Jews and Intermarriage in Nazi Austria

Evan Burr Bukey explores the experience of intermarried couples – marriages with Jewish and non-Jewish partners – and their children in Vienna after Germany’s seizure of Austria in 1938. These families coped with changing regulations that disrupted family life; pitted relatives against each other; and raised profound questions about religious, ethnic, and national identity. Bukey finds that although intermarried couples lived in a state of fear and anxiety, many managed to mitigate, delay, or even escape Nazi sanctions. Drawing on extensive archival research, his study reveals how hundreds of intermarried couples pursued ingenious strategies to preserve their assets, to improve their “racial” status, and above all to safeguard the position of their children. It also analyzes cases of intermarried partners who chose divorce, as well as persons involved in illicit liaisons with non-Jews. Jews and Intermarriage in Nazi Austria concludes that although most of Vienna’s intermarried Jews survived the Holocaust, several hundred Jewish partners were deported to their deaths, and children of such couples were frequently subjected to Gestapo harassment.

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To the memory of my parents
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**Glossary and Abbreviations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>German</th>
<th>Translation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abstammungsbescheid</td>
<td>Abstammungsnachweis</td>
<td>Ancestral decision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahnenpass</td>
<td>Bund Deutscher Mädchen, League of German Girls</td>
<td>Ancestral passport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DÖW</td>
<td>Dokumentationsarchiv des österreichischen Widerstandes, Documentation Archives of the Austrian Resistance, Vienna</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Jews</td>
<td>Geltungsjuden</td>
<td>Observant Jews or persons having three Jewish grandparents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gausippenamt</td>
<td>Jewish converts or partial-Jews enrolled in the Jewish Religious Community, “counting as Jews”</td>
<td>District Kinship Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gestapo</td>
<td>Geheime Staatspolizei (secret state police)</td>
<td>Hitler Jugend (Hitler Youth)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HJ</td>
<td>Israelitische Kultusgemeinde (Jewish Religious Community)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IKG</td>
<td>Kommunistische Partei Österreichs (Communist Party of Austria)</td>
<td>Circuit leader(s) of the Nazi Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPÖ</td>
<td>Kreisleiter</td>
<td>“Half-breeds,” persons having one or two Jewish grandparents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mischlinge</td>
<td>Mischlinge of the First Degree</td>
<td>“Half-Jews,” persons with two Jewish grandparents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Glossary and Abbreviations

- **Mischlinge of the Second Degree**
  - *Quarter-Jews,* persons with one Jewish grandparent

- **NSDAP**
  - *Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei,* National Socialist German Workers Party (Nazi Party)

- **Ostmark**
  - Eastern March; Nazi name of incorporated Austria

- **OT**
  - Organization Todt, forced labor and construction organization

- **Rassenschande**
  - Racial defilement

- **RPA**
  - *Reichszeitung,* Reich Political Office

- **RSA**
  - *Reichsamt,* Reich Kinship Office

- **RSHA**
  - *Reichssicherheitshauptamt,* Reich Security Main Office

- **SD**
  - *Sicherheitsdienst* (security and intelligence service of the SS)

- **SS**
  - *Schutzstaffel* (elite guard of the NSDAP)

- **Volksgerichtshof**
  - Peoples’ Court

- **WSLA**
  - *Wiener Stadt-und Landesarchiv,* Viennese Municipal and Provincial Archives