

To what extent were **cultural** factors the most important reason for the growth in nationalism in Germany 1815-50?

Nationalism was the belief that people with a shared common identity and language should be part of a single unified country. Although in 1815 Germany was not a unified country, despite Napoleon reducing the previous 400 states to 39, yet there was a small growth in nationalistic feeling amongst the people. It is a source of debate why this happened, some argue that cultural factors were most important and while they did play a role it is important to consider other factors including the economic factors which inspiring nationalism. In addition the impact of Napoleon's conquest and the work of student groups. This essay intends to argue...

Cultural factors were most important in inspiring nationalism in middle class and elites in urban areas. German poets and composers such Hegel and Goethe and Beethoven encouraged feelings of national pride in the German states and the idea that there was a common German characteristic which they shared. *This was important in inspiring nationalistic feeling* as it gave people a sense of belonging and encouraged the idea of a national German identity. **However** it is important to realise that the impact of these authors and composers was restricted to a limited few who could read or afford to go to concerts. For example, historian Mann argues that most Germans rarely looked up from the plough and were more concerned with poverty and survival rather than nationalism. **In addition while the German language is held responsible for inspiring nationalism, because 25 million spoke the same language and this was a unifying factor between the states, further analysis reveals that as much as this may have highlighted similarities, the divisions in religion, between Catholic south and Protestant North served to highlight their differences.** Overall cultural factors were very important in inspiring nationalistic feeling even if it was confined to the educated middle classes, yet there were clearly other factors, such as economic arguments contributed to feelings of nationalism.

One argument is that people felt inspired by nationalism and to unite the German states for the economic benefits which it would bring. Prussia, one of the leading German states established a customs union called the Zollverein in 1830 which excluded Austria but had by 1846 25 states out of the 39 and 26 million people. *This was important in creating a desire for unity* because it caused increased trade between the states and with no tariffs between member states, many middle class people saw the economic advantages which would come from unification. **Despite some arguing that giving up economic freedom was important because it was a step to political unity and an early version of a united Germany, other historians disagree and argue that it was a pure economic union. As seen in 1866 when many member states actually fought with Austria against Prussia.** However, the growth in the rail network which grew as a result of the Zollverein had a more physical importance in causing a growth in nationalistic feeling as this reduced feelings of isolation, and encouraged the spread of people and new ideas, including nationalism more easily. To sum up, economic arguments like cultural influences were again restricted to middle and upper class but the impact of the railway and spread of new ideas was more significant than the actual Zollverein, however the threat of military invasion affected all classes.

The role of Napoleon in inspiring nationalistic feeling is under debate. On the one hand by conquering the German states and reducing them from 400 to 39 he clearly was important because he made unification come closer and his actions inspired nationalistic feeling amongst the population as they rose up in rebellion to fight against him and defeat him. Even the princes appealed to nationalistic feeling to get peasants to fight the invader. However the lasting impact of Napoleon is slight. As soon as Napoleon was defeated the 1815 Congress of Vienna met to establish the old order and agreed to clamp down on nationalism. Once the individual princes were again secure they no longer promoted nationalism. **In addition although his invasion showed that as separate states they were weak and susceptible to foreign powers, even strong Prussia was defeated at Jena and German troops had been conscripted for years to fight for France, and many argue that this inspired nationalistic feeling, further analysis shows that post 1815 apart from a minor incident near the Rhine with France in the**

1840s Germany did not face any threat of invasion. To sum up, Napoleon's actions were more important in inspiring nationalistic feeling in the early 1800s rather than post 1815, unlike the student groups.

Student groups were influenced by Lecturers at university to believe in nationalism and that the German states should be unified. Their importance is a source of debate, **on the one hand some argue that these student groups were important in inspiring nationalistic feeling because they travelled across Germany's new railways spreading nationalistic ideas such as whether a united Germany would contain Austria or not, however further analysis reveals that their impact was lessened in that that Austria passed the Karlsbad decrees in 1819 banning student groups and censoring nationalist newspapers. Meaning that it was very difficult to reach their target audience by 1850.** As with cultural factors, the impact of student groups was limited to towns and middle classes.

