

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—MISSISSIPPI
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

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

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	24%
No	76%

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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	71%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	12%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	7%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	10%

IF NO, SKIP TO Q7

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

Adolf Hitler	77%
The Nazis	53%
Germany	38%
World War I	11%
Jews	9%
The Great Depression	7%
The United States	2%
Palestine	2%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	2%
Israel	1%
Other	2%
Not sure	8%

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

The Jewish people	93%
Homosexuals	25%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	24%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	16%
Non-Jewish Poles	12%
Resistance Workers	10%
Rescuers	9%
Communists	8%
Jehovah's Witnesses	5%
Other	3%
Not sure	5%

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

Germany	71%
Poland	26%
Europe (Generally)	22%
Austria	16%
Former Soviet Union	11%
Hungary	10%
Belgium	10%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	8%
France	7%
Romania	7%
Denmark	6%
Ukraine	6%
Italy	6%
Former Yugoslavia	5%
The Netherlands (Holland)	4%
Lithuania	4%
Latvia	4%
The United States	3%
Estonia	2%
Greece	2%
Australia	2%
North Africa	1%
China	1%
All of the above	2%
Other	1%
Not sure	12%

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	35%
Dachau	5%
Belzec	2%
Bergen-Belsen	1%
Chelmno	1%
Buchenwald	1%
Treblinka	--
Warsaw ghetto	--
Other incorrect response	41%
Don't know/None	19%

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

The Civil War	5%
World War I	22%
World War II	60%
The Vietnam War	3%
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	87%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	9%
Very familiar	52%
Familiar	35%
Not very familiar	2%
Not at all familiar	7%
Not sure	4%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	77%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	16%
Very familiar	48%
Familiar	29%
Not very familiar	2%
Not at all familiar	14%
Not sure	7%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	28%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	56%
Very familiar	12%
Familiar	16%
Not very familiar	24%
Not at all familiar	32%
Not sure	16%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	22%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	62%
Very familiar	9%
Familiar	13%
Not very familiar	22%
Not at all familiar	40%
Not sure	16%

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	82%
Other	12%
Not sure	6%

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

25,000	8%
100,000	4%
1 million	9%
2 million	9%
6 million	34%
20 million	5%
Not sure	31%

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]

Shooting	33%
Concentration camps	25%
Gassing	16%
Death camps	6%
Starvation	6%
Slave labor camps	3%
Medical experiments	2%
Ghettos	2%
Other	22%
Not sure	24%

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

Concentration camp	38%
Death/extermination camp	9%
Forced labor camp	1%
Other	10%
Not sure	46%

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	81%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	8%
Not sure	11%

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

The Holocaust happened, and the number of Jews who died in it have been fairly described	73%
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	8%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	5%
Not sure	14%

² Adapted from 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	36%
TOTAL NO	48%
Yes, often	5%
Yes, occasionally	13%
Yes, but only once or twice	18%
No	48%
Not sure	16%

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	14%
TOTAL DISAGREE	56%
Strongly agree	6%
Agree	8%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	20%
Disagree	23%
Strongly disagree	33%
Not sure	10%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	53%
TOTAL DISAGREE	17%
Strongly agree	29%
Agree	24%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	20%
Disagree	7%
Strongly disagree	10%
Not sure	10%

³³ 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	58%
TOTAL DISAGREE	8%
Strongly agree	29%
Agree	29%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	22%
Disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	4%
Not sure	12%

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

TOTAL AGREE	71%
TOTAL DISAGREE	7%
Strongly agree	44%
Agree	27%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	14%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	4%
Not sure	8%

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	60%
At home	9%
Television	8%
Books	4%
Movies	1%
Social Media	1%
From a friend	1%
Museums	1%
Online, not on social media	--
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	--
Other	2%
Not sure	13%

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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]

Social Media	20%
Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl	17%
Jojo Rabbit	9%
Schindler’s List	6%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	3%
Number the Stars	3%
All the Light We Cannot See	3%
Life is Beautiful	--
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	--
Night (book)	--
The Pianist	--
Shoah (film)	--
The Zookeeper’s Wife	--
Other	9%
Not sure	30%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	48%
High school	37%
Elementary school	20%
All of the above	3%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	6%
Not sure	8%

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	58%
Social studies/Government/Civics	12%
English/Language arts	11%
Special assembly	3%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	1%
School trip to a museum	1%
Other	1%
Not sure	13%

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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	45%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	2%
Not sure	23%

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

Schools/teachers	54%
Parents	9%
It is no one's responsibility	7%
The government	5%
Religious institutions	4%
Non-profit organizations	2%
The private sector	2%
Not sure	17%

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

To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	56%
The Holocaust is a historically significant event	55%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	34%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	33%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	13%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	6%
Other	--
None	13%

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

I have not visited a Holocaust museum and do not know anyone who has visited one	46%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	17%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	12%
Not sure	25%

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

I do not know or know of a survivor of the Holocaust	60%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	16%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	5%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	4%
Not sure	15%

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	8%
Yes—on social media	31%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	8%
No	41%
Not sure	12%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	12%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	61%
Strongly acceptable	5%
Somewhat acceptable	7%
Somewhat unacceptable	11%
Strongly unacceptable	50%
Not sure	27%

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

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	59%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	10%
Not sure	31%

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	49%
Female	50%
Other	1%

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	57%
Hispanic or Latino	2%
Black or African American	35%
Native American or American Indian	--
Asian/Pacific Islander	2%
Other	4%

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

Conservative	27%
Moderate	21%
Liberal	15%
Progressive	8%
Other	5%
Not sure	24%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	26%
Evangelical	6%
Catholic	12%
Jewish	--
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	4%
Other [specify]	20%
None/Not affiliated	19%
Not sure	13%

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

Some high school or less	7%
High school graduate	33%
Some college	24%
College graduate	25%
Some graduate school	2%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	7%
Technical school	2%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	25%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	29%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	22%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	6%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	8%
More than \$100,000	6%
Not sure	4%