

# The interviewee and his family

*Full name* Halina Najduchowska (nee Szwarc)

Where and when were you born? Lodz, 30th October 1925

Where else did you live? Warsaw

Your educational level? Graduated from Warsaw University with a Master's degree in sociology

What sort of work do/did you do? Sociologist

How religious was your parents' home? How were you raised? Assimilated. Mrs. Najduchowska's father had leftist sympathies, but he didn't have any strong political commitments either. He was a sort of a militant atheist and Mrs. Najduchowska's mother didn't like this at all.

*What is your mother tongue?* Polish

How many other languages do you speak? English, German, Russian, Serbian

# Where were you during the Holocaust?

Lodz ghetto (1939 – 1944), concentration camp Auschwitz, forced labor camp Freiberg (today Germany), concentration camp Mauthausen (today Austria)

# What did you do after the Holocaust?

Graduated from high school, attended university and studied electricity, physics, special needs and sociology, worked as an academic

### Siblings

Their names

Sala Wyszegrod (nee Szwarc) (f), stepsister, same father Fela Szmulewicz 1 voto Merenlender (nee Szwarc) (f), stepsister, same father Hersz Szwarc (m), stepbrother, same father Renata Szwarc (f)

Where and when were they born? Sala: probably Lodz, 1910 or 1911 Fela: probably Lodz, 1913 Hersz: probably Lodz, 1915 Renata: Lodz, 1923

*What is their mother tongue?* Polish

#### Their educational level?

Sala, Fela and Hersz: finished elementary school Renata: before WWII she finished 3 years of a vocational school for bookbinders; after the war she graduated from Lodz University with a Master's degree in sociology

Their occupations? Sala: owned an ice-cream shop with her husband Fela: seamstress Hersz: no information Renata: sociologist

Where do/did they live? Lodz

Where else did they live? Fela: lived in Israel after WWII Renata: Warsaw Do they have children? Sala: one son, Bronek Fela: one son, Teodor, and one daughter, Ruth Hersz: did not have children Renata: one daughter, Magdalena

Where and when did they die? Sala: died in Auschwitz Fela: died in Israel after WWII Hersz: died in the Holocaust, probably in Auschwitz

## Spouse

Name? Roman Franciszek Najduchowski

Where and when was he/she born? A village near Cracow, 21st January 1926

Where else did he/she live? Warsaw

*Is he/she Jewish?* No

What is his/her mother tongue? Polish

### His/her educational level?

Graduated from the Warsaw School of Economics with a Master's degree in economy

Occupation? Economist

Where and when did he/she die? Warsaw, 1979 Tell me anything you know about his/her siblings (Name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, name of wife and children, whether their family is Jewish and whether it is religious). No information, they were not Jewish

## Children

*Their names?* Piotr Tomasz Najduchowski

Were they raised Jewish/do they identify themselves as Jews? Piotr is half-Jewish, but he was not raised Jewish.

Where and when were they born? Warsaw, 1959

Where else did they live? Warsaw

*Their educational level?* Graduated from Warsaw University with a Master's degree in economy

Their occupations? He doesn't work, receives a disability pension

*How many grandchildren do you have?* None

# Father

*His name?* Beniamin Szwarc

Where and when was he born? Somewhere in the Prussian sector of partitioned Poland, 1886

Where else did he live? Lodz

Where and when did he die? Auschwitz, 1944

What sort of education did he have? Three or four classes of an elementary school

What sort of work did he do? Electrician

*How religious was he?* Mrs. Najduchowska's father was a militant atheist, which worried her mother.

What was his mother tongue? Polish

# Army service: which army and what years?

He cut off two of his toes, because he did not want to go to the Russian Army.

