# **Conformity Module**

## Background and Additional Information

#### More about the Holocaust

Watch The Path to Nazi Genocide (38 minutes)

Read Introduction to the Holocaust

Explore the Holocaust Encyclopedia

## More about Some Were Neighbors: Collaboration and Complicity in the Holocaust

Some Were Neighbors online exhibition

Background article by Susan Bachrach, Exhibition Curator

### Background on Bronia and Gerhard film

Holocaust Encyclopedia article: Nuremberg Race Laws: Background

- Sixteen-year-old Bronia was an ethnic Pole serving as a forced laborer in Germanoccupied Poland.
- Nineteen-year-old Gerhard Greschok was an ethnic German field hand working on the same farm.
- After their forbidden "interracial" romance was discovered, local townspeople subjected them to public humiliation shown in this film.
- As punishment, Gerhard was sent to the Soviet front, and Bronia to a concentration camp.
- Bronia's fate is unknown. Her family never saw her again.
- Gerhard returned from the front wounded and died in 1945 at the age of 23.
- The silent film footage was discovered in an attic in Sturov, Slovakia in 1946. It is unknown who took the film footage
- A Polish documentary called "Forbidden Love: The Story of Bronia and Gerhard" was made about this story and incorporated archival film footage. The film was directed and written by Marek Pawlowski in 2002.

#### **Background on Kristallnacht**

Holocaust Encyclopedia article: Kristallnacht: A Nationwide Pogrom, November 9-10, 1938

#### **Background on Deportations**

Holocaust Encyclopedia article: Deportations to Killing Centers

## **Background on Holocaust Survivor Testimony**

From The USC Shoah Foundation: The Institute for Visual History and Education