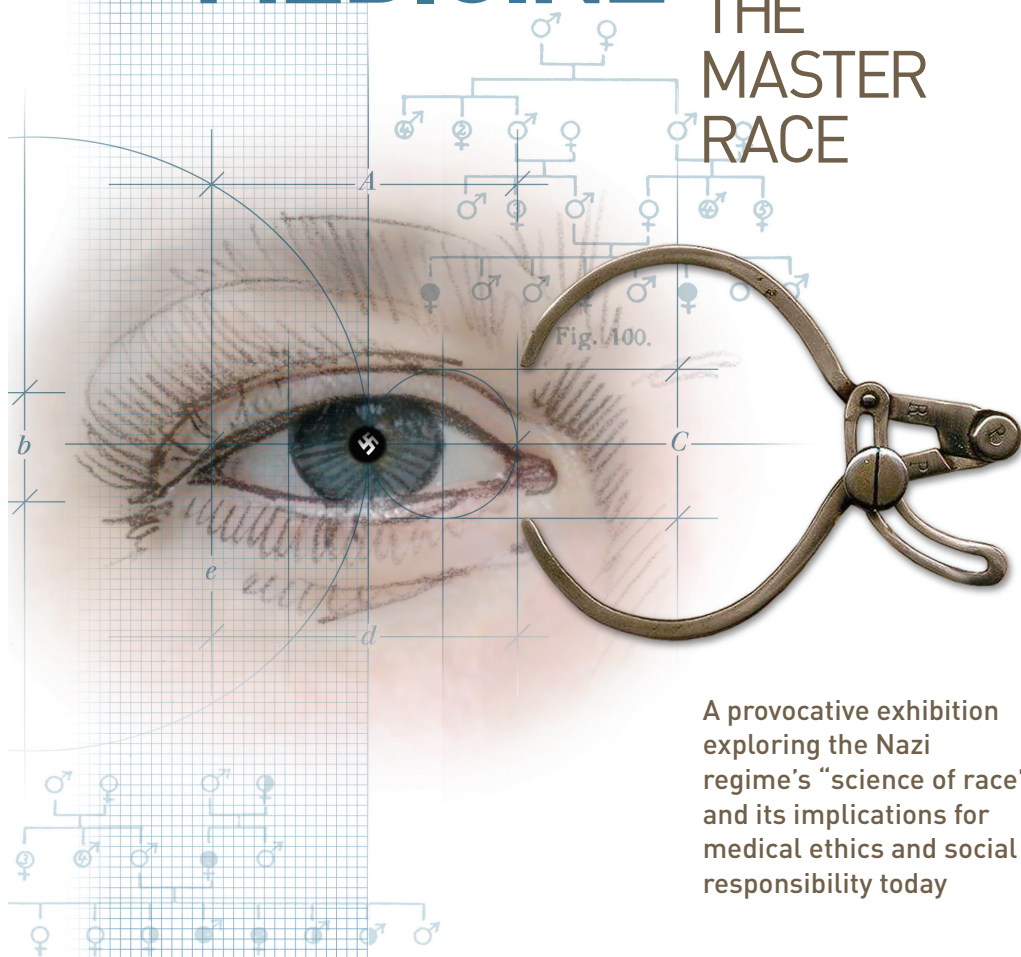


EXHIBITION

DEADLY MEDICINE

CREATING THE MASTER RACE



A provocative exhibition exploring the Nazi regime's "science of race" and its implications for medical ethics and social responsibility today

May 17–July 28, 2019

International Museum of Surgical Science

Fourth Floor Galleries

PRESENTED BY



International Museum of Surgical Science
A Division of the International College of Surgeons

1524 N Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60610
312-642-6502 | info@imss.org | www.imss.org

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From 1933 to 1945, Nazi Germany carried out a campaign to “cleanse” German society of people viewed as biological threats to the nation’s “health.” Enlisting the help of physicians and medically trained geneticists, psychiatrists, and anthropologists, the Nazis developed racial health policies that started with the mass sterilization of “hereditarily diseased” persons and ended with the near annihilation of European Jewry.

Many others were victims of Nazi racial health programs. Persons diagnosed as mentally retarded or ill and others deemed hereditarily inferior and a burden on national resources were primary targets of eugenics before and during the Third Reich.

To relate this history, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has assembled objects, photographs, documents, and historic film footage from European and American collections. *Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race* provokes reflection on the continuing attraction of biological utopias that promote the possibility of human perfection. From the early 20th-century international eugenics movements to present-day dreams of eliminating inherited disabilities through genetic manipulation, the issues remain timely.

This exhibition has been made possible by The Lerner Foundation and Eric F. and Lore Ross, with additional support from the Lester Robbins and Sheila Johnson Robbins Traveling and Special Exhibitions Fund established in 1990.


Opposite side: Anthropological calipers. *Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin*



“60,000 reichsmarks is what this hereditarily ill person will cost the national community over the course of his life. Citizens, this is also your money!” Nazi propaganda flyer to build public support for a mass sterilization program, circa 1937. *Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin*

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