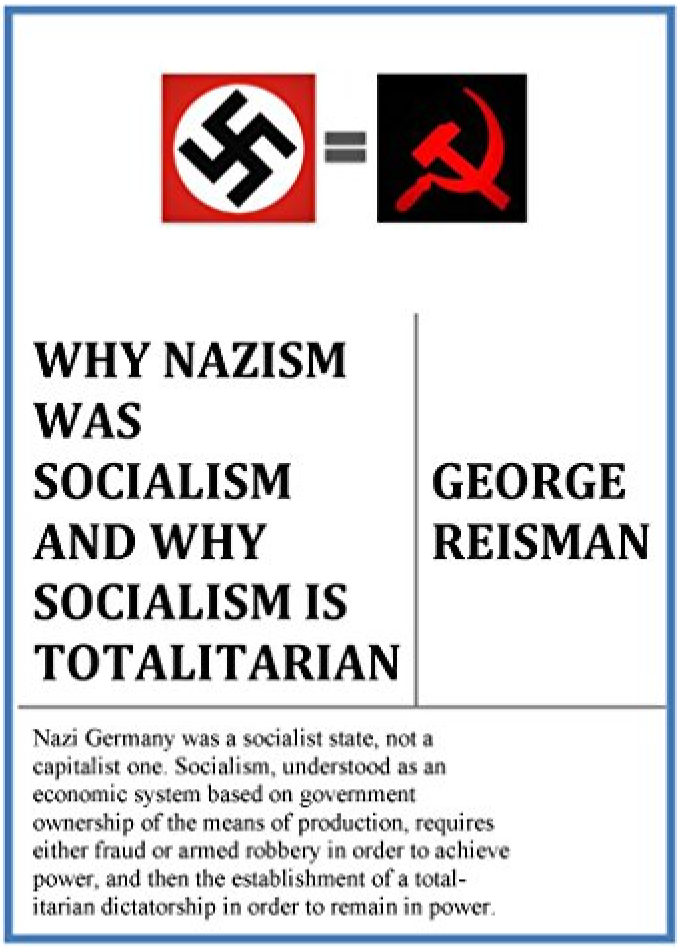
# Why Nazism Was Socialism And Why Socialism Is Totalitarian



## Synopsis

This essay explains why Nazi Germany was a socialist state, not a capitalist one. And why Socialism, understood as an economic system based on government ownership of the means of production, requires either fraud or armed robbery in order to achieve power, and then the establishment of a totalitarian dictatorship in order to remain in power. Social Democrats do not have the stomach for armed robbery and the mass murder it entails, and thus do not establish socialism but merely a more hampered market economy. It takes the Communists to openly establish socialism.

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## Customer Reviews

This 15 page essay is worth 10 times its price. Reisman is an Austrian School economist and student of Ludwig von Mises, but he is exceptional in this way --- his writing is as clear as a bell. High School students can easily understand even his most academic work. Here, Reisman makes just two points: That Nazi Germany was a socialist state, not a capitalist one, and that every kind of socialism must, because of its nature, lead to totalitarian rule. Reisman begins by pointing out the obvious; "Nazi" is an abbreviation for the word "Nationalsozialistische," which in English means "national socialism." It is interesting that thousands of academics over the last 75 years have been successful in overlooking this fact as they made the case that Germany under Hitler was a capitalist state.The orientation of Reisman's work here is economic. The word "fascism" is not found and the word "Hitler" is used only once. This is an example of the accuracy of Reisman's understanding of history. Hitler, we have discovered since his time, was not a fascist. The ideology he espoused was "Hitlerism." Not knowing the difference has flummoxed the brains of almost everybody writing on the subject.Reisman explains that every kind of socialism is marked by government ownership of the means of production, but with Nazism, that ownership is not direct ownership. It is a tacit ownership. Property is not actually appropriated by the government nor managed by government agents. Property, that is, the land, buildings, equipment, and such, remains in private hands while every other characteristic of ownership, planning and decision-making, for instance, accedes to the appropriate government agency.

Socialists constantly deny that. Nazism is Socialism. They claim that Nazism and Socialism are different because corporations in Nazi Germany were not directly owned by the state (the people) as they would be under Socialism. Reisman makes the argument that, in fact German businesses, while nominally privately owned, were completely controlled by the state. The Nazi state determined what would be produced, how much to produce, how much profit could be taken, who would work, how much they would be paid, etc. All of this was done in the name of the German people. In other words, Nazi Germany was a Scocialist state.Reisman also gives the reader a clearer understanding of the violence inherent in the Socialistic conception of labor and its rewards: labor is not rewarded based on the value of what is produced but on a state determined reward system. Therefore, there can never be a "fair" distribution of wealth. This means that there will always be shortages and misapplication of Capital (Capital being everything that goes into production-to include labor) because no Governmental agency-in fact, no agency-can precisely determine what, where, when and how much of a product is needed.Furthermore, anyone who disagrees with the state's (the People's) policy is considered an "enemy of the people" and treated as such. Thus Gulags, concentration camps and the elimination of inferior (rebellious) citizenry are a necessary part of Socialism. And, so, Socialism has brought to the the world the mass murder of undesirables (Soviet Union, China, Vietnam Nam, Cambodia, Cuba, Germany, etc.) in the hundreds of millions.Socialists like to point out that Sweden and other European countries are "Socialist", and they don't do these things.

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