In conclusion, cultural factors were *very important* in inspiring nationalistic feeling. On the one hand, the role of Napoleon did stimulate initial nationalism, however this has been over exaggerated given the clamp down on nationalistic feeling post 1815 by the German princes and by Austria. While student groups tried to spread new ideas they were *less important* than cultural factors because they faced restrictions from the Karlsbad decrees while although access to composers and authors at the time was restricted to middle and upper classes, they were not banned. The economic factors were the **most important factor** because the cultural factors remained too remote and idealistic while the economic success of the Zollverein and railways showed financial and practical advantages of unification.

Other similar questions

1. How significant were economic factors in the growth of German nationalism 1815-50.
2. Threat of foreign invasion was the main reason for the growth of nationalism in Germany 1815-50. To what extent do you agree?
3. How important were political factors in causing a growth in German nationalism 1815-50??
4. How significant was the French revolution in creating a growth in nationalism in Germany 1815-50?

To what extent were the attitude of the German Princes the biggest obstacle to German Unification 1815-50.

In 1815 Germany was not a unified country, despite Napoleon reducing the previous 400 states to 39, yet there was a small growth in nationalistic feeling amongst the people. In 1848 the Frankfurt Parliament met to agree on a united Germany without Austria and set out a constitution, yet this ended in failure. It is a source of debate what was the biggest obstacle to German unification by 1850. While the German princes certainly did contribute, it is important to consider the influence of other factors such as the attitude and actions of Austria. The lack of support from the masses and the lack of success of student groups/liberals must also be considered.

In Germany each state was run by a Prince and this proved to be a *very important* obstacle to German unification. Unifying the states would mean that only one Prince would remain in power and the others would lose all their privileges such as power over taxes, armed forces and laws and this lack of desire to change was very important in preventing German unification as it meant that the princes blocked attempts to unify. Most significantly, as Prussia was the strongest state it would most likely her that became the Emperor, they feared being absorbed into Prussia, therefore it was not in their interests to promote unity. For example, although prior to 1815 the princes encouraged nationalism amongst the peasants to rise up and fight and expel France, following the 1815 congress of Vienna, the princes took many steps to suppress nationalism. In 1849 574 representatives came from different states to form the Frankfurt Parliament, **here was an attempt to unify Germany and create a constitution. Yet its failure can be blamed on the actions of the Princes who refused to follow it's decisions, blocked proposals, took months to discuss and who eventually walked out leading to it's failure and collapse**. However, it is important to not lay all the blame at the Princes, as even if they had wanted to unite the German states it is unlikely that they could have overpowered Austria who had no desire to see a united Germany.

The strength and actions of Austria were hugely important in preventing a unified Germany by 1850. Austria feared nationalism as she worried it would spread to her own Empire and break it up. At the Congress of Vienna in 1815 Austria was made leader of the German states known as the Confederation of the Bund. This was hugely important as she used this position to stifle any political change and crush any attempts to spread nationalism and attempts to unify the states. For example in 1819 she passed the Carlsbad decrees, these banned student groups and newspapers from promoting nationalism **thereby** restricting their ability to promote nationalism and achieve unification. Austria also acted as an obstacle to unification because they contributed to the failure of the 1848 Frankfurt Parliament. Austria refused to accept the decision of a united Germany without Austria (kleindeutsch) and used her military strength, in comparison with the lack of military of Frankfurt, to persuade many different states to back out. This was an important obstacle as it meant that an attempt at union had been crushed. Finally in 1849 the Erfurt Union was created by Prussia which as a union of different state, yet Austria also contributed to the collapse of this attempt at unity because the threatened military action against Prussia by Austria and Russia meant she had was forced to abandon the plan. To sum up, the Princes even if they had wanted unification could not stand up to Austria and because Austria used military strength to stop nationalism the student and liberal groups who promoted nationalism were simply not strong enough to fight Austria, nor was there enough support from the masses of the German people.

There was a general lack of support for unification which was an obstacle to unification. **Although the different states all spoke German, causing some to argue that this was a unifying force since 25 million people spoke the same language, further analysis shows that the states were pushed apart due to religious differences as the north was Protestant and the south was Catholic, meaning that each were wary of any unity and threat that this might bring to their religious identity meaning that southern states had more allegiance to Catholic Austria rather than to the Protestant Prussia.** (You could also do a para on was there real economic unity? see previous essay)

