

# Emergence of Modern Political Antisemitism

# Modernity

- Enlightenment
- Individualization, secularization, rationalization
- Nation state, market, class-society
- Emancipation (out of the ghetto)
- Unparalleled mobility
- Ressentiment on behalf of the competitors

# Processes of transition to capitalism from feudalism

- Individualisation (from ascription to achievement)
- Rationalization (from faith to evidence based knowledge)
- Secularization (from dictatorship of the church to pluralism of interpretations of divinity)

# Institutions of transition from feudalism to capitalism

- Market (impersonal institution of economy)
- Class society (upward and downward mobility)
- Nation-state (universal suffrage, taxation, representation, citizenship/foreigners)

# Consequences of Modernization

- Disenchantment of reality
- Industrialization
- Urbanization
- Perpetual growth
- Mass communication/mass culture
- Professionalization
- Equality/Freedom/Solidarity

# Emancipation

- French revolution (1789)
- Breakdown of the feudal order (restrictions, privileges abolished)
- The age of ghetto has ended.
- The French revolutionaries disbanded the anti-Jewish laws in France in 1792 and Napoleon carried this revolution with him during his war of conquest.
- Full citizenship was granted generally in Western and Central Europe between 1848 and 1870

# Competitive society

- Competing individuals
- Competing classes
- Competing political ideologies  
(socialism, conservatism, liberalism)
- Competing nations (nationalism)
- Winners and losers

# Match of skills (modern demands-Jewish offers)

- Literacy
- Ability to learn
- Urban experience
- Communications skills/Knowledge of foreign language
- Translation
- Proneness to abstraction
- Mathematics
- Lack of bonds (freedom of the mind)
- Achievement motivation



# Resistance to social entropy

- Neither class/nor estate
- International network (throughout the diaspora)
- Conflict of values (modernity vs. traditonality)
- Social mobility
- Misperception of the winners
- Ressentiment of the losers



Snider's Early Plantagenets.

Longmans, Green & Co. London, New York & Bombay.

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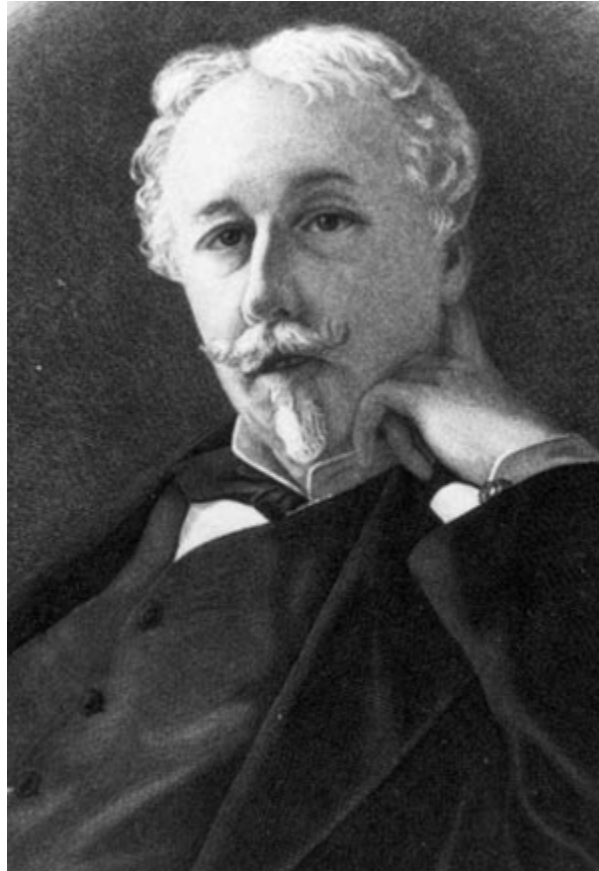
# Nation states in Europe

- The three historical regions of Europe (The East-West backwardness slope)
- Autonomy vs. Hierarchy
- Sein vs. Sollen
- Western Europe-Britain, France (early birds)
- Germany-Prussia (late comer)
- Central and Eastern Europe (small late comers)

# Racism

- Invention of the notion (colonialization)
- 1780 discovery of the relationship between the Indo-European language and the Sanskrit (Aryans)
- Identification of language with race
- Semitic languages=Semitic race (E.Renan)
- Assumed conflict between the Aryan and the Semitic races
- Racial Darwinism

# J.A. Gobineau 1812-1882



# Gobineau

- Essay on the Inequality of the Human Race
- White race's superiority in beauty, intelligence, and strength
- This race destined to rule the world

# Chamberlain, N.S. 1855-1927



# Houston Stewart Chamberlain

- „Foundations of the Nineteenth Century”  
„Once you have recognized the miracles selection can achieve, how a race horse or a dachshund or an ‘exuberant’ chrysanthemum is gradually bred by carefully eliminating all inferior elements, then you will also recognize the efficiency of the same phenomenon in the human race.”



