2.2.8: Analyze Nazi policies toward Jews, gypsies, communists, homosexuals and religious minorities.
The hyperinflation crisis of 1923 led to ordinary Germans supporting more extreme parties such as the Nazis, which only began in 1919 as a small political group.

The Nazis appeared to offer a better future and something for everyone which gave them widespread appeal.
Nazi Ideology

- In 1919, Adolf Hitler joined a small right-wing group called the German Workers' Party which became known as the National Socialists (Nazis) when he gained control.

- Following Hitler’s 1924 imprisonment for his role in the Munich Putsch - Hitler explained his belief in 'Mein Kampf'. 
A strong Germany the Treaty of Versailles should be abolished and all German-speaking people united in one country.

Führer the idea that there should be a single leader with complete power rather than a democracy.

Social Darwinism the idea that the Aryan race was superior and Jews were 'subhuman'.

Germany was in danger from Communists and Jews, who had to be destroyed.

Autarky the idea that Germany should be economically self-sufficient.

Lebensraum the need for 'living space' for the German nation to expand.

[Map showing German-speaking people]
The Appeal of the Nazis

- **Socialist** - eg farmers should be given their land; pensions should improve; and public industries such as electricity and water should be owned by the state.

- **Nationalist** - all German-speaking people should be united in one country; the Treaty of Versailles should be abolished; and there should be special laws for foreigners.
The Appeal of the Nazis

- **Racist** - Jews should not be German citizens and immigration should be stopped.

- **Fascist** - a strong central government and control of the newspapers.
• The Nazis did **not** appeal to:
  • working men who voted Communist
  • intellectuals such as students and university professors
• They **were popular** with:
  • nationalists and racists
  • farmers
  • lower middle-class people such as plumbers and shopkeepers who were worried about the chaos Germany was in
  • rich people worried by the threat from Communism