

The Atrocity of Hunger

During World War II, the Germans put Jews in Nazi-occupied Poland into ghettos which restricted their movement and, most crucially for their survival, access to food. The Germans saw the Jews as “useless eaters,” and denied them sufficient food for survival. The hunger which resulted from this intentional starvation impacted every aspect of Jewish life inside the ghettos. This book focuses on the Jews in the Łódź, Warsaw, and Kraków ghettos as they struggled to survive the deadly Nazi ghetto and, in particular, the genocidal famine conditions. Jews had no control over Nazi food policy, but they attempted to survive the deadly conditions of Nazi ghettoization through a range of coping mechanisms and survival strategies. In this book, Helene Sinnreich explores their story, drawing from diaries and first-hand accounts of the victims and survivors. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

Helene J. Sinnreich is Director of the Fern and Manfred Steinfeld Program in Judaic Studies at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She is the co-editor-in-chief of the academic journal *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* and was the founding editor of the *Journal of Jewish Identities*. She has served as a fellow at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, and at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. She is the editor of the book *A Story of Survival: The Łódź Ghetto Diary of Heinek Fogel* (2015).

The Atrocity of Hunger

*Starvation in the Warsaw, Łódź,
and Kraków Ghettos during World War II*

Helene J. Sinnreich

University of Tennessee, Knoxville



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009100083

DOI: [10.1017/9781009105293](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009105293)

© Helene J. Sinnreich 2023

This work is in copyright. It is subject to statutory exceptions and to the provisions of relevant licensing agreements; with the exception of the Creative Commons version the link for which is provided below, no reproduction of any part of this work may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

An online version of this work is published at doi.org/10.1017/9781009105293 under a Creative Commons Open Access license CC-BY-NC-ND 4.0 which permits re-use, distribution and reproduction in any medium for non-commercial purposes providing appropriate credit to the original work is given. You may not distribute derivative works without permission. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0>

All versions of this work may contain content reproduced under license from third parties. Permission to reproduce this third-party content must be obtained from these third-parties directly. When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI [10.1017/9781009105293](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009105293)

This book is freely available in an open access edition thanks to TOME (Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem)—a collaboration of the Association of American Universities, the Association of University Presses, and the Association of Research Libraries—and the generous support of the University of Tennessee. Learn more at the TOME website, available at: openmonographs.org.

First published 2023

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Sinnreich, Helene Julia, author.

Title: The atrocity of hunger / Helene J. Sinnreich, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Description: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY : Cambridge University Press, 2022. |

Includes bibliographical references and index. |

Identifiers: LCCN 2022022790 | ISBN 9781009100083 (hardback) | ISBN 9781009105293 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Holocaust, Jewish (1939–1945) – Poland. | War and society – Poland – History –

20th century. | Starvation – Poland – History – 20th century. | World War, 1939–1945 –

Atrocities – Poland. | World War, 1939–1945 – Food supply – Poland. | Jewish ghettos – Poland –

Łódź – History – 20th century. | Jewish ghettos – Poland – Warsaw – History – 20th century. |

Jewish ghettos – Poland – Łódź – History – 20th century. | BISAC: HISTORY / Europe / General

Classification: LCC DS134.55 .S566 2022 | DDC 940.531809438–dc23/eng/20220518

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2022022790>

ISBN 978-1-009-10008-3 Hardback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.