While the student groups and Liberals worked to promote nationalism and call for unity they themselves were weak and this simply made it easier for Austria to reduce their influence. Internal divisions between the nationalists made them weaker because they could not agree whether Germany should be united without Austria (Kleindeutsch) or with (GrosDeutsch). Their continual debating also in part contributed to the failure of the Frankfurt parliament, as did their lack of an army, making them weaker and not present a unified front to Austria. In addition, the students and liberals lacked influence with the masses, they used lots of theoretical language which was simply above the common peasants. **While many middle classes had been inspired by books such as Goethe and stories of the Brothers Grimm, further analysis reveals that most of the peasants were more interested in staying out of poverty and basic survival, as historian Mann argued, they rarely looked up from the plough. Although composers like Beethoven tried to inspire nationalism through their music, peasants could not afford to go and see them.** It is notable that the 1848 revolution of the masses was complaining about living conditions and famine rather than calling for political change and unification. Therefore an obstacle to unification was that it was only a very small group of literate people who wanted it and they were not strong enough to challenge Austria.

To conclude the role of the Princes was quite significant as an obstacle to German unification. On the one hand the princes discouraged nationalism in their states for fear of losing their individual privileges, on the other hand given the strength of Austria it is unlikely that they could have united their states even if they had wanted to. Of more importance were the nationalists themselves who remained an urban elite who were unable to really inspire a sense of nationalism in the masses and whose divisions and arguments contributed to the failure of physical attempts to unify the states. By far the most important reason was the strength and actions of Austria, because it was through her actions that that nationalists attempts to unify such as Frankfurt and Erfurt collapsed. In addition her laws prevented nationalist groups from spreading ideas about nationalism.

Other similar questions

1. Austria was the greatest obstacle to German unification 1815-50. How valid is this statement?
2. To what extent were the nationalists themselves the main reason why they made little progress by 1850?
3. How significant was the lack of support from the masses in Germany's failure to unite by 1850?

To what extent had German nationalism made progress by 1850?

(On the one hand evidence of progress - on the other hand - evidence of no progress)

In 1815 Germany was not a unified country, despite Napoleon reducing the previous 400 states to 39, yet there was a small growth in nationalistic feeling amongst the people who wished to see the different states united. It is a source of debate how much progress was made in making people feel German and in uniting the states through economic nationalism, cultural nationalism and political nationalism. This essay intends to argue that by 1850 the nationalists had made very little progress.

The amount of progress in achieving economic unity was little by 1850. Prussia, one of the leading German states established a customs union called the Zollverein in 1830 which excluded Austria but had by 1846 25 states out of the 39 and 26 million people. **On the one hand some would argue that this is evidence of progress in economic nationalism and unity because the states had voluntarily given up their economic rights to join with other states and this is evidence of economic unity other historians disagree and argue that it should not be construed as nationalism, it was a pure economic union. In fact even member states viewed Prussia with hostility and were often angry that the Zollverein was a means to improve Prussia at the expense of other states. As seen in 1866 when many member states actually fought with Austria against Prussia, indicating that little economic nationalism had made little progress, similarly the nationalists made little progress in political nationalism.**

There is evidence of political nationalism in Germany. Liberal groups believed that a united Germany was necessary for a parliament to be set up which would allow them a part in decision making. These groups met up in towns to discuss ideas on how the German states could be unified. However their progress was limited, as most of these men were highly educated, they were talkers and dreamers rather than men of the people so were unable to affect a large number of people. In addition they were highly divided over what form a united Germany would take, a *Gros Deutschland* - with Austria or a *Klein Deutschland* - without Austria. As a result, they had little real impact in causing a growth in political nationalism.

There is evidence of the different states unifying which can be seen as evidence of progress in political nationalism. In 1848 a revolution swept Germany as many old rulers of states fled, the German Confederation crumbled and Austria was in no position to intervene, as a result the Frankfurt Assembly was formed in March 1848. The aim was to establish a united Germany with a constitutional monarchy. This demonstrates political unity as they drew up a constitution for a unified state. 574 delegates from virtually all German states attended. It was also important as this was the first serious attempt to challenge Austria's political power in Germany. However there was little lasting political union as the Frankfurt assembly collapsed, weakened due to internal divisions over the future of Germany and numerous states, encouraged by Austria simply walking out.

While the Erfurt Union 1849 was created by Prussia giving evidence of progress in political nationalism because it was a voluntary union of states under Prussia. It must be remembered that although 19 states joined, although bullied into it by Prussia, that in 1850 threat of attack from Russia and Austria caused Prussia to abandon the union and promise not to attempt any other form of political union. This signalled Austria reasserting her control over the German states. Therefore despite evidence of some desire for political union, the groups involved were not strong enough to have lasting success in this area by 1850. By 1850 Germany was still 39 separate states very much with their own leaders and being controlled by Austria.

Finally, there is little concrete evidence of progress in cultural nationalism, of making people in the states more aware of the idea of a united Germany. **Although many student groups were created to promote nationalism it is hard to argue that they had much success, for example in 1817 they held a festival at Wartburg where only 500 people attended, in addition the Austrian Carlsbad decrees of 1819 which banned the student groups and censored newspapers made it difficult to actually raise awareness.** Much of the culture of the time aimed to promote nationalism and the idea of a common German identity, for example by the composer Beethoven and writers such as Goethe and Schiller. Yet again there was unable to make progress in inspiring the masses to feel nationalistic because it was only really accessible to literate urbanites. The mass of the population were poor peasants who could not read or afford to go to opera so were not affected. Good evidence of the lack of progress in inspiring nationalism in the peasants is that in 1848 the workers and peasants revolted due to famine and poor living conditions, rather than for a united Germany.

In conclusion in practical terms nationalism had made very little progress by 1850. On the one hand, Prussia undoubtedly had assumed the position of the leader of nationalist movement, she became more anti- Austrian and pushed for a united Germany without Austria. The nationalists had gained valuable political experience in the Frankfurt assembly which they could use in future years. Yet in practical terms it is correct to argue that little progress had been made and most of this was due to either Austria or the weaknesses of the nationalists themselves. In terms of economic nationalism, despite the economic advantages which unity would bring, the states were far from wanting any additional union, especially at the expense of prussification. While liberal groups and student group attempted to promote nationalism, they were limited to educated elite and their physical attempts to actually unify, at Frankfurt and Erfurt ended in failure. Finally the masses of the German people were not affected by the culture of the time and were more concerned with survival than nationalism.

Other similar questions

1. The German nationalists had made great progress in their aims by 1850 - How valid is this view?
2. How strong was nationalism in Germany by 1850?
3. By 1850 political nationalism had made little progress in Germany by 1850 - how accurate is this?

"The economic crisis of 1929 was the main reason for the Nazi achievement of power in 1933" To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Context. During the 1929 great depression, support grew for the Nazis and they went from having 12 seats to becoming the largest party in the Reichstag. On the 30th of January 1933 President Hindenburg invited Hitler to become Chancellor using article 48. The economic crisis was very important in the Nazi achievement of power, however it is important to consider the influence of other factors. For example Germany's lack of strong government, the appeal of the Nazi party and leader and finally the political deal.

The 1929 economic crisis played a significant role in the Nazi achievement of power in 1933. In 1929 the USA experienced the Wall street crash, she recalled loans from Germany .Businesses and banks collapsed and unemployment rose to 6 million. *his was important to the Nazi achievement of power because* the Weimar Govt was unable to solve the crisis and people turned to extremists such as the Nazis who promised to end their suffering. Hitler promised Bread and Work. Given that the Nazis only had 12 seats in 1928, but as unemployment and suffering increased, their seats rose to 230 by 1932, there is a strong argument that the economic crisis was very important to the Nazi achievement of power (optional - and supports AJP Taylor's argument that the depression put the wind in the Nazi's sails). **However the economic crisis alone was not enough to bring the Nazis to power**, the communists also gained supporters during the economic crisis, but they did not come to power, indicating that the Nazis themselves had something special to win support, in addition the presence of a weak government was significant as it meant that people looked for alternatives. This would suggest that while the economic crisis was very important, alone it did not mean that the Nazis were guaranteed power.

The lack of strong government in Germany contributed greatly to the Nazi achievement of power. The voting system used was proportional representation, yet with 28 parties in the Reichstag, no one party was able to form a majority government. As a result coalition governments were formed and used to rule Germany. *This was important to the Nazi achievement of power because* these governments were ineffective, frequently collapsing and being unable to rule in times of crisis such as the 1929 depression. They did not give the Germans a good experience of democracy and therefore in 1929 Hitler won support by promising to abolish PR and return Germany to a strong single leader, as during the Kaiser. The govt also lacked genuine support from the people, they had signed the armistice which ended the war and were blamed for stabbing the army in the back. They also signed the Treaty of Versailles which punished Germany harshly at the end of the war. These actions meant that there was a lack of loyalty to Weimar and as such in 1933 the people were quick to turn from democratic govt and turn to the Nazis. **However, while the Weimar govt was weak, it was not doomed to fail.** After all, it did survive early revolts such as the Spartacist revolt and Kapp putsch. Plus during the 1924-29 Golden Years, while the economy was good the WR had a good level of support, the Nazis on the other hand were on the political fringe with only 12 seats. This would suggest with a stable economy, the WR could have survived, yet the 1929 depression was *more significant* as made it more likely that it would fail, yet even with the weak govt and depression combined. The Nazi party themselves had to be able to exploit this.

