**III. Holocaust**

1. Holocaust Begins

* **Holocaust –**
* Hitler used Jews as scapegoats for all European problems
* **Nuremberg Laws (1935) –**
* Hitler used the Nuremberg Laws as his first attempt to preserve his idea of a “Master Race”
* **Social Darwinism –**
* “I can not see why war cannot be as cruel as nature” – Adolf Hitler
* Hitler used these beliefs to argue that “inferior” people needed to be eliminated because he claimed that they were polluting the superior race
* **Kristallnacht –**
* **1939 –**
* At first Hitler thought that emigration of Jews would end his “Jewish problem”
* Most major countries closed their doors and did not allow Jews to enter their country

B. Isolating the Jews

* When emigration failed Hitler ordered all Jews to move to certain towns
* **Ghettos –**
* Hoped that the Jews would die from starvation or disease

C. Final Solution

* Hitler grew impatient because Jews were not dying fast enough
* **Final Solution –**
* **Heinrich Himmler –**
* Also called for the killing of Poles, Russians, homosexuals, insane people, and the disabled

D. Final Stage

* Germans sent out death squads
* Jews not killed by death squads were sent to concentration camps
* Jews unable to work were killed in huge gas chambers or by machine guns – Germany companies competed to have their gas used for the killing
* Others were used as slaves forced to work 7 days a week
* **Auschwitz –**
* **Crematoriums –**
* Nazi doctors also conducted experiments on healthy Jews
* Results in the death of more than 6 million Jews
* Over 60% of the world’s Jews were killed during the Holocaust
* Total death total is around 11 million
* Just 1 out of every 16 Jewish children in Europe survived the Holocaust