

Chapter 2: Betrayal and Resistance

On 26 August 1942, Roosje, her mother and her brother John receive an order to travel to Westerbork. John does not say much but leaves immediately, without saying goodbye, to go into hiding. Roosje also responds quickly. She has already managed to get a fake ID for herself and now organizes one for her mother as well. Then she manages to get a hiding address in Naarden through her friend Kees van Meteren. They stay there until 6 October 1942, the day they are arrested. They have been betrayed by a Dutch collaborator.

ASSIGNMENT 1

When Roosje comes back to the guesthouse after a visit to Hilversum on 6 October 1942, she sees the police are there. Roosje and her mother are arrested and put into custody until they are transported to Westerbork one week later.

Assignment

How do you feel about the behaviour of the policeman as described in source 1?

- Choose from the following options and explain your answer:
- He could not have behaved differently
- He should have behaved differently
- Your own choice

SOURCE 1

Roosje's and her mother's arrest, 6 October 1942

(...) Escaping was out of the question, so I dismounted my bike and walked toward him (the police officer). As he returned his pistol to its holster he said: "I arrest you in the name of the law. I know who you are. You are Miss Rosa Glacér, fugitive because you're Jewish and didn't go to Westerbork. You are also in possession of identity papers in the name of Miss Cornelia Donkers.

He ordered me inside. The policeman was well behaved and seemed to be of a decent sort. He let me know he found it unpleasant that he had to do this. (...). I offered the police man everything I had and beseeched him in the name of everything he held sacred to release me and my mother immediately. "That would be far too dangerous," he said. "I am here in response to a telephone call from the Sicherheitspolizei (Security police) in Amsterdam. They were so well informed; it can only be betrayal".

Paul Glaser, Dansen met de vijand/ Dancing with the Enemy, Amsterdam 2016, 106, 107.

ASSIGNMENT 2

In source 2 another policeman reports. He explains the situation for the Dutch police after the Germans occupied the country.

Assignment:

- Describe the situation for the Dutch police according to him
- Explain the dilemma the police are facing
- Explain why source 2 does or does not change your answer to assignment 1

SOURCE 2

Andere tijden, (Other Times), is a well-known television programme that shows aspects of historic events from a different point of view.

This source is about the dilemma of a police officer who had instructions from his government and queen, but had to deal with a very different reality.

Cornelis was a very young policeman during the war. Just as many civil servants, he had been instructed by the government and queen in exile, to maintain order and calm during the war. During the early years of the war this was possible and the work he did was more or less the same as before the German occupation. The change came gradually.

First they received a booklet with German laws. People had to adhere to a black-out every evening and the police had to check and hand out fines in cases of obstruction. In due course the SS, responsible for the deportation of the Jews, involved the Dutch police in picking up families and in taking them to the station to be transported to Westerbork. Families were given an hour to pack some belongings. Cornelis remembers the first time he had to join an SS officer.

The family with three girls began to pack. The youngest girl, Annie, did not start packing but was terribly upset because she had animals she couldn't take and she was worried about their well-being. Cornelis helped her to put the cat, her frog and her lizard outside. He told her there was plenty food there and that the cat would find a nice old lady who would look after him within a few days. Together they gave the canary enormous amounts of food and water, so that he too would be fine. The girl was happy that the animals would be alright and started packing.

Cornelis is emotional and has felt powerless in the situation. He says that the only way out of this was to kill yourself. He was present and watched and tried to make a small difference where he could.

Bekijk de video hier: <https://vimeo.com/311506920>

ASSIGNMENT 3

Who betrayed Roosje and her mother? When they are arrested they do not know.

You are going to answer this question as if you were a detective. First you examine the profiles of the possible perpetrators and then you look for a possible motive for the betrayal. You take the following steps:

- Formulate a hypothesis on who betrayed Roosje and her mother based on the profiles alone. Explain how you came to this opinion.

Then study sources 3 to 10. They may give you extra information on possible motives which may mean you have to adapt or change your hypothesis.

- Are you changing your hypothesis or not? If so: how? Explain your conclusion in both cases with information from one or more sources.
- Is your analysis correct? You can check by listening to source 11.

