

Schoen Cooperman Research
Claims Conference Holocaust Poll—SOUTH CAROLINA
March 2020

Screening Questions

- {Age}

Under 18 [TERMINATE]	--
18-24	26%
25-29	23%
30-34	25%
35-39	26%
40+ [TERMINATE]	--

- Are you currently enrolled in college?

Yes	19%
No	81%

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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	78%
Yes, I think I've heard about the Holocaust	11%
No, I don't think I have heard about the Holocaust	4%
No, I definitely have not heard about the Holocaust	7%

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	61%
Germany	32%
World War I	9%
Jews	8%
The Great Depression	7%
The United States	2%
Franklin Delano Roosevelt/FDR	1%
Other	2%
Not sure	7%

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

The Jewish people	90%
Homosexuals	33%
The disabled/People with disabilities	28%
Roma-Sinti (Gypsies)	24%
Resistance Workers	15%
Non-Jewish Poles	15%
Jehovah's Witnesses	12%
Communists	12%
Rescuers	9%
Other	4%
Not sure	8%

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

Germany	77%
Poland	28%
Europe (Generally)	25%
Austria	18%
Hungary	14%
Belgium	14%
Former Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic/Slovakia	12%
Former Soviet Union	11%
France	10%
Romania	8%
The Netherlands (Holland)	7%
Denmark	7%
Former Yugoslavia	6%
Italy	6%
Lithuania	5%
Ukraine	3%
Estonia	3%
Latvia	3%
The United States	2%
Greece	2%
Australia	1%
All of the above	1%
Other	2%
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	42%
Dachau	5%
Bergen-Belsen	3%
Belzec	1%
Buchenwald	1%
Treblinka	1%
Warsaw ghetto	1%
Other incorrect response	10%
Don't know/None	47%

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

The Civil War	2%
World War I	17%
World War II	66%
The Vietnam War	3%
Not sure	12%

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	89%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	6%
Very familiar	60%
Familiar	29%
Not very familiar	3%
Not at all familiar	3%
Not sure	5%

- Anne Frank

TOTAL FAMILIAR	84%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	10%
Very familiar	56%
Familiar	28%
Not very familiar	4%
Not at all familiar	6%
Not sure	6%

- Oskar Schindler

TOTAL FAMILIAR	31%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	57%
Very familiar	15%
Familiar	16%
Not very familiar	26%
Not at all familiar	31%
Not sure	12%

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- Elie Wiesel

TOTAL FAMILIAR	26%
TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR	60%
Very familiar	13%
Familiar	13%
Not very familiar	25%
Not at all familiar	35%
Not sure	14%

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	88%
Other	2%
Not sure	10%

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

25,000	2%
100,000	3%
1 million	8%
2 million	11%
6 million	42%
20 million	9%
Not sure	25%

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	35%
Shooting	34%
Gassing	14%
Slave labor camps	11%
Death camps	6%
Ghettos	4%
Starvation	4%
Medical experiments	1%
Other	16%
Not sure	20%

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

Concentration camp	44%
Death/extermination camp	17%
Forced labor camp	1%
Other	11%
Not sure	32%

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	89%
No, I do not believe the Holocaust happened	1%
Not sure	10%

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	76%
The Holocaust happened, but the number of Jews who died in it has been greatly exaggerated	10%
The Holocaust is a myth and did not happen	2%
Not sure	12%

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	40%
Yes, often	9%
Yes, occasionally	20%
Yes, but only once or twice	20%
No	40%
Not sure	11%

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	55%
Strongly agree	9%
Agree	4%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	25%
Disagree	30%
Strongly disagree	25%
Not sure	7%

16. Something like the Holocaust could happen again today.

TOTAL AGREE	56%
TOTAL DISAGREE	17%
Strongly agree	20%
Agree	36%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	18%
Disagree	9%
Strongly disagree	8%
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	63%
TOTAL DISAGREE	5%
Strongly agree	32%
Agree	31%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	22%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	2%
Not sure	10%

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

TOTAL AGREE	83%
TOTAL DISAGREE	4%
Strongly agree	51%
Agree	32%
Neutral—neither agree nor disagree	5%
Disagree	2%
Strongly disagree	2%
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	69%
At home	9%
Movies	5%
Books	2%
Social Media	2%
Online, not on social media	1%
From a friend	1%
Television	--
Museums	--
At a house of worship (church/synagogue/mosque/temple)	--
Other	--
Not sure	11%

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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	26%
A film adaptation of the Diary of Anne Frank	16%
Social Media	10%
Schindler’s List	5%
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas	5%
Night (book)	5%
Number the Stars	5%
Other	23%
Not sure	5%

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

Middle school/Junior high school	53%
High school	39%
Elementary school	29%
All of the above	11%
Did not learn about the Holocaust in school	7%
Not sure	6%

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	57%
Social studies/Government/Civics	20%
English/Language arts	6%
A special class dedicated to the Holocaust	2%
Special assembly	2%
School trip to a museum	1%
Other	1%
Not sure	11%

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

Lessons about the Holocaust are completely historically accurate	32%
Lessons about the Holocaust are mostly historically accurate, but could be better	47%
Lessons about the Holocaust are historically inaccurate	3%
Not sure	18%

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

Schools/teachers	65%
The government	11%
Parents	6%
The private sector	1%
Non-profit organizations	2%
It is no one's responsibility	3%
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	70%
To learn from past mistakes and prevent genocide and mass atrocity today	52%
To study the past and consider our roles as citizens today	52%
To prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again	41%
Teaches about racism, intolerance, and indifference	34%
Learning about the Holocaust is the right thing to do	7%
Other	1%
None	6%

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	37%
I have personally visited a Holocaust museum in the United States	25%
I have not visited, but someone I know has visited	20%
Not sure	18%

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	54%
I know of a survivor of the Holocaust but not personally	19%
I personally know a survivor of the Holocaust	7%
I personally knew a survivor of the Holocaust who has passed away	5%
Not sure	15%

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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	12%
Yes—on social media	32%
Yes—both in my community and on social media	11%
No	33%
Not sure	12%

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

TOTAL ACCEPTABLE	13%
TOTAL NOT ACCEPTABLE	70%
Strongly acceptable	4%
Somewhat acceptable	9%
Somewhat unacceptable	16%
Strongly unacceptable	54%
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	62%
No, there is not antisemitism in the United States today	8%
Not sure	30%

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	51%
Female	49%
Other	--

32. {Race}

White or Caucasian	61%
Hispanic or Latino	3%
Black or African American	32%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2%
Other	2%

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

Conservative	27%
Moderate	28%
Liberal	17%
Progressive	7%
Other	3%
Not sure	18%

34. What is your religion?

Protestant	27%
Evangelical	5%
Catholic	13%
Jewish	1%
Muslim	--
Atheist/Agnostic	3%
Other [specify]	20%
None/Not affiliated	21%
Not sure	10%

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

Some high school or less	9%
High school graduate	27%
Some college	28%
College graduate	22%
Some graduate school	3%
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	19%
\$20,000 to \$40,000	22%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	24%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	11%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	11%
More than \$100,000	9%
Not sure	4%