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THE FINAL SOLUTION

Martin Niemoller was a prominent Protestant pastor who emerged as an outspoken public foe of Adolph Hitler and spent the last seven years of Nazi rule in various concentration camps. A quotation that he once wrote is as follows:

"First, they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out, because I was not a Socialist.

Then, they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out, because I was not a Trade Unionist.

Then, they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out, because I was not a Jew.

Then, they came for me, but there was no one left to speak for me."

I have always been ashamed of my German last name. I have always lied and said I was Dutch since there is no double "o" in German, but I always knew that the correct spelling of my last name is actually Hupfer. My parents told me that I was Irish, Scottish, French, Native American, and German. Four years ago, my daughter-in-law asked me for the background of my family history. Therefore, I compiled various letters, documents, photos, urban myths, etc. and wrote a family history totaling over two hundred pages. I now have to start all over.

For Christmas, my daughter gave the gift of "23 and Me" DNA test. So, I spit into the tube and sent it on its way. Eleven weeks later, I received my results. It demonstrated that I was 79% Irish and Scottish, Some English, but only 7% French and German combined. This definitely aroused my curiosity. It also showed that I had 360 Neanderthal DNA markers. When I showed the Neanderthal marker scores to my wife, she responded that she knew this on our second date. I was not amused.

Therefore, a month ago, I did the ["Ancestry.Com"](https://www.ancestry.com) DNA study, and it came back last week. The test showed that I am 60% Irish and Scottish, 17% French Canadian, 19% English, but no German or Algonquin Indian DNA. I personally rejoice in not being German.

As a European History major in college, I have learned that in the late Middle Ages and forward, the monarchies of several European kingdoms, because of the Church's laws against usury, the charging of interest on loans, would borrow from or tax the Jews. If the monarchy could not pay up, the king would expel the Jews from the realm. In Spain in 1492 expelled all Jews. The first Jewish child born since 1492 in Spain was not until 1986. The Spanish Inquisition was to preserve the purity of Spanish blood. The Spanish Hapsburg monarchy intermarried among themselves in order to preserve Blood Royal which lead to their eventual extinction.

Three hundred years later, anti-Semitism and racial purity swept throughout Europe in almost every nation, none more than Germany, Austria, Russia, and England. Wagner, Nietzsche, gave way to Hitler, Himmler, Rosenberg, and the Nazi Party; the purity of the German blood and the German race. The Nazi Party never received more than 28% of the national vote. Hitler never won an elective office. He was appointed Chancellor of Germany in 1933. In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws were enacted, written by Rudolph Hess, the Deputy Fuhrer, which defined who was a German and who was a Jew based upon blood ancestry. In the first few years, the Nazi Government established over 2,000 concentration camps in Germany alone. Socialists, Communists, union members, priests, ministers, homosexuals, writers, musicians, Gypsies, and Jewish leaders were interned to await their fate. Newspapers and radio stations were shutdown, burned, and their writers were imprisoned.

In 1937, the Jews were targeted. "Kristallnacht", the attack upon the Jews throughout Germany began in earnest. Hundreds of synagogues were burned as well as Jewish businesses, and the deaths of hundreds of German Jews and the arrests of thousands.

In 1939, the Jewish Holocaust began in earnest that eventually resulted in the systematic, industrialized deaths of 6,000,000 Jews, 3,000,000 Poles, 3,000,000 Soviet prisoners of war, 20,000 Jehovah Witnesses; whose crimes was their refusal to swear allegiance to the Nazi State or to give the Nazi salute, and not one ever played in the National Football League, as well as millions of others that the Germans and their allies murdered because they were considered sub-human. 40,000,000 to 55,000,000 million people died during the Nazi war of World War II.

My immediate family is bi-racial. My wife is Asian. My two children are multi-racial. My daughter-in-law is Japanese. My brother is 100% Mexican. My five grandchildren are all multi-racial.

The current government of the United States has established concentration camps throughout our country to punish the parents and children of the various nations of Latin American who are only seeking asylum according to current federal law for their freedom and protection of the United States from crime, rape, violence, and poverty. Young children forcibly taken from their parents and shipped hundreds of miles without escort or care, or now being sexually molested by their government employed care givers. And, now the current administration cannot locate or reunite these families. Their answer, "Let the ACLU solve the problem." Unarmed black men and women being killed by law enforcement officers for being black. Opioid drugs continue to proliferate, but mostly in "Red States."

My concern is that our current administration may initiate some kind of Mar-A-Logo Law or a Trump National Golf Course Law that establishes that my family is not Aryan enough to qualify to be an American, and will my family be placed behind barbed wire in a camp that has been recently described by the current administration, "Just like a summer camp." Dachau, Treblinka, Auschwitz, Bergen-Belsen, and a thousand more concentration camps, I can assure you, were not "Just like a summer camp." Do I have to fear a knock on the door in the middle of the night by some current administration Storm Trooper as happened in Nazi Germany because the impurity of my mongrel blood?

My government seems to have taken the first three steps towards Fascism in less than two years; inflammatory rally speeches filled with fear, lies, and hate;

constant attacks against the free press, and the initiation of concentration camps throughout our nation.

It took Hitler six years to begin "The Final Solution." In a few short years, will I begin seeing on Fox News, a train of cattle cars being unloaded and listening to a well-dressed, well educated, medical doctor with a riding crop in his hand begin the selection process by uttering the words, "Men to the left, women, children, and elderly to the right." Is my family part of the government's concept of their, "Final Solution?"

Five weeks ago, I marched for the first time in my life in the Children's March in Long Beach. And, this morning I mailed a check for the first time in my life to the ACLU.

"Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak for me."

"Ion Juden bin." – "I am a Jew." This is the final line of an opera written by a German-Jew who escaped Germany in 1936.