

Spring 5-2021

Surviving Through the Lessons of Sports

Ryan Fabre

Chapman University, fabre@chapman.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/cusrd_abstracts



Part of the [Holocaust and Genocide Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Fabre, Ryan, "Surviving Through the Lessons of Sports" (2021). *Student Scholar Symposium Abstracts and Posters*. 441.

https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/cusrd_abstracts/441

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by the Center for Undergraduate Excellence at Chapman University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Student Scholar Symposium Abstracts and Posters by an authorized administrator of Chapman University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact laughtin@chapman.edu.



Surviving Through the Lessons of Sports

Ryan Fabre

Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey Koerber

Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences, Department of History

Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education

During the Nazi era, European Jews experienced tremendous persecution in the form of racial laws, ghettoizations, and death camps. In the 1930s both antisemitism and the enthusiasm for sports were a part of German society and culture. As an act of defiance and neutralization of prejudice misbeliefs, Zionist Organizations created sport associations. This was a means to promote their ideology of establishing a new homeland.

Playing sports increased the willingness of survival upon being sent to the camps during World War II. The participation and competition allowed for the Jewish communities to create a identity and disprove the Nazis ideology of being subhuman.

These sports associations were well liked by their members. It allowed for people to forget about their misfortune, and it added a sense of belonging and inclusion to Jewish citizens within their society.



Photograph Number: 18055
(USHMM)

The donor, Ilse Dahl (left), competes against two other runners in the 100 meter race at a sporting event in Berlin.

References:

- Aharony, Michal. "Meet Fredy Hirsch, the Unknown Holocaust Hero Who Saved Children at Auschwitz." *Haaretz.com*. Haaretz, February 11, 2021. <https://www.haaretz.com/jewish/holocaust-remembrance-day/.premium.MAGAZINE-fredy-hirsch-athlete-jewish-wwii-holocaust-auschwitz-1.5976721?v=1620285003411>.
- Ashkenazi, Ofer. "German Jewish Athletes and the Formation of Zionist (Trans-)National Culture." *Jewish Social Studies* 17, no. 3 (2011): 124-55. Accessed April 12, 2021. doi:10.2979/jewisocistud.17.3.124.
- Brenner, Michael. "Introduction: Why Jews and Sports." *Emancipation Through Muscles : Jews and Sports in Europe*, 2006.
- EINSATZGRUPPEN: AN OVERVIEW." USHMM. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Accessed April 22, 2021. <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/einsatzgruppen>.
- Fritz Gluckstein . Interview 26731. Tape 2 and Segment 52. Interviewed by Genie Gluckstein. *Visual History Archive*, USC Shoah Foundation, 10 March 1997. Accessed 6 May 2021. <https://vhaonline.usc.edu/viewingPage?testimonyID=29020&segmentNumber=52&returnIndex=0>
- Gay, Peter. *My German Question: Growing Up in Nazi Berlin*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2008.
- Isi Hoch. Interview 32923. Tape 1 and Segment 3. Interviewed by Rob Vanalkemade. *Visual History Archive*, USC Shoah Foundation, 17 August 1997. Accessed 6 May 2021. <https://vhaonline.usc.edu/viewingPage?testimonyID=35913&segmentNumber=3&returnIndex=0>
- Krüger, Arnd. "'Once the Olympics Are Through, We'll Beat up the Jew' German Jewish Sport 1898-1938 and the Anti-Semitic Discourse." *Journal of Sport History* 26, no. 2 (1999): 353-75. Accessed April 12, 2021.
- Margot Friedlander. Interview 42338. Tape 2 and Segment 8. Interviewed by Nancy Fisher. *Visual History Archive*, USC Shoah Foundation, 19 May 1998. Accessed 6 May 2021. <https://vhaonline.usc.edu/viewingPage?testimonyID=35913&segmentNumber=3&returnIndex=0>
- Margot Segall-Blank. Interview 23341. Tape 1 and Segment 26. Interviewed by Paula Saltman. *Visual History Archive*, USC Shoah Foundation, 15 December 1996. Accessed 6 May 2021. <https://vhaonline.usc.edu/viewingPage?testimonyID=25120&segmentNumber=26&returnIndex=0>
- "FAQs. the Holocaust Resource Center," 2021. <https://www.yadvashem.org/holocaust/faqs.html>.
- "JEWS IN PREWAR GERMANY." USHMM. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Accessed May 5, 2021. <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/jews-in-prewar-germany>.

Photograph
Number: 20509(USHMM)

Group portrait of Jewish youth in a soccer team in Berlin. Tosca Kempler (born Taube Sussman) is the daughter of Jacob Sussman (b. Lublin, Poland) and Sima (nee Fluss) Sussman (b. Pysznica, Poland).

