

Worksheet: Dorothy Fleming: Life in Vienna, Austria in 1938



Austrian citizens gather in the Heldenplatz in Vienna to hear Hitler's declaration of the Anschluss, 15 March 1938.

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After March 1938, things quickly got worse for Jews in Vienna. By November 1938, Jewish children were not allowed to go to school with non-Jewish children and by June 1942, they were not allowed to go to school at all.

Some of the anti-Jewish laws that were forced upon Dorothy and her family in March 1938:

- Jewish people lose their rights as German / Austrian citizens.
- Jewish people are not allowed to be members of sports clubs.
- Jewish people are not allowed to marry non-Jews.
- Jewish people are not allowed to work for the government.

Eventually, Jewish people could not go to the cinema, drive a car, buy a magazine, listen to the radio, stay out late or even own a business.

They could be thrown out of their homes at any time and had to wear a yellow star on their clothes, so people knew their identity. It was a terrifying and dangerous time.

TASK: Complete the boxes below to describe some of the changes that Dorothy and her family faced. Use the information provided in the text and what you heard in Dorothy's oral history.

Changes in home life:

Changes in school life:

Changes among her classmates:

Changes to leisure activities: