

= Sexuality of Adolf Hitler =

Adolf Hitler 's sexuality has long been a matter of historical and scholarly debate . There is evidence that he had romantic encounters with a number of women during his lifetime , as well as evidence of his antipathy to homosexuality , and no evidence of homosexual encounters . His name has been linked to a number of possible female lovers , two of whom committed suicide . Another died of complications eight years after a suicide attempt , and one made a failed suicide attempt .

Hitler created a public image as a celibate man without a domestic life , dedicated entirely to his political mission and the nation . His relationship with Eva Braun , which lasted nearly 14 years , was hidden from the public and all but his inner circle . Braun biographer Heike Görtemaker notes that the couple enjoyed a normal sex life . Hitler and Braun married in late April 1945 , less than 40 hours before committing suicide together .

Two wartime reports by the Allies attempted to analyze Hitler psychologically . Walter C. Langer 's 1943 report for the American Office of Strategic Services (OSS) describes Hitler as having repressed homosexual tendencies and opined that he was an impotent coprophile . Psychologist Henry Murray wrote a separate psychoanalytical report for the OSS in 1943 that drew similar conclusions . Otto Strasser , one of Hitler 's opponents in the Nazi Party , also told his post -war interrogators a similar story . British historian Sir Ian Kershaw describes Strasser 's statement as " anti -Hitler propaganda " .

In research following Hitler 's death , a variety of claims have been made about Hitler 's sexual orientation : that he was gay , bisexual , or asexual . Conclusive evidence is lacking , but most historians believe he was heterosexual . There is at least one claim that Hitler had an illegitimate child (named Jean -Marie Loret) with one of his lovers . Mainstream historians , such as Ian Kershaw , dismiss this as unlikely or impossible .

= = Historical accounts = =

Hitler 's sex life has long been the subject of speculation and rumours , many of which were invented or " spiced up " by his political enemies . While the sexual preferences of many members of Hitler 's inner circle are known , conclusive evidence of Hitler 's sexuality is lacking . The evidence that exists about Hitler 's private life is largely from people in his inner circle , such as his adjutants , his secretaries , Albert Speer , the Richard Wagner family , and others . There is evidence that he had infatuations with a number of women during his lifetime , as well as evidence of his antipathy to homosexuality , and no evidence that he engaged in homosexual behavior . British historian Sir Ian Kershaw describes him as being repelled by personal contact and sexual activity , including homosexuality and prostitution , especially as a young man in Vienna . He was afraid of contracting a sexually transmitted infection .

Hermann Rauschning claimed to have seen in Hitler 's First World War military record an item concerning a court martial that found Hitler guilty of pederastic practices with an officer . Rauschning also claimed that in Munich Hitler was found guilty of a violation of Paragraph 175 , which dealt with pederasty . No evidence of either of these two charges has been found .

Hitler had a few brief relationships when young . He was deeply attached to his half -sister Geli Raubal , 19 years his junior . She began living at his residence after her mother became Hitler 's housekeeper in 1925 . Although the exact nature and extent of their relationship is unknown , Kershaw describes it as a latent " sexual dependence " . It was rumoured among contemporaries that they were in a romantic relationship . Geli committed suicide with Hitler 's gun in his Munich apartment in September 1931 . Her death was a source of deep , lasting pain for Hitler . Ernst Hanfstaengl , one of the members of Hitler 's inner circle in the early years in Munich , wrote that " I felt Hitler was a case of a man who was neither fish , flesh nor fowl , neither fully homosexual nor fully heterosexual ... I had formed the firm conviction that he was impotent , the repressed , masturbating type . " Nevertheless , Hanfstaengl was convinced enough of Hitler 's heterosexuality that he unsuccessfully tried to encourage a romantic relationship between Hitler and Martha Dodd , daughter of the American ambassador . According to Hanfstaengl , filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl tried

to begin a relationship with Hitler early on , but he turned her down .

Hitler 's regime persecuted homosexuals , sending an estimated 5 @, @ 000 to 15 @, @ 000 to concentration camps ; some 2 @, @ 500 to 7 @, @ 500 of these died . After the Night of the Long Knives (1934) , Hitler described the homosexuality of Ernst Röhm and other SA leaders as corrupt and immoral . In August 1941 Hitler declared that " homosexuality is actually as infectious and as dangerous as the plague " , and supported Reichsführer @-@ SS Heinrich Himmler 's efforts to remove gay men from the military and the SS . Male homosexuality was illegal , and offenders were sent to prison or directly to concentration camps .

