

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—PENNSYLVANIA
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

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

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	25%
No	75%

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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	80%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	13%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	1%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	6%

IF NO, SKIP TO Q7

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

Adolf Hitler	78%
The Nazis	71%
Germany	41%
World War I	13%
Jews	10%
The Great Depression	7%
The United States	4%
Palestine	2%
Other	3%
Not sure	3%

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

The Jewish people	89%
Homosexuals	42%
The Disabled/People with disabilities	35%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	30%
Non-Jewish Poles	21%
Jehovah's Witnesses	19%
Resistance Workers	18%
Communists	16%
Rescuers	12%
Other	4%
Not sure	7%

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

Germany	76%
Poland	35%
Europe (Generally)	26%
Austria	19%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	14%
France	12%
Hungary	11%
Belgium	11%
Former Soviet Union	11%
Ukraine	9%
The Netherlands (Holland)	8%
Former Yugoslavia	8%
Denmark	8%
Italy	8%
Romania	7%
Lithuania	5%
Latvia	4%
Greece	4%
Estonia	3%
The United States	2%
North Africa	2%
China	2%
Australia	--
All of the above	4%
Other	--
Not sure	11%

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	52%
Dachau	7%
Bergen-Belsen	5%
Chelmno	2%
Treblinka	2%
Belzec	1%
Buchenwald	1%
Mauthausen	1%
Other incorrect response	12%
Don't know/None	33%

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

The Civil War	3%
World War I	18%
World War II	67%
The Vietnam War	3%
Not sure	9%

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	92%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	7%
Very familiar	63%
Familiar	29%
Not very familiar	5%
Not at all familiar	2%
Not sure	1%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	81%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	17%
Very familiar	54%
Familiar	27%
Not very familiar	11%
Not at all familiar	6%
Not sure	2%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	36%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	55%
Very familiar	12%
Familiar	24%
Not very familiar	30%
Not at all familiar	25%
Not sure	9%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	28%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	65%
Very familiar	12%
Familiar	16%
Not very familiar	31%
Not at all familiar	34%
Not sure	7%

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	92%
Other	3%
Not sure	5%

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

25,000	4%
100,000	6%
1 million	10%
2 million	13%
6 million	41%
20 million	12%
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]

Shooting	41%
Concentration camps	39%
Gassing	16%
Slave labor camps	10%
Death camps	8%
Starvation	3%
Medical experiments	3%
Ghettos	3%
Other	13%
Not sure	17%

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

Concentration camp	46%
Death/extermination camp	16%
Forced labor camp	3%
Other	14%
Not sure	26%

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	88%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	5%
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 happened, and the number of Jews who died in it have been fairly described	83%
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	7%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	1%
Not sure	9%

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	52%
TOTAL NO	38%
Yes, often	6%
Yes, occasionally	21%
Yes, but only once or twice	25%
No	38%
Not sure	10%

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	9%
TOTAL DISAGREE	60%
Strongly agree	3%
Agree	6%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	26%
Disagree	30%
Strongly disagree	30%
Not sure	5%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	56%
TOTAL DISAGREE	18%
Strongly agree	23%
Agree	33%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	17%
Disagree	13%
Strongly disagree	5%
Not sure	9%

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	67%
TOTAL DISAGREE	5%
Strongly agree	33%
Agree	34%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	21%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	2%
Not sure	7%

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

TOTAL AGREE	82%
TOTAL DISAGREE	3%
Strongly agree	52%
Agree	30%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	10%
Disagree	1%
Strongly disagree	2%
Not sure	5%

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	69%
At home	8%
Television	5%
Social Media	3%
Books	2%
Movies	1%
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	1%
From a friend	1%
Online, not on social media	--
Museums	--
Other	--
Not sure	10%

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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	28%
Schindler’s List	20%
Social Media	16%
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	4%
Number the Stars	4%
The Zookeeper’s Wife	4%
Other	8%
Not sure	16%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	51%
High school	31%
Elementary school	30%
All of the above	9%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	7%
Not sure	9%

**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	56%
Social studies/Government/Civics	27%
English/Language arts	6%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	2%
School trip to a museum	1%
Special assembly	--
Other	--
Not sure	8%

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

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	35%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	48%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	1%
Not sure	16%

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

Schools/teachers	66%
The government	12%
Parents	5%
Religious institutions	--
The private sector	--
Non-profit organizations	--
It is no one's responsibility	5%
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	69%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	53%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	42%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	40%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	11%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	10%
Other	1%
None	7%

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	34%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	30%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	27%
Not sure	9%

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	61%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	20%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	8%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	3%
Not sure	8%

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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	7%
Yes—on social media	38%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	12%
No	35%
Not sure	8%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	9%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	77%
Strongly acceptable	1%
Somewhat acceptable	8%
Somewhat unacceptable	12%
Strongly unacceptable	65%
Not sure	14%

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

Yes, there is antisemitism in the United States today	61%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	10%
Not sure	29%

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	50%
Female	50%
Other	--

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	74%
Hispanic or Latino	7%
Black or African American	11%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5%
Other	3%

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

Conservative	18%
Moderate	32%
Liberal	23%
Progressive	5%
Other	9%
Not sure	13%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	21%
Evangelical	4%
Catholic	27%
Jewish	1%
Muslim	1%
Atheist/Agnostic	8%
Other [specify]	13%
None/Not affiliated	19%
Not sure	6%

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

Some high school or less	3%
High school graduate	25%
Some college	25%
College graduate	25%
Some graduate school	3%
Graduate/post-graduate degree	15%
Technical school	4%

36. What is your annual household income?

You and your family earn less than \$20,000 annually	17%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	21%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	20%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	8%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	17%
More than \$100,000	15%
Not sure	2%