	Leo Crielaaars (with Roosje) – married to Roosje from 1937 to 1939, owner of a school of dancing, divorced from Roosje after enormous conflicts in 1939; anti-Semite.
	Marinus Crielaaars – Roosje's brother-in-law, fierce anti-Semite who increasingly influences his brother. Roosje and Leo share a house with him after their marriage. There are continuous fights.
	Kees van Meteren – charming, in love with money, fixer. He supports Roosje when life with Marinus and Leo ends.
	Henk Coljée – owner of the guesthouse in Naarden, member of the NSB. The guesthouse he runs is open to German officers.
	Magda Coljée – Henk's wife who is German but speaks Dutch very well.
	An unknown policeman

SOURCE 3

Naarden, Wednesday 6 October 1942 – Roosje is betrayed!

It is 6 October 1942. The sun chases away the fog on this early, gorgeous autumn morning. Roosje leaves for Hilversum to do some shopping. She has a cup of tea on the terrace of Grand Hotel Gooiland. She is thinking of her father. He has been taken by the Germans to work in a camp for hard labour and he is really not suited for that kind of work. She is worried. Fortunately, her friend Kees van Meteren is willing to find out whether he is still alright. At half past five that afternoon she cycles back to the pension in Naarden. Her mother and Roosje are hiding there with false identity papers.

The pension is run by Mr and Mrs Coljee. She is German and he is a member of the NSB. When Roosje rides into the street she sees a taxi in front of the pension. She is hopeful that Kees has arrived. He always travels in style with a taxi. Then she spots a policeman in the kitchen, he is talking to Magda Coljee. She realizes something is wrong, turns her bike around but before she can escape, the policeman comes running out with a drawn pistol. He shouts at her: 'Stop or I'll shoot'. Roosje realizes that running is no longer an option.

Paul Glaser, Dansen met de vijand/ Dancing with the Enemy, passim

SOURCE 4

Leo Crielaars

In 1936, Wim Vermeulen, the love of her life dies in a plane crash. Roosje is going through the darkest time of her short life. Life seems empty and useless. Then she meets Leo Crielaars. He looks after her and helps her to enjoy life again. He discovers they share a passion: dancing. They get married in 1937 and together they run dance schools in Den Bosch and Eindhoven. He advises Roosje to change her last name Glaser to a more stylish 'Glacér'. They visit international dance conferences in Brussels, Paris, London and Berlin. She becomes a well-known dancer. The marriage, however, does not last. They get divorced in 1940. One of the main reasons for the break-up is the increasing influence of Leo's brother and his racist opinions. . During one of their fights Leo says: "Have you read Mein Kampf? The Jews are to annihilated. Maybe you will be lucky because you're married to me, and they will only deport you to Palestine, but the rest don't have a snowball's chance."

Paul Glaser, Dansen met de Vijand/ Dancing with the Enemy.

SOURCE 5

Marinus Crielaars

Marinus Crielaars is Leo's elder brother and even long before the war he is a staunch supporter of the NSB. He is an anti-Semite.

Once married, Leo and Roosje share a house with him for some time. Roosje and Marinus often clash. When Roosje once asked him why he disliked her so much he said: "You can go to church a hundred times but you are a Jew and you always will be. I am a National Socialist, and you'll see: all Jews are destined for hell and we're going to help them get there. Just you wait, my time will come. Then we'll be done with all the corruption."

Paul Glaser, Dansen met de Vijand/ Dancing with the Enemy.

SOURCE 6

Magda and Henk Coljée

Magda Coljée is a German woman married to Henk Coljée. Together with her husband she runs a pension in Naarden, where they also receive German officers.

Henk is Dutch and a member of the NSB. Roosje knows this but she assumes that the Germans will not look for her mother and her the Coljee's house. She does not mention her Jewish background. She tells Magda Coljée the following story: 'My father has been arrested and put in camp Haaren, my mother and I are running away because they want us too'. Then she asks if hey can rent two rooms. She can. Despite Roosje's and her mother's arrest the Coljees were able to continue running their pension as usual.

Paul Glaser, Dansen met de Vijand/ Dancing with the Enemy.

SOURCE 7

Kees van Meteren

During the period of her divorce from Leo Crielaars, Roosje meets Kees van Meteren. He is in love with her and is a great support to her. He is popular with a lot of women, however, and is always short of money. He helps Roosje and her mother several times but does want to be paid for his services.

