



# Holocaust, the forgotten extermination of GAYS!!

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Distinguished by a pink triangle sewn on the striped uniform, the gays crowded the concentration camps scattered throughout Europe, suffered humiliation and torture, were subjected to crazy experiments pseudoscientific until death (the mortality of homosexual prisoners is estimated at 60%). A torn page of history because homophobic prejudice, exalted by the Nazi regime to the point of punishing even the "homosexual fantasies", was certainly not absent in other countries, not even in those that opposed the Third Reich during the Second World War.

And so, when the gates of Auschwitz and the other lagers were demolished by the allied armoured forces, many of the survivors marked with the pink triangle preferred to keep silent the real reason for their internment, becoming victims without voice and without justice.

The Nazi obsession with gays had already become apparent with the "night of long knives", when Hitler wiped out the SA (assault troops, ed) and his boss, the homosexual Ernst Röhm. For the Führer there was a real "homosexual conspiracy that threatened the normal conception of a healthy nation". Delusions that do not surprise even today, unfortunately, since still in too many countries in the world homosexuality is still considered a deviance, a disease, when not a crime punishable even with the death penalty.

But the drama of the gays in the concentration camps was twofold: on the one hand the torture of the Nazi torturers, on the other hand the isolation operated by the other prisoners. Gay people were

last among the last, pariah in that monstrous universe that was the lager. Many of them were castrated, some even at their own request, to show the regime the intention to "heal from the disease" and hoping to return home. Many others were used as guinea pigs for clinical experiments, such as the implantation of an artificial testosterone gland which, in the intentions of the Reich's butchers, was supposed to heal homosexual deviance. One hundred thousand homosexuals were involved in Nazi purges: 60 thousand served their sentences (from 5 to 10 years) in prison, from 10 to 15 thousand were interned in concentration camps. Important numbers of a forgotten Holocaust.

The extermination of the pink triangles, as well as that of Jews, Roma, the disabled and political opponents, represented the uncovering of Pandora's box, the valve of unavowable thoughts that were not foreign to the society of the time, in Germany as in Italy, England as in France or Russia. And Berlin, which until the advent of Nazism had been the capital of freedoms of the time, suddenly turned into a world base of homophobic regurgitation, hell in the land of men and women who paid with their lives their sexual inclination.

## **NEVER FORGET, ALWAYS LEARN**

Giuseppe Leone Footsteps