

Historical Analysis: Packet #1

In *Unspoken*, Noam and Jonah undertake historical research to solve the mystery surrounding the early life of Heinrich, Noam's grandfather. Now, you'll get to use your historian skills to analyze documents and then present your findings to your colleagues.

Your theme is **transgender identities in pre-Nazi Germany**. Below you'll find a set of documents from the archives for your review.

As a first step, watch "[They're Enemies of the State!](#)" as preliminary research to gather background information. Then, together with your partner or small group, analyze the documents by answering the discussion questions. You'll then present your findings to your class.

“Trans Certificate”

Medical and Police Documents

Discussion Questions for Source Analysis:

1. What kind of information do these documents tell us about Gerd Katter? ¹
2. Who issued these documents and what are the documents meant to do?
3. What can these documents teach us about transgender life in Germany before the Nazis came to power?
4. How (if at all) do these documents change your understanding of German and/or LGBTQ+ history?
5. What further information would you want to know? What would help you better understand these documents (or Gerd Katter)?

¹ Katter was given the name “Eva” at birth but chose to go by “Gerd” early on in life. To respect Katter’s wishes, the author of this lesson refers to him as Gerd.

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INSTITUT FÜR SEXUALWISSENSCHAFT

DR. MAGNUS HIRSCHFELD-STIFTUNG

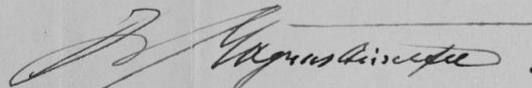
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BERLIN NW 40, DEN 23. November 28.....
IN DEN ZELTEN 10 UND 9A
EINGANG BEETHOVENSTRASSE 3

A e r z t l i c h e B e s c h e i n i g u n g .

Die Patientin Eva K a t t e r, geb. am 14. III. 10, wohnhaft Berlin-Britz Muthesiushof 8, der Person nach bekannt, ist im klinischen Sinne Transvestit. Zur Erhaltung ihres seelischen Wohlbefindens und ihrer Arbeitsfähigkeit bedarf sie daher der Möglichkeit die Kleidung des männlichen Geschlechts tragen zu können, die ihrem Wesen entspricht



Sanitätsrat.

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(13095E1)

INSTITUTE FOR SEXUAL SCIENCE

DR. MAGNUS HIRSCHFELD-FOUNDATION

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Berlin NW 7. Nr. 21803

Phone: MOABIT 8359

Berlin NW 40 on the 23rd of November '28
Under Awnings # 10 and 9A
Entrance at 3 Beethoven Street

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

The patient Eva Katter, born on March 14, 1910, who lives at 8 Muthesiuhof in Berlin-Britz, is a transvestite in the clinical sense. To maintain her mental well-being and her ability to work, it is necessary that she be allowed to wear men's clothing, which corresponds to her nature.

[signature]
Medical Consultant

[Stamp:] Institute for Sexual Science
& Address

[13095e1]



The Police President
Department 4

[E14093]

Berlin 25 Alexander Street 3-6
on the 6th of December, 1928

The worker Eva Katter, born the 14th of March 1910 in Berlin, living on Muthesius Street in Britz, is known to wear men's clothing.

[Photograph of Katter]

[Stamps of the police department]

[signature]

Criminal Commissar

Report Out

After analyzing evidence, historians must communicate their findings. You'll do so in two ways:

First, with your partner or small group, write up a brief biographical paragraph about Gerd Katter using the information from the documents. Then read or present your paragraph to your classmates. As you're writing your paragraph, think about: what do you want your classmates to know about Katter personally, and what overall lessons did you learn from these documents that you would like to teach your classmates?

Second, communicating your findings can be tricky, especially when there are gaps in the information. Documents rarely tell us a complete story. Write a few sentences identifying what information you would like to know but that these documents don't tell you. How might you find that information? Where would you look?