



Vocabulary – define in your notebooks

- Secular – non-religious
- Isolation – being kept apart from other people or groups
- Shtetl – a small Jewish town or village in eastern Europe

Essential Question:

What was Jewish life like in Europe between
World War I and World War II?

Shabbtai Sonenson and Teacher



United to Live: Holocaust Memorial Museum, courtesy of The Sholem Foundation

Shabbtai (Shepske) Sonenson takes one of the shtetl's Hebrew teachers for a ride on his new motorcycle, 1941.

Jewish Family in Kalisz



United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, courtesy of Francis H. Smith

A family in Kalisz, Poland, May 16, 1935.

Friends in Shtetl



The best source: *Halpern's Memoirs* at www.memoirs.com, courtesy of The Shtetl Foundation

A group of friends sledding in the shtetl, January 12, 1932.

Kalecka Jewish Elementary School



Uzrostek: 10-12 lat, wykształcenie: średnie, zawód: nauczycielka

Pupils in the second grade work in their classroom at the Kalecka Jewish elementary school in Warsaw, Poland, ca. 1937-1938.

Bar Mitzvah at Zerrennerstrasse Synagogue



United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, courtesy of Stubbins, Pforzheim

Ludwig Nachmann, the president of the congregation, follows the Torah reading during a bar mitzvah at the liberal Zerrennerstrasse synagogue in Pforzheim, Germany, 1936.

Three Generations of a Jewish Family, Vilnius, Lithuania



U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Three generations of a Jewish family in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, in 1938 or 1939. In the eighteenth century, Vilnius (Vilna in Yiddish) was a center of Jewish learning. By the 1920s and 1930s, roughly a half of the city's inhabitants were Jews.

A Children's Volleyball Team in Szczuczyn, Poland



A volleyball team in Szczuczyn, Poland. In the interwar years, it was not uncommon for Jewish children to participate in school or community recreational activities with non-Jewish children. Despite the lurking danger of antisemitism, Jews often had close relationships with Christians, which led many to believe that Jewish integration was possible and might even be welcomed.

Huber Sisters in Czechoslovakia



David M. Friedman and Miron M. Mironov on the right of Irenka

Irenka and Eliska Huber, sisters, at their home in Czechoslovakia in 1920.

Ensemble of Jewish Musicians in Latvia



United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, courtesy of Michael Halberstam

A small ensemble of Jewish musicians performs in Riga, Latvia, in the 1930s.

Huber Sisters in Czechoslovakia



Irenka and Eliska Huber, sisters, at their home in Czechoslovakia in 1920.

Journal Closure

- What do these pictures tell you about the lives of eastern European Jews during the period before World War II?
- What stories might be missing from this collection of pictures?
- What questions do the images leave unanswered?