

Name: _____

Klasse: _____

The Four D's: Denazification

How to carry out denazification?

The term has a wider meaning than only trying war criminals, as for example in the Nuremberg trials. It was an attempt to examine all Germans and to 'cleanse' or punish them.

Before you look at the following statistical material, discuss some of the problems involved, such as:

- how to try millions of Nazis (*Who is a Nazi: a party member? A supporter? etc.*)
- evidence and witnesses?
- who are the judges?

Until the end of the denazification process 3,623,112 individuals were tried in West Germany. They were categorised in 5 groups ranging from 'major offenders' (group I) through to 'exonerated' (i.e. not guilty; group V)

Category I: major offenders:	1,667
Category II: } minor offenders	173,485
Category III: }	
Category IV: followers	1,005,875
Category V: exonerated	1,213,873

Study the figures. Can you think of any explanations of these somewhat surprising results?