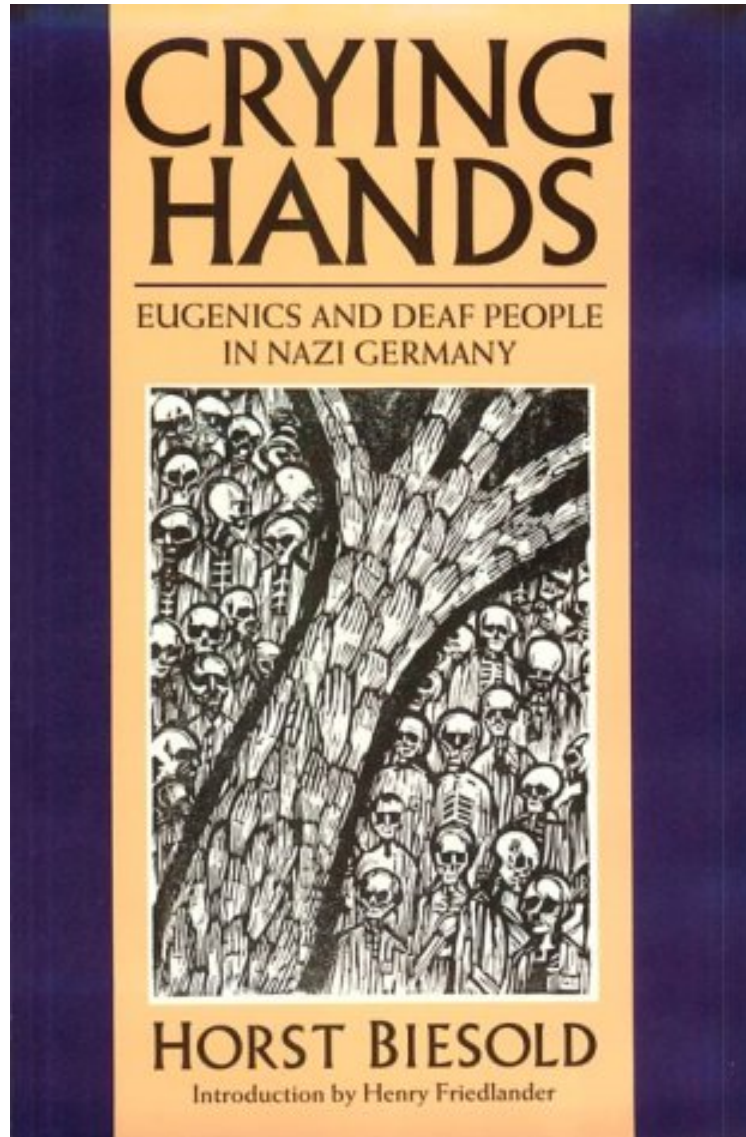


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## Crying Hands: Eugenics and Deaf People in Nazi Germany

*Horst Biesold*

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**Horst Biesold : Crying Hands: Eugenics and Deaf People in Nazi Germany** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crying Hands: Eugenics and Deaf People in Nazi Germany:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy bigcatgreat book!9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Sad history of Deaf people at hands of NazisBy K. L SadlerI first read the book on the medical holocaust in Germany by Dr. Friedlander. I then came across this one in my search for more material having to do with the Deaf in Germany. This book was originally a dissertation, however, Gallaudet Press and the translator,

William Sayers, did a great job in turning what would be a dry dissertation into a short, but interesting book. Horst Biesold is an interpreter who in the performance of his job, came across members of the German deaf community who were finally willing to tell their story about being forced to undergo sterilization. He writes with obvious concern for and about his deaf clients, and the emotional and psychological impact that the eugenics laws had on these people. It is with concern and dismay that I am researching the same subject only in the United States, since the Nazis often wrote that many of their ideas and programs were first proffered by eugenicists in the U.S. This book is a good reminder that when societies don't stand up for what is right, even when it does not directly affect most individuals, you cannot tell how far the 'slippery slope' is going to go. The Holocaust did not just become the Final Solution for the Jews, but included the gypsies and the disabled, and those who were considered 'life unworthy of life.' With the completion of the Human Genome Project, and proponents of euthanasia getting more vocal, and doctors like Kervorkian, and HMOs who put their bottom line before the worth of people...it is all too possible that this horror could happen again, and in this country. I urge ethicists, physicians, and educators to read this book as well as members of the deaf/disabled community so that we can protect ourselves from those who would put less value on our lives for whatever reason. Karen L. Sadler, Science Education, University of Pittsburgh

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Amazing highly recommend  
By Amanda  
A great read for anyone who wants to work or be involved in the deaf community. Very well written and it's an attention grabber. Be warned that it can be sad at times just like anything about world war 2

Now available in paperback; ISBN 1-56368-255-9

An extraordinary book and a fine piece of historical research. About the Author  
Horst Biesold was a professor and teacher of deaf students in Bremen, Germany.