

HISTORY II

FYS

Section Moderator: Dr. Doug Bisson

Room: Massey 413

Time: 7:00 – 8:00 PM

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“Big Fat Liars: Holocaust Deniers and the Truth”

Miranda A. Hall, Timothy W. Hassett, Kathryn A. Hudson and Rachel E. Knight
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Douglas R. Bisson

There are people who believe the Holocaust, or aspects of it, never actually occurred; these people are referred to as Holocaust deniers or “revisionists.” The most prominent organization currently promoting Holocaust denial is the U. S.-based Institute for Historical Review (IHR) which spreads denier beliefs through its conferences, publications and web site.

Deniers believe the Holocaust is a hoax perpetrated upon a naïve public. More specifically, deniers assert that no homicidal gas chambers ever operated at Auschwitz-Birkenau, the most infamous of the Nazi death camps.

Although deniers claim no forensic evidence exists to indicate that gas chambers were used to kill humans, further research leads to a very different conclusion. Photographs, architectural blueprints, archeological investigation of the site, work orders, chemical analysis and the eyewitness testimony of contemporaries (including the memoir of the camp's commandant, Rudolf Höss) provide incontestable proof that gas chambers operated at Auschwitz and were employed to kill hundreds of thousands of human beings.