On 26 August 1942 Roosje, her brother and her mother receive orders to travel to Westerbork. Roosje describes this moment later: I think and thinkand suddenly I recall Kees' words: 'Should you ever get into trouble; I will always be happy to help you.' That is when she goes to the pension where Kees lives in Naarden. Mrs Coljee opens the door and tells her that Kees is in hospital. Roosje travels to the hospital and asks Kees for help. He is immediately willing to help, however, he does want 350 guilders because he cannot afford to pay the hospital. He advises her to rent rooms for her mother and herself from the Coljee family. Roosje then gives him the Fl 350, -

Paul Glaser, Dansen met de Vijand/Dancing with the Enemy.

SOURCE 8

The unknown policeman

Not much is known of the policeman who arrested Roosje and her mother on 6 October 1942. We know he had a wife and children and it is not likely that he belonged to the group called 'Schalkhaarders'. They are Dutch policemen who are receiving a German training in Schalkhaar, a hamlet near Deventer. We also know he did not want to let Roosje and her mother go, not even when she offers him everything she owns. He says he cannot do that. That is extremely dangerous for him since he has been sent by the Sicherheitspolizei(Security Police) in Amsterdam. He does point out that this has to be a case of betrayal. There is no other way the police could have found out where Roosje and her mother were.

SOURCE 9

From a letter from Magda Coljée to Roosje.

About half an hour of your arrest, Kees came home. The first thing he said to me was: 'Am I too late?' or words to that effect. We told him that you had been arrested by the police. He immediately left for the police station. When he returned he told me the police had said that I had told the police that he had betrayed the Glacér ladies (...)

Paul Glaser, Dansen met de Vijand Dancing with the Enemy, Amsterdam 2016, 147

SOURCE 10

Letter from Leo Crielaars to the Court of Justice in Den Bosch

*To the Highly Esteemed Gentleman,
Mr. Van Leeuwen, Public prosecutor general of the Court of Justice in 's-Hertogenbosch*

Highly Esteemed Sir,

Since the Kulturkammer was officially founded a few weeks ago I am referring to your letter of 28 October. In it you communicated that dancing classes taught by Jews could continue for the time being.

However, when the regulation was announced, I immediately contacted the police and the Kulturkammer about the case of Roosje Glaser.

Mr Vos, our local police inspector, communicated with me that Roosje Glaser has a letter from the Kulturkammer, signed by the secretary of the ballroom dance department, which allowed her to continue. As long as he did not receive a letter telling him otherwise, he could not do anything about this.

After that I contacted the above mentioned secretary who told me that the letter from the Kulturkammer is null and void and he would look into the matter. Since I am concerned that this case would be shelved due to the very busy times I am turning to you to solve this case once and for all.

I hope you will take this letter into consideration, thanking you for your time and effort

*Yours Faithfully
L.J.Crielaars*

Summary:

Leo Crielaars writes to the court that it is incorrect that Roosje is allowed to keep on teaching dance classes – even if she has permission. This permission does not apply any longer. As a Jew she can no longer be a member of the Kulturkammer (only those who were members were allowed to teach dancing). So, he is asking the Court (Mr van Leeuwen) to intervene and take action against Roosje.

Private collection Paul Glaser

SOURCE 11

Audio file in which Paul Glaser explains who betrayed Roosje and her mother.

Beluister het fragment hier: <http://localhost:8000/bestanden/1962/download>

Distant past?

Distant past?

During the German occupation, part of the Dutch population actively collaborates with the Germans. This collaboration may be violent, for instance by people joining the Waffen-SS. Non-violent collaboration occurs by joining the NSB.

The resistance against the Germans can also be violent or non-violent. Armed gangs, for instance, violently raiding ration offices, or the usually non-violent support to people in hiding. Immediately after the war, most Dutch people think that the resistance against the Germans was wide-spread. In the course of time this opinion has changed.

In 2001, Chris van der Heijden writes a book called: *Grijs Verleden (Distant Past)*. He writes that during the war the largest part of the Dutch population continued with their lives as if nothing much was happening. Paul Glaser – the author of 'Dancing with the Enemy' – is also convinced this is true. He writes: *'there was not much resistance during the war; people tended to be passive, to exploit the situation economically. Later there were many examples of collaboration and outrageous betrayal'* (p. 283)

Is this vision correct?