# Racial theories

- Incompatibility of Aryan and Jewish principles
- Neither assimilation nor conversion would turn a Jew into a non-Jew
- Pseudo-science (measuring and comparing skulls and extremities, establishing alleged racial differences in the blood, in the electric resistance and in the breath)



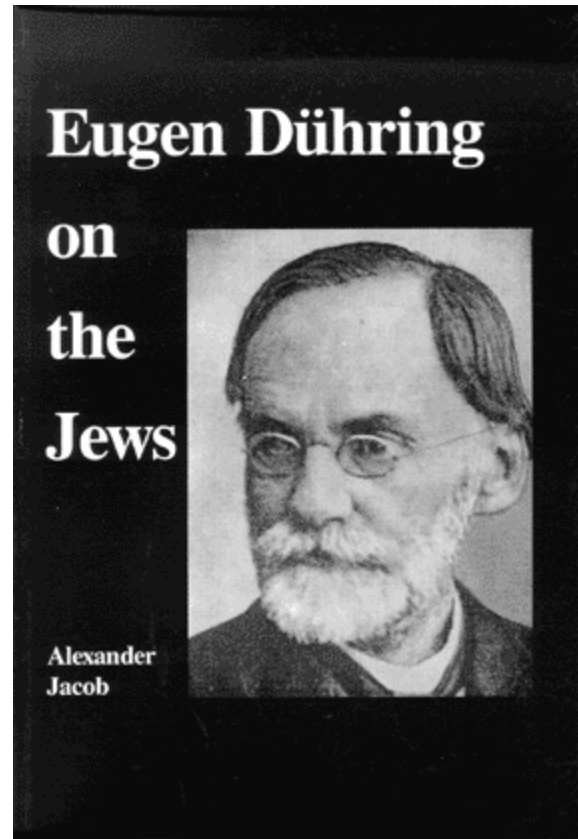
**“The fixed stars signify the angel in man. That is why man orients himself by them; and that is why women have no appreciation for the starry sky; because they have no sense of the angel in man.”**

**Otto Weininger**

# Otto Weininger

- Born in 1880, a Jew converted to Protestantism, ended his life in 1903
- Male principle (intellect, creativity)
- Female principle (being governed by instincts, noncreative, degenerating)
- „For the genuine, real Jew, like a woman, has no self and thus no value in himself”
- „The spirit of modernity is Jewish..

# 1833-1922



# Program of elimination

- Dühring: „It is the duty of of the Nordic man, who has ripened under a colder sky, to eliminate the parasitiv races, just as one simply has to eliminate dangerous poisonous snakes and wild beasts of prey” (He refers to medieval representations of the Jew)

# Georg Ritter Schönerer

## 1842-1921



# Germany for the Germans

- Schönerer: „We German nationals view anti-Semitism as a keystone of the national idea.”
- „Through purity to unity”
- The Germans served as role models for all other Central and Eastern European nations in the making (Poles, Czechs, Magyars, Slovaks, Romanians, Serbs, Croats)

# From „Judenhass“ to „scientific Antisemitism“

- Race as scientific ground
- Differences between races (Body)
- Superiority-Inferiority
- „Racial purity“
- The idea of elimination



# The German „Sonderweg”

- Forced modernization
- Niches of modernization to be filled by Jews
- Latecomer of nations
- Authoritarian structure
- Militarism
- Nationalism
- Capitalism as „alien”
- „The Jewish Question”
- Ethnic definition of membership in the nation

# Austro-Hungary

- Identity problem
- Jewish migration
- Austrian anti-Semitism
  
- „Jewish influence” (in culture, economy, politics)
- Political opposition to Jews

# Backwardness

- Feudal majority
- Challenge of modernization
- The demand of modern services
- The supply of foreigners
- Support of the state
- Popular resistance (anti-Semitism)

# Vienna at the turn of the century

- Lueger: „Greater Vienna must not turn into Greater Jerusalem”
- Weininger (Jewish self-hate)
- Freud (Psychoanalysis)
- Herzl (Zionism)
- Stalin (left wing totalitarianism)
- Hitler (right wing totalitarianism)

# Measuring the Jewish body

- Col Tempo-Project W. (Installation of Peter Forgács)
- 18-32. min
- (Venice Biennale, 2009)

# The body

- The body as a metaphore (society, nation)
- Source of multimodal immediate experience (smell, touch, voice, sight)
- Easy way of identification
- Source of drives
- Shame and pride
- Discipline and psychosis
- The body as a means of metacommunication

# The body of the Jew

- The beginning of otherness starts where the skin ends
- Feminization of the Jews
- Psychological imbalance (hysteria)
- Projection (witch, devil, vampire)
- O. Weininger
- Looking for evidence (data collection, research, exhibition, museum, Vienna, 1938)