The Nazi party themselves were hugely important in their achievement of power. Firstly Hitler himself was a great speaker, who reduced complex problems to simple solutions, such as Bread and Work. His speeches were spell binding and were important as they made the Nazis appear as the only strong modern party which could lead Germany out of the economic chaos. The Nazis had broad appeal, offering something to every one. Jobs for the unemployed, higher prices to the farmers, to crush the Treaty of Versailles to the Nationalists. This contributed hugely to the Nazi achievement of power because it gained them support from a broad spectrum of people, making them more appealing than the communists who appealed solely to the working classes. Their promise to get rid of communism was especially important as it won them the support of the middle classes and wealthy and it was these people who voted in large numbers for the Nazis were instrumental in persuading Hindenburg to make Hitler chancellor. **However** as popular as the Nazi's policies were, they were not enough to ensure that they achieved power. After all, they never gained a majority and Hitler only received the chancellorship because industrialists and right wing politicians such as Von Papen persuaded Hindenburg to make Hitler chancellor, believing they could exploit Hitler's popularity and use him as a puppet chancellor. This was the final act which was required for Hitler to become Chancellor and was done at a time when the economy was starting to improve and as a result the Nazi were losing support, dropping to 196 seats. Overall **the Nazi appeal was as** important as weak government and the economic crisis, as they provided the ideal situation for him to exploit. Yet despite the presence of these factors without the political deal Hitler may not have been made chancellor.

In conclusion this essay agrees to a small extent that the 1929 economic crisis was the main reason for the Nazi achievement of power. **On the one hand**, it created the desperate situation which made people listen to people such as the extremists. **On the other hand** the lack of strong government was equally important as it meant that the German people were willing to look to extremists in the first place. The Nazi party was also as important because they were able to direct their policies to take advantage of desperation of the people and win popular support. **However, by far the most important reason was** the political deal, as it granted power to Hitler when he didn't have the majority support of the people and when his support was dropping as the economy improved.

Other similar questions

1. How important were Hitler's promises of a better future for the rise to power of the nazi party in 1933?
2. Without the economic crisis of 1929 the nazis would never have come to power - how accurate is this statement?
3. To what extent was the nazi achievement of power in 1933 due to weak opposition?

To what extent did the Nazi regime remain in power due to genuine support from the German people?

(Can replace Genuine support with : popular policies : fear and intimidation : social controls : totalitarian state : propaganda)

In 1933 the Nazi party were the largest party in the Reichstag and on January 1933 President Hindenburg invited Hitler to become chancellor of Germany. Despite 17 million not voting for Hitler in 1933 Hitler ruled Germany from 1933 to 1939 and was able to stay in power with little resistance as those who resisted the regime numbered less than 1% of the population. Certainly this was due in part to a grateful public who genuinely supported the Nazi regime due to its popular policies. However it is important to consider other factors responsible such as propaganda which was significant in persuading people that the Nazis benefited the country as well as deter opposition. Finally the creation of totalitarian state with Hitler at its head combined with the state organised terrorism meant that not only did people lack the opportunity to oppose the Nazis but they were too scared to and therefore explains how the Nazi regime remained in power.

it is clear they introduced policies which benefited some Germans. Unemployment for example dropped to less than 250,000 in 1939, through, amongst others, rearmament and the creation of public work schemes building roads **The significance of this was that Hitler was seen to deliver his promise to provide ' Bread and Work' after coming to power when 6 million were unemployed and therefore gained genuine support.** Significantly Hitler's foreign policy, tearing up the treaty of Versailles by rearming Germany in 1935 and joining with Austria in 1938 **was important in winning genuine support because again he was delivering his promises and he was seen to be making Germany a great and respected power by the crushing humiliating t of v. Undoubtedly for many people in Germany life improved for some it ensured acquiesce, if not genuine support, people were re able to justify turning a ' blind eye' to this helped the Nazis remain in power** However popular support alone can't explain why the Nazis remained in power. Nazi policies did not always bring benefits, with no trade unions workers found themselves earning less but working up to 70 hours per week with no possibility to strike. Women found themselves pushed out of the workforce and into the home. Some Germans clearly suffered during the Nazi regime, yet there was little overt opposition which would suggest that genuine support was not the only reason, not enough alone, why the Nazis were able to stay in power and indeed propaganda played a role