ASSIGNMENT 4

It is not easy to determine the existence of betrayal or resistance in the everyday life of the Second World War.

Assignment

Roosje was betrayed but at the same time many others did not betray her. The students of the illegal dance school she ran in her parents' attic until 1942, for instance.

- Was the attendance of Roosje's dance school until well into 1942 (source 12) an act of resistance of the students or not? Explain your answer.
- Imagine yourself in 1942. You love dancing. You also know you could learn a lot from the famous dance teacher Roosje Glaser, who even was on the news! Would you register for classes at her illegal school? Explain why you would or why you would not.

SOURCE 12

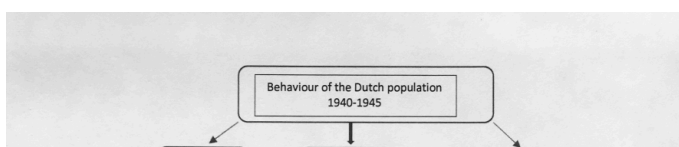
Students enter Roosje's illegal dance school, 1942

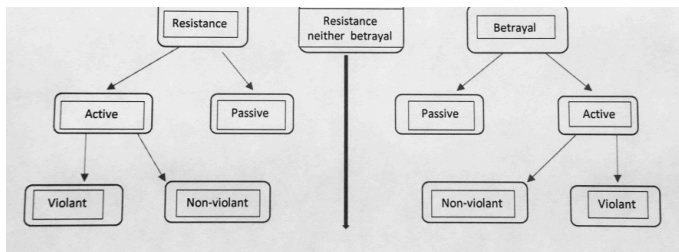
Bekijk de video hier: <http://youtu.be/3FMlByz4Nr4>

ASSIGNMENT 5

The schedule below shows the behaviour of the Dutch population between 1940 and 1945. Do remember that the boundaries between various behaviour were not as clear as shown in the schedule.

- Use sources 8-18 (except for source 11) and explain per source under which heading it would best fit in the schedule.





Behaviour of the Dutch population 1940-1945

SOURCE 13

My dear,
 Daar het mij bekend is dat ik die joden in uw huis verborgen houdt raad ik u aan te zorgen dat er voor Woensdag 15 Sept aan de heer Coolenziel waar het postkantoor een enveloppe met 7,50 bezorgd is onder letter A. B. C. daarmee is uw geheim bij mij veilig. Mocht het er niet zijn dan voel ik mij verplicht anderen maatregelen te treffen.

Source 13

SOURCE 14

From the Amsterdam city archives.

Dutch non-Jewish people could earn DFL 7,50 per person for each betrayed Dutch Jew. This amount was increased to DFL 40,- during the war. Although there were plenty people who never wanted to accept this, there were just as many who betrayed Jews without wanting a reward. We can only guess at their motives.

NB: DFL=Dutch guilder

Summary of the source (written tot the Dutch police in Amsterdam):

I feel obliged to mention the fact that a German Jew lives at Merwedeplein 45 (...)I felt it necessary to turn to you; if I should have been with the German police, will you do that?

Signed: a National-Socialist

Bekijk de video hier: <http://www.joodsamsterdam.nl/verraad/>

SOURCE 15





Source 15

SOURCE 16

One of the most famous raids by a resistance gang took place in Leeuwarden in 1944. More than 50 members of the resistance were held captive in the local prison. A film about this raid came out in 1962.

Information from Wikipedia

On 8 December 1944 at a quarter to six, two police officers with three prisoners report to the prison. The guard of the prison had received a phone call shortly before that three black marketeers would be arriving. The two policemen and their prisoners are in fact members of a resistance gang. Once inside the gate they overpower the guards and open the door to more members of the gang. In this raid 51 members of the resistance were liberated, without a single shot being fired.

