

## Stolpersteine

Gieda Ida Tisch, nee Adler and Sigmund Tisch

Martha Reich, nee Tisch and Davis Reich

Helen Reich, married Edelstein and Gabriella Reich, married Shapiro

In Kassel, Sickingenstrasse 11 (former Sedanstrasse)

These stones represent the fates of 6 persons from 3 generations. They fled to freedom and death. They would have certainly not given up their home in Kassel, nor their life, if Germany's government had not turned to fascism. The exclusion through racism, humiliation and systematic extermination of "Gypsies" and Jews as part of the Nazi ideology. As a result, Germany - with approval of large parts of the population - set the world on fire. Building up the concept of an enemy was prerequisite to aggressivity against inner and external enemies. The Jewish blood being the medium of inferior characteristics and qualities. This was taught at High Schools and preached down on media. The people should be exterminated and their remembrance deleted forever.

**Gieda Ida Adler** originated from Gudensberg. She was born in 1872 into the family of butchers of Sussmann Katz Adler and had two siblings. The tomb of her father is in Obervorschütz. Possibly, the butcher journeyman **Sigmund Tisch**, originating from Hamburg and looking for a job in the region, met the butchers daughter Gieda and fell in love with her. Born in 1880 in Hamburg and first registered by the police in Kassel in May 22, 1902, noted as being in search of work. He has 2 sisters in Hamburg. His parents are Fanny Katzenstein and Ephraim Tisch. On Nov.5, 1902, Gieda and Sigmund get married and move to the Orleansstrasse 13. They have 2 children: first **Alfred** Sussmann, born 19.03.1903 and finally **Martha**, born 17.05.1904 in Altona.

The register card of Family Tisch notes 21 address changes within twenty years of either all the family, Ida with children, or Sigmund alone. Sometimes, Ida was with her parents-in-law in Altona for several months, while Sigmund was working in Bremen. They moved a lot inside Kassel, too.

In the year 1909 they all lived together in the Schlachthofstrasse 61. The Israeli old age home is situated in the 1. and 2. floors, where Sigmund acts as a porter. Fon 3516.

There is a picture from this time, 100 years old, with the whole family, including the mothers-in-law. On Oct.1, 1914, the old age home moved to the Mombachstrasse 17, just around the corner. It has room for about 20 residents. Family Tisch belongs to the staff. Their names –including their children Alfred and Martha- are the first ones in the houses register. Three housemaids and 17 residents move in at the same time.

In 1918, the family moves to the ground floor of the Sedanstrasse 11. In the address book of 1919 Sigmund is registered as the director. The relationship of the couple is conflictual and they separate in 1923. In the same year, their son Alfred emigrates to the USA. The 20 years old probably got fed up with the disputes of his parents. He married a "Californian girl" in his new home. Son Tom, born in 1939, is the initiator in 2013 for today's STOLPERSTEINE.

How does life go on in the Sedanstr. 11 in Kassel?

At that time, Gieda and daughter **Martha Tisch** are alone in the Sedanstrasse 11, without husband and brother. Both women are registered in existent documents as being without a profession. In 1932 Martha gets married to **Simon David Reich**, born in Kassel in 1906. David lived in Kassel from birth on with his parents Leo and Helene Reich, finally in the Kaiserstrasse 11. In the years 1924-1926 he studied mechanical engineering at the College of Technology engineering in Lage/Lippe and also completed his degree. To get over he also worked in his fathers company Hessischer Eierversand in Kassel, Karlstrasse 6. The young couple lives together with mother Gieda in the Sedanstrasse. They get 2 daughters: **Helen Reich** born 26.06.1934 in Kassel and **Gabriella Reich** born 23.02.1937 in Frankfort. Even before the birth of his second daughter David emigrates in September 1936. His registered card notes: 27.12.1936 to Johannesburg, South Africa. He realized, that people with Jewish roots don't have any future in Germany. He finds accommodations and about 6 months later in 1937, Martha follows her husband with Helen (3 years old) and Gabriella (3 months old) to South Africa. It's like a miracle: even Gieda 67 years old, who stayed alone in the Sedanstrasse in Kassel, flees to South Africa in 1939. They escape the extermination plans of the Nazis. They built a new professional and private life, get children. Only Gabriella is still alive. Ilana Ruscic, nee Edelstein, from Johannesburg is a great-granddaughter of Gieda, a granddaughter of David and Martha and Helen's daughter. She is here today.

**Sigmund Tisch** lived in Hamburg-Eimsbüttel after separating from Gieda. He worked as a waiter and had another son out of his marriage with Rosa Mohr. After he lost his job, he committed suicide 1938 (19.08). A STOLPERSTEIN is already in front of Sigmund's former address in Eimsbüttel, Bellealliancestrasse. His son Emil Tisch lives in Hamburg and is 85 years old. Tom and Rosemary Tisch, godparents of the 6 stones in Kassel, are in touch with him.

Sources: Stadtarchiv Kassel, address books, registers, houseregister, Gedenkbuch Kassel, Gedenkbuch Bundesarchiv  
[www.stolperteine-hamburg.de](http://www.stolperteine-hamburg.de)

The descendants of Jeremias Katz by Hans-Peter Klein, Melsungen, April 2014

Pictures: Ilana Ruscic, Johannesburg, SA

Tranlation by Nicole Pingand, member of Stolperteine in Kassel, Sept. 2014 (hard work)