Hitler created a public image as a celibate man without a domestic life , dedicated entirely to his political mission and the nation . He considered himself to be attractive to women , partly because of his position of power . Hitler 's friend Albert Speer recalled him stating a preference for unintelligent women who would not challenge him about his work or prevent him from relaxing in his leisure time . Kershaw speculates that Hitler preferred younger women who were easy to dominate and mold . He notes that at least three of Hitler 's close female associates (Eva Braun , Geli Raubal , and Maria Reiter) were far younger than himself : Braun was 23 years younger , Raubal was 19 years younger , and Reiter was 21 years his junior .

His relationship with Braun , which lasted nearly 14 years , was hidden from the public and all but his inner circle . Within that circle (most of whom survived the war) , he was open about Braun , and they lived together at Berchtesgaden as a couple . Hitler 's valet , Heinz Linge , stated in his memoirs that Hitler and Braun had two bedrooms and two bathrooms with interconnecting doors at the Berghof , and Hitler would end most evenings alone with her in his study before they retired to bed . She would wear a " dressing gown or house @-@ coat " and drink wine ; Hitler would have tea . Braun biographer Heike Görtemaker notes that the couple enjoyed a normal sex life . Braun 's friends and relatives described her giggling over a 1938 photograph of Neville Chamberlain sitting on a sofa in Hitler 's Munich flat with the remark : " If only he knew what goings @-@ on that sofa has seen . "

Hitler 's letters provide evidence that he was fond of her , and worried when she participated in sports or was late returning for tea . His secretary Traudl Junge stated that during the war , Hitler telephoned Braun every day . He was concerned for her safety when she was staying in the Munich home he had bought her . Junge further asked Hitler once why he never married . Hitler replied , " ... I wouldn 't have been able to give enough time to my wife " . Hitler told her that he didn 't want children , as they would have had " ... a very hard time , because they 're expected to possess the same gifts as their famous parents and they can 't be forgiven for being mediocre " . In the end , Hitler and Braun married in the Berlin Führerbunker in late April 1945 , less than 40 hours before committing suicide together .

= = Langer 's and Murray 's wartime OSS reports = =

In 1943 , the American Office of Strategic Services (OSS) received A Psychological Analysis of Adolf Hitler : His Life and Legend by Walter C. Langer , commissioned to help the Allies understand the dictator . The report , later expanded into book form as The Mind of Adolf Hitler : The Secret Wartime Report (1972) , describes Hitler as having repressed homosexual tendencies and states that he was an impotent coprophile . Psychologist Henry Murray wrote a separate psychoanalytical report for OSS also in 1943 , entitled Analysis of the Personality of Adolph Hitler : With Predictions of His Future Behavior and Suggestions for Dealing with Him Now and After Germany 's Surrender . He also dealt with Hitler 's alleged coprophilia , but overall diagnosed Hitler a schizophrenic . One of Hitler 's opponents in the Nazi Party , Otto Strasser , told OSS interrogators that the Nazi dictator forced Geli Raubal to urinate and defecate on him . Kershaw contends that stories circulated by Strasser as to alleged " sexual deviant practices ought to be viewed as ... anti @-@ Hitler propaganda " .

= = Recent allegations = =

In research following his death , a variety of claims have been made about Hitler 's sexuality : that he was gay , bisexual , or asexual , or may have engaged sexual activity with his half @-@ niece , Geli Raubal .

The 1995 book *The Pink Swastika* , by Scott Lively and Kevin Abrams , asserts that most of the top Nazis were homosexual and that there is evidence that homosexuals are violent and dangerous . Mainstream historians have criticized the book for its inaccuracies and manipulation of facts . Bob Moser , writing for the Southern Poverty Law Center , says the book was promoted by anti @-@ gay groups and that historians agree its premise is " utterly false " .

Jack Nusan Porter of the University of Massachusetts Lowell wrote in 1998 : " Did Hitler despise homosexuals ? Was he ashamed of his own homosexual identity ? These are areas of psychohistory that are beyond known knowledge . My own feelings are that Hitler was asexual in the traditional sense and had bizarre sexual fetishes " .

Historian Lothar Machtan argues in *The Hidden Hitler* (2001) that Hitler was homosexual . The book speculates about Hitler 's experiences in Vienna with young friends , his adult relationships with (among others) Röhm , Hanfstaengl , and Emil Maurice , and includes a study of the Mend Protocol , a series of allegations made to the Munich Police in the early 1920s by Hans Mend , who served with Hitler during World War I. The American journalist Ron Rosenbaum is highly critical of Machtan 's work , saying his " evidence falls short of being conclusive and often falls far short of being evidence at all " . Most scholars dismiss Machtan 's claims , and believe Hitler was heterosexual . In 2004 , HBO produced a documentary film based on Machtan 's theory , titled *Hidden Fuhrer : Debating the Enigma of Hitler 's Sexuality* .

= = Possible relationships = =

Adolf Hitler 's name has been linked romantically with a number of women other than Eva Braun .