

How and Why did the Nazis changes the lives of workers between 1933 & 1939?

The Nazis wanted to make Germany into an Autarky. Hitler needed workers on side to achieve this aim and to help him prepare for War. He banned Women and Jews from professional jobs and replaced them with German men. Hitler also banned all trade unions in Germany but he replaced them with the DAF, a Nazi union. All workers were asked to join this and by 1938, 90% of all workers were part of this union. An arm of this union was also set up, Beauty of Labour provided a voice for workers and helped to improve working conditions e.g. lighting. Despite this, workers were forced to work longer hours and were not allowed time off work. The work shy were sent to concentration camps. Incentives were offered to workers by the Strength Through Joy programme which offered them opportunities for cheap holidays and a saving scheme for a Volkswagen.

How did the Nazis try to reduce unemployment levels between 1933 & 1939?

The first articles that Hitler addressed were Women and Jews. The Nazis made sure that professional women were sacked from their jobs e.g. lawyers, teachers; and that Jews were fired from their jobs. Women and Jews were not counted as unemployed. To counter this, Hitler also made sure that German men would take their place in the workplace. Hitler also established RAD which was compulsory for men aged 18-25 years. They had to carry out six months of work for the state such as road building and school building. These workers were paid very little money and often were paid in food and shelter. Hitler also introduced conscription in 1935 to help increase the size of the army and by 1936 300,000 soldiers had joined. Along with this war preparation, factories were opened to make weapons and vehicle. Hitler also knew that during war all supplies would be cut-off so he opened factories to start making synthetic replacements such as making oil from coal.