propaganda was a key tool used by the regime stay in power it permeated every part of life from newspapers, radios, films and books all sent a positive message about the Nazis and their policies. Radio was especially important in ensuring people heard the Nazi message. The Nazi state made them cheaply. the 'German Mini Receiver' cost only 35 marks – a week's wages. The huge Nuremberg rallies were an overpowering persuasive propaganda experience which showed the strength of the Nazis. held in August each year in Nuremberg. While some argue **propaganda prevented opposition as people believed that the Nazis were beneficial to Germany, recent research has shown that propaganda was more important in consolidating support, by reinforcing beliefs already held, rather than converting people to the Nazis.** An alternative view is that **Propaganda reinforced intimidation, it also had a threatening message such as posters saying ' death to our enemies' and the rallies gave the impression that the Nazis were all powerful and supported by the majority of population and this was important as for those that would have thought about opposing felt that resistance was futile. Therefore propaganda was less important than popular policies, as it mainly convinced those who already supported the Nazis due to benefits in lives.**

The Nazi use of fear and terror was a key reason why they were able to remain in power as the Gestapo, the Nazi secret police were responsible for creating a climate of fear in Germany which ensured conformity. They had the power to arrest anybody who spoke out against the Nazi regime and often did so in the middle of the night. They had agents based in every town who drew up lists of 'enemies of the people'. **Fear of a visit from the Gestapo, for themselves or their families, was a powerful incentive not to oppose the Nazis and therefore enabled them to stay in power.** The police were controlled by the Nazis and given the power to make 'protective arrests' of those suspected of opposing Hitler before they committed the 'crime' of criticizing the regime. **The unease which this created was significant in preventing complaints against the Nazis and also in creating a facade of support, since people were too scared to speak out for fear of reprisal.** The creation of concentration camps by the Nazis for their opponents also served to persuade people not to speak out about the Nazis. The first Concentration camp at Dachau was opened within a month of Hitler coming to power. Enemies of the regime faced brutal conditions. The average life expectancy of an inmate was just 9 months. **Fear of the camps acted as a powerful disincentive to rebellion and therefore can explain why so little resistance to Nazis.** *In this atmosphere it was virtually impossible for ordinary people to challenge the rule of the Nazis, it also suggests that popular policies alone did not ensure the Nazis remained in power. However the creation of a totalitarian state made it also hard to oppose the Nazis and helped them remain in power.*

Hitler created a dictatorship within 18 months of being made chancellor, he was able to control all of Germany and to legally cut off legal avenues for potential opposition. By banning all other political parties in 1933 Hitler effectively eliminated legal opposition by making Germany a 1 party state. **This was important because some political opponents simply gave up but others went underground but were unable to provide effective opposition due to infiltration by Gestapo, thus Nazis remained politically unchallenged.** Trade unions, another source of potential opposition were also banned. Strict censorship was introduced, the Nazis controlled everything read, heard or viewed and ensured that it was favourable to the Nazis. **It prevented opposition from having an audience to challenge the Nazis therefore helped remain in power.** Given that Hitler had control over all aspects of life - it is questionable whether in later years popular support was necessary, as Nazis by creating a totalitarian state could do whatever they wanted without fear of losing popular support.

In conclusion there were many reasons for the Nazi regime staying in power and genuine support was certainly one of them. *On the one hand many people supported the regime as a result of the benefits of popular domestic and foreign policies. Propaganda and censorship acted further to consolidate this support base. On the other hand, not everyone benefited from Nazi policies and for those who wanted to oppose Nazi rule, the climate of fear created by state terrorism was an effective deterrent. The Nazification of Germany and Nazi control of all areas also acted as the most important factor to silence potential opposition before it could really begin which might remove them from power. Overall the Nazi state remained in control of Germany by use of a carrot and stick approach. Therefore Kershaw's argument that genuine support maintained the Nazi position is incorrect, popular policies were just one tool amongst many that the Nazis used to stay in power.*