The Blood and Soil

Nazi Ideology
2 Factors

• Blood and Soil (German: Blut und Boden) is based on 2 factors:

• 1) ethnicity, or descent (blood)

• 2) Homeland (Soil).
• It celebrates the relationship of a people to the land they occupy and cultivate, and it places a high value on the virtues of rural living.
Nazis often supported country living as more healthy, by sending urban children to the countryside to work in part in hopes of transforming them into Wehrbauern.
Wehrbauern were “armed peasants or Soldier peasants”. This was a name given by the Schutzstaffel (SS) of the Nazi Party to refer to soldiers designated as settlers for the lands conquered during the German invasions of the Soviet Union and Poland.
Richard Walther Darré wrote a book called Neuadel aus Blut und Boden (A New Nobility Based On Blood And Soil) in 1930, which proposed a systemic eugenics program, arguing for breeding as a cure-all for all the problems plaguing the state. Darré was an influential member of the Nazi party and a noted race theorist who assisted the party greatly in gaining support among common Germans outside the cities.

(Eventually, he would be promoted by Hitler as Minister of food and agriculture)
• Prior to their ascension to power, Nazis called for a return from the cities to the countryside. This agrarian sentiment presented the farmer as a superior figure beside the moral swamp of the city.
• “Blood and Soil” held that German land mystically “belonged” to German blood

• Peasants were the Nazi cultural heroes, who held charge of German racial stock and German history.

• “Only the man who worked the land really possessed it.”

• Urban culture was thought to be weak, "asphalt culture", that only the Führer's will (Hitler, the leader) could eliminate - sometimes as a code for “Jewish influence”.
• It contributed to the Nazi ideal of a woman: a sturdy peasant, who worked the land and bore strong children, contributing to praise for athletic women tanned by outdoor work. Moreover, country women gave birth to more children than city ones.
Neues Volk was a magazine created by the Official Radical Party in Nazi Germany in 1933. It displayed demographic charts to deplore the destruction of the generous Aryan families' farmland and how the Jews were eradicating traditional German peasantry.
Posters for schools depicted and deplored the flight of people from the countryside to the city. The German National Catechism, a pamphlet widely used in schools, also recounted how farmers lost ancestral lands and had to move to the city, with all its demoralizing effects...
• This map shows the movement of German farmers to cities, and Slavic (non-German) Blood streaming into the countryside.
• This chart shows the decline in German birthrates since moving to the cities.
• More specifically, this was the message the Nazi Party was sending to German people....
How has the Jew subjugated the peoples?

With money. He lent them money and made them pay interest. Thousands and thousands of Germans have been made wretched by the Jews and been reduced to poverty. Farmers whose land had been in the family for more than 100 years were driven from their land because they could not pay the interest.
• What happened to those farmers?

They had to move to the cities. Torn from the land to which they belonged, robbed of their labor that gave their lives purpose and meaning, they fell victim to poverty and misery. Worn down, their souls crushed, they accepted Jewish doctrines that denied the Fatherland and opposed all that was nationalistic. Their strength and ability faded.