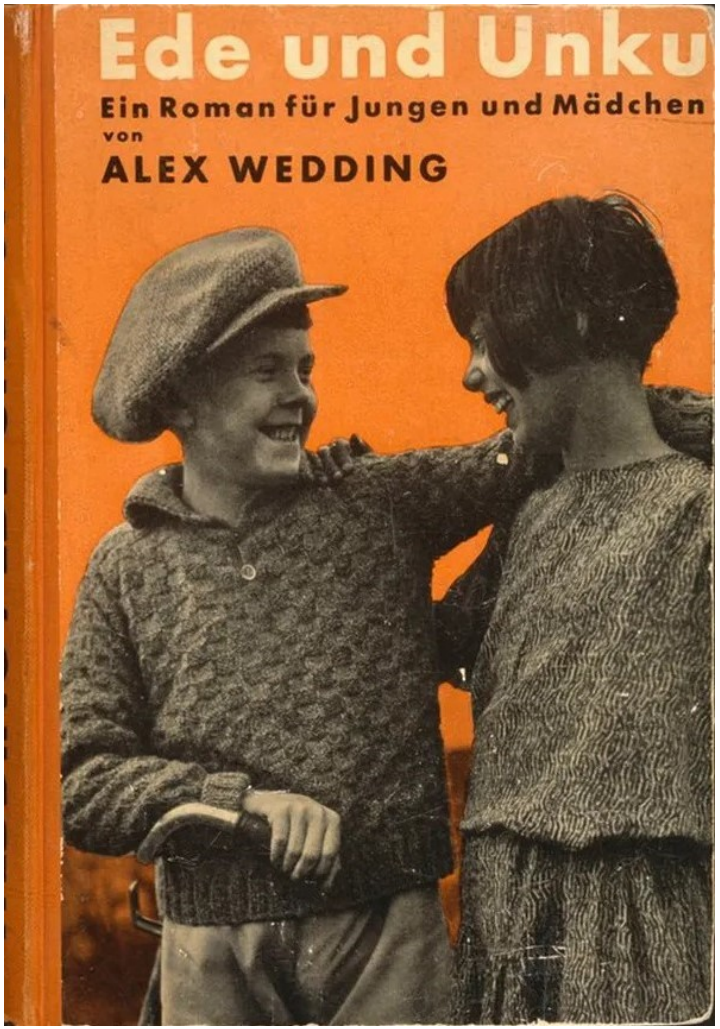
D5 Medical Experiments



Erna Lauenburger was a young Sintiza from Berlin, who grew up and moved to Magdeburg and had a family. In 1943, Erna and her two daughters were deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau, where Erna became a victim of the medical experiments performed by SS doctor Josef Mengele. She was killed with a lethal injection. Her daughters also died in Auschwitz. Her husband, Otto Schmidt, died in Buchenwald concentration camp. Erna Lauenburger had been the inspiration for Alex Wedding's children's book Ede and Unku, in which a boy from Berlin makes friends with a Sinti girl. Ede and Unku was one of the most popular children's books in Germany in the interwar period and it was subsequently fi lmed. In 2011, a street in Berlin was named after Ede and Unku.

1910

1951

1931-43

Did you know

... that thousands of concentration camp prisoners - Roma and Sinti, Jews and gentiles, many of them children - were killed in medical experiments conducted by SS doctors?
... that those who survived the experiments were maimed for life?

Your task

Doctors are never permitted to conduct experiments on patients without their knowledge and consent. Why do you think doctors have ignored this rule?

About the photo

Front cover of the first edition of Alex Wedding's book Ede and Unku designed by John Heartfield with photos of Erna Lauenburger and her friend Ede. Malik Verlag Berlin, Germany

https://www.romasintigenocide.eu/en/d