Wikipedia

Bekijk de video hier: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYggA9BsPk0>

SOURCE 17

VERBODEN VOLK !!!
GHEHEENT DE JOONKE KINNEKE AAN HET NIEL-GEVELD, VERGT EE IE
IN GEHEENT OP !!!
BESCHT DE ENORME KRACHT VAN
DE BESCHTINDE DAAD !!!
Wese is vele malen groter dan de Duitse militaire besetting!
Gij zult in de verzet ongetwijfeld een groot deel van de Duitse
arbeiders-soldaten met U !!!
STAAKT!!! STAAKT!!! STAAKT!!!
Legt het gehele Nederlandse bedrijfsleven één dag plat, de werken
de fabrieken, de stellingen, de kantoren en buizen, groenten-bedrijven
en verwerkingsbedrijven !!
Dan zal de Duitse besetting moeten inklinken! Dan hebt gij een
slag toegebracht aan het monsterachtige plan, versiert aan de macht te
niet, maar verhindert ge een verdere ineenval van ons land !!
Dan krijgt ge de kans Londenberg met het N.V.V. te jagen !!
STREK OOK GYMAL UP KESIN VOOR VERKESING VAN LOON EN WERK !!
WEEST BESCHTINDE!! WEEST MONDIE!!
WIKSIE FIER WOCH DE VERKESING VAN ONS LAND !!!

Source 17

SOURCE 18



Source 18

ASSIGNMENT 6

Final assignment

Sources 19-22 give a view of the behaviour of the Dutch population during the war. This behaviour was characterized by resistance or betrayal. Behaviour was supposedly mainly fitting the "grey" area.

Assignment

- Study the sources and give three arguments for whether you agree or disagree with the view that the Dutch population showed rather indifferent behaviour towards the German occupier. Explain how you came to your conclusions.
- Perhaps you cannot form an opinion on the basis of the sources. In that case explain your point of view.

SOURCE 19

A few numbers

The number of organised members of the resistance was very small at first.(...) Organised resistance grew from the summer of 1942. Decisive in this development was that the tide was turning. This meant that resisting made sense. In 1943 (...) there are supposedly a few thousand members of the resistance, in the summer of 1944, i.e. between D-Day and D-Day (D-Day), about 25,000. After that the numbers increased but become obscure as well. (...) This is about a quarter percent on a population of nearly 9 million people. In France as well as in Belgium the percentage of members of the resistance was higher: 1 percent and just below 1 percent, respectively.

Van der Heijden, Grijs Verleden. Nederland en de Tweede Wereldoorlog (Distant Past. The Netherlands and the Second World War.) Olympus, 2003, 280, 281

SOURCE 20

An eyewitness from the war

Nevertheless, on the face of it we live our daily lives. No measures, no force can keep us from our way of life. For a mere moment we are distracted by this measure or that violence.....But it is always just a moment. Our existence continues like a blocked stream re-taking its course. The train, the office, the stock exchange.....

J.H. Penning, Op dood spoor. Een burger in oorlogstijd, (A blind alley, a citizen in war time) Amsterdam, 1945

SOURCE 21

Part of an interview with Bart van den Boom, author of the book Wij weten niets van hun lot.(We know nothing of their fate). To write this book he read and researched dozens of personal war diaries by 'ordinary Dutch people. The research question was: What did the Dutch know about the fate of the Jews?

In your book you object to the term 'grey'. Why?

Van der Boom: 'This word means indifference: it is each to his own, as long as I have enough to eat. That is not a realistic account of what many Dutch people thought during the war. Of course, they wanted to survive the war and not bring down danger on their families, but apart from that they were very indignant about the suffering endured by others. (...)

Anyone using the term 'grey' thinks that people who behaved 'grey', actually were 'grey'. The behaviour of people living in

a police state is not a true reflection to what they think. Behind 'grey' behaviour could be black-white thoughts.'

Historisch Nieuwsblad, (Historic News) 24 April 2012.

SOURCE 22

Some numbers on resistance and collaboration.

- Winkler Prins Encyclopaedia of the Second World War
- Paul Vigeveno, Ton van der Meer, *Grenzen aan de solidariteit. Een lessenserie over de Holocaust*, 102, 103 (Boundaries to solidarity. A lesson series on the Holocaust)
- https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bevolking_van_Nederland

Size Dutch population in 1940	8,834,000
Size Dutch population in 1945	9,220,000
Scale of active resistance in 1943	ca. 25,000
Scale of active resistance in 1945	ca. 45,000
Scale of active collaboration in 1945	25,000 soldiers on the Eastern front + 100,000 members of the NSB
Number of records of conviction after the war	450,000 of whom 150,000 were punished

REVIEW YOUR FIRST CHOICE.

In the introduction lesson you formulated an answer to the question: Would you also help your worst enemy should he/she be in danger?

- Has your point of view changed or not? Explain what made you change/ not change your mind?