symbols such as Nazi-imagery or tattoos with "88" a numerical code for "Heil Hitler."

Yes—in my community	10%
Yes—on social media	30%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	16%
No	38%
Not sure	6%

29. Do you think that it is acceptable for an individual to hold neo-Nazi views?⁴

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	10%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	73%
Strongly acceptable	3%
Somewhat acceptable	7%
Somewhat unacceptable	15%
Strongly unacceptable	58%
Not sure	17%

30. Okay, and in your opinion, is there antisemitism in the United States today?

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	57%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	18%
Not sure	25%

⁴ <http://apps.washingtonpost.com/g/page/politics/washington-post-abc-news-poll-aug-16-20-2017/2235/>

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Demographics

Intro: We're just about finished...

31. {Gender}

Male	54%
Female	45%
Other	1%

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	81%
Hispanic or Latino	3%
Black or African American	10%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3%
Other	3%

33. In terms of political orientation or ideology do you consider yourself....?

Conservative	20%
Moderate	25%
Liberal	22%
Progressive	7%
Other	5%
Not sure	21%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	21%
Evangelical	3%
Catholic	19%
Jewish	1%
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	6%
Other [specify]	20%
None/Not affiliated	22%
Not sure	8%

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35. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Some high school or less	5%
High school graduate	32%
Some college	25%
College graduate	23%
Some graduate school	4%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	9%
Technical school	2%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	22%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	26%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	20%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	12%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	10%
More than \$100,000	10%
Not sure	--