propaganda as a weapon. During the New Deal and into World War II, American propaganda evolved ideas and created symbols of women as workers participating in the same jobs as men. German propaganda established the idea of the women as the safe, secure mother and domestic helper on the home front.

Consequently, German and American art was motivated by ideology (Edelman 10).

Nazi Germany refused to let the German people construct their own conclusions about art (Edelman 12). Instead, Nazi Germany controlled every aspect of art. Women were only publicized as mothers; to show otherwise would be contradictory to the state's purposes. In contrast, American women who were targeted by propaganda posters were given the opportunity to reverse roles with men by taking jobs in agriculture, medical fields, and factories.

Germany molded the female's career as mother, only allowing her to move into male roles when the war created a severe shortage of men. In political propaganda, a women's work was identified through nurturing and domestic duties. A typical poster reads, "Get rid of old cloth and shoes," reminding women that their work consisted of rallying the German people for clothing drives, food drives, and relief programs (Trueman). As previously discussed, female children were also encouraged and taught to carry out this type of relief work. Therefore, the characteristics that were involved in a German woman's work involved caring, consoling, and providing aid for others. Similarly, another propaganda poster depicts a woman plowing the field while her husband fights at the war. This captured the essence of the women's role primarily on the home front with their responsibilities around the house and caring for the children.

In 1933, Hitler established the Law for the Encouragement of Marriage, which stated that all newly married couples would get a government loan of 1000 marks or about 9 months average income (Trueman). This loan did not have to be paid back if the couple had children. The birth of one child meant that 25% of the loan did not have to be paid back, two children meant that 50% of the loan did not need be paid back, and four children meant that the entire loan was cleared (Trueman). The aim of this law was to encourage newlyweds to have as many children as possible to continue the Aryan race. Thus, women worked to get married and have many German children, for the good of the nation.

American political propaganda also had an effect on women. The Depression hit workers hard, including women (Bernikow 1). In America, domestic work was not considered real work, so typical jobs for women included teaching and nursing. However, it was difficult for women to find work until the beginning of World War II. Then, instead of women caring for the children and fulfilling domestics duties, they were encouraged to work, filling the jobs of the men who were abroad fighting in war. Propaganda posters proposed that women work in the medical field, factories, agriculture, and business. However, the war propaganda implied that women's work in these traditionally male fields would be only

temporary (Bernikow 1). Despite the short-term work options for women, they were at least still given the opportunity to thrive in the workplace during this time period. For example, one poster reads, "For Every Fighter: The Female Worker. Care for her through the YWCA." This poster exuded the equality of opportunity and support for women to work. The woman pictured is not showing her feminine figure. She has on a factory-style jumpsuit, her hair is pinned up, and she is willing to get dirty at work for payment. This image exemplified how American women could do work like men and be successful at it. Gender and physical appearance did not matter for the job. Another poster reads, "She's a Wow. Women Ordinance Worker." This poster conveys the American woman's ability to fulfill the requirements of the job. Also this poster advertised a woman's options for work, including jobs as ordinance worker, army corps, army or navy nurse, and the Red Cross. The woman resembles the more famous Rosie the Riveter. She has on similar factor-style clothes and seems confident to do the job accurately and efficiently. Since Rosie is so well known, other types of women were able to echo the individuality, diversity, and opportunities of the American female worker.

Political propaganda was a useful tool that helped establish the roles for working women. Nazi Germany created a career for women as the mother and as an aide to families and others in need. Germany established a strict role for the Aryan female, who worked on the home front for the good of the family. America chose to emphasize women's broader employment opportunities during World War II. These new roles gave them knowledge, training, and confidence in job equality and gender neutrality. The German image of the woman was narrow. The American view of women was multi-faceted. The German woman solely served for the purity of nation; the American woman labored for her own economic survival and career potential.

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