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*The Br. John G. Driscoll Professorship in Jewish-Catholic Studies
and
Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center
Present*

The William H. Donat Shoah Commemoration Series

No One Ever Died Illegally in Auschwitz: The Nazis' Obsession with Legalizing the Holocaust

Thursday April 28, 2010

7:30 pm

Thomas J. Burke Lounge, Spellman Hall



The Holocaust represented the ultimate in sheer, brutal lawlessness. Yet the Nazi regime in Germany went to extraordinary lengths to legalize what they were doing, thereby creating the ultimate oxymoron, pseudo-legal terror. Nearly 2,000 laws were promulgated, directed solely, specifically and directly at the Jews, ranging from the quasi-constitutional Nuremberg Laws to the regulation of absurd minutiae. This presentation will examine the perversion of the country's legislative system, and its conversion into a savage instrument, designed to discriminate against, ostracize, dehumanize, and ultimately eliminate, its victims. It is a little-known dimension to the Holocaust, which added another weapon to the armory employed by the Nazis. The presentation will be accompanied by rare archival footage.

Dr. Harry Reicher was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, raised in Australia and currently lives in the Boro Park section of Brooklyn. He holds degrees from law schools in Australia, and Harvard Law School. For the last fifteen years, he has been teaching at the University of Pennsylvania Law School where, in 2003, he was the recipient of the Law School's inaugural adjunct teaching award.

Free and Open to the Public

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