# Tell me about his brothers and sisters. (name, date of birth and death, occupation, place of residence, family, etc.)

Name Hasura ?	place and date of birth/death The oldest sister.	Occupation No	biographical data and origins of spouse No information	Biographical data of children Two sons –	attitude to Jewish traditions No information but
(nee Szwarc) (f)	She was much older than her brother, who was born in 1886. She lived in Lodz.	information			rather not religious
Ita ? (nee Szwarc) (f)	She was much older than her brother, who was born in 1886. Died with her husband and daughters in Lodz Ghetto	No information	No information	One daughter, Sala. Sala had two daughters, Halinka (b. 1925) and Hanka (b. 1923) and two sons – Romek and Izio. Halinka and Hanka were close friends of Mrs. Najduchowska and her sister, Renata.	No information but rather not religious
Lola ? (nee Szwarc) (f) ? Szwarc (m)	The youngest sister of Mrs. Najduchowska's father. She lived in Berlin, Germany. Died with his	No information. She emigrated from Germany to Palestine after 1933 Emigrated to	No information	No information	No information
	wife in Auschwitz	Palestine in		Dorka, born in	probably not very

1930s but

1925, died in Lodz religious

ghetto

came back to Poland before WWII

Where was he during the Holocaust? Lodz ghetto (1939 - 1944), killed in Auschwitz in 1944

# Paternal grandfather

Your paternal grandfather's name?

? Szwarc (died in 1926, no further information)

# Paternal grandmother

Your paternal grandmother's name?

? Szwarc (nee ?) (died before 1926, no further information)

# Mother

*Her name?* Maria Szwarc (nee Biber)

Where and when was she born? Lodz, 25th March 1899

Where else did she live? Warsaw

Where and when did she die? Warsaw, 1978

What sort of education did she have? Russian gymnasium (equivalent of high school)

What sort of work did she do? Housewife before WWII

## How religious was she?

She was not religious: she was an assimilated Jew, although she did not want to offend her guests and she was not happy that her husband showed his atheism.

What was her mother tongue? Polish

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Name	place and date of	Occupation	Biographical data	biographical data	attitude to Jewish
	birth/death		and origins of	of children	traditions
			spouse		
Sala Borensztajn	Killed in Lask	Housewife	Lajb Borensztajn	One son, Daniel	Not very religious but they observed Jewish
(nee Biber)	during WWII				tradition regardless of the opinion of the
	with her husband				community.
	and son				
Ruta Fejtlowitz	Emigrated to the	Housewife	Aba Fejtlowitz,	Two sons born in	No information
(nee Biber)	United States in		they got married	the USA – Daniel	
	1919, died there		in 1923 in the	and Harvey.	
	in 1981		United States		
Hela ?	Killed in Lask	Housewife	Her husband was	One daughter,	No information
(nee Biber)	during WWII		a tailor	Anka	
	with her husband				
	and daughter				
Leon Biber	(Lodz, 1907 –	Salesman in a	Irishwoman,	One son, Danny-	He wasn't religious.
	1908 – Israel,	shoe-store	Minnie	Born in 1940s-	
	1980s).				
	Emigrated in				
	1920 or 1921 -				
	lived in Los				
	Angeles. He				
	moved to Israel				
	after his wife's				
	death.				
Motek Biber	Killed in	He was a	Helena (Hela)	One daughter,	No information
	Auschwitz with	disabled	Biber, she was a	Anulka, born in the	
	his wife and	person. He	tailor	1930s.	
	daughter	worked as a			
		janitor.			

## Tell me about her brothers and sisters.

Where was she during the Holocaust?

Lodz ghetto (1939 – 1944), concentration camp Auschwitz, forced labor camp Freiberg (today Germany), concentration camp Mauthausen (today Austria) If she survived, what did she do after?

She worked as a proof-reader in a publishing house. She helped her daughter in running the house.

# Maternal grandfather

*Your maternal grandfather's name?* Daniel Biber

Where and when was he born? No information

Where else did he live? Lodz

Where and when did he die? Lodz, before 1919

What sort of education did he have? No information

What sort of work did he do? No information

*How religious was he?* No information. In the only existing photo of him, he is wearing a beard.

What was his mother tongue? No information

Army service: which army and what years? No information

# Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

name	Place and date of occupation	Biographical data	biographical data	attitude to Jewish
	birth/death	and origins of	of children	traditions
		spouse		

No information

# *Where was he during the Holocaust?* Died before

# Maternal grandmother

Your maternal grandmother's name?
? Biber (nee ?)

Where and when was she born? No information

Where else did she live? Lodz

Where and when did she die? Lodz, 1919

What sort of education did she have? No information

What sort of work did she do? No information

How religious was she? No information

What was her mother tongue? No information

#### Tell me about his brothers and sisters.

Name

Place and date of occupation biographical data biographical data birth/death and origins of

of children

attitude to Jewish traditions

spouse

No information

Where was she during the Holocaust? Died before