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“Entender la motivación detrás de la creciente tendencia de Dark tourism”

Un estudio de caso sobre los monumentos conmemorativos del muro de Berlín

TRABAJO FINAL DE GRADO

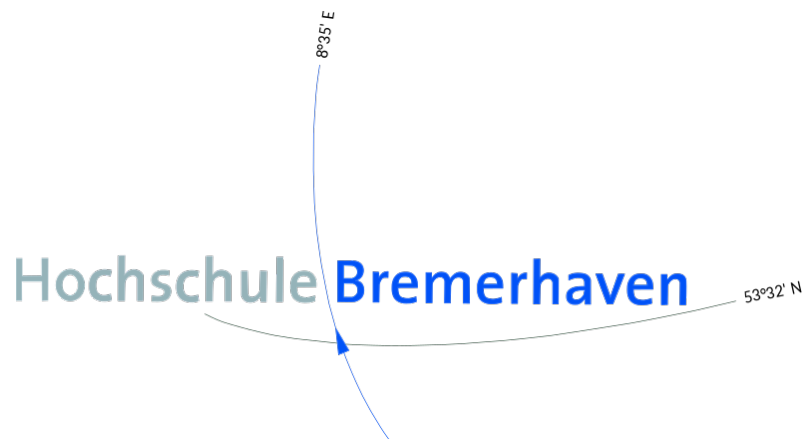
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Understanding the motivation behind the growing trend of Dark tourism.

A Case study about the memorial of the Berlin wall

Project Work in Cruise Tourism Management

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Abstract

As known from the present-day tourism is a social, cultural, economic phenomenon which implies the movement of people. It covers various forms of travel and a broad range of destinations with different purposes. However, over the last decade there has been a rise in popularity of a new tourism trend called “Dark tourism”. This type of tourism promotes historical places associated with death and tragedy; its main attraction is their historical value. The aim of this project is to better understand the reasons people will travel to Berlin and visit the memorial of the wall. (Tourist motivation)

1. Introduction

According to its official site Tourism is a social, cultural, and economic phenomenon that involves individuals travelling to nations or places outside of their normal environment for personal or professional reasons. Visitors (tourists or excursionists; residents or non-residents) are referred to as visitors, and tourism refers to their activities (UNWTO, 2018).

These visitors engage in various phenomena of tourism, but over the last decades, tourists have started visiting the most unusual places in the world; places such as sites of atrocities, natural accidents, caused accidents, and death. People are all into visiting these sites of suffering. Examples of these are taking a tour in the Auschwitz concentration camp, to visiting the ghost city of Chernobyl, to the 9/11 memorial in New York, and the prison of Alcatraz. The number of tourists visiting these sites each year are known as "Dark Tourism." The most appealing characteristic of these tourist destinations are their dark, sometimes brutal history. People have been engaging in these experiences long before this concept of tourism was even invented, a lot of them have been doing this "subconsciously".

Death has fascinated people throughout history, manifesting itself in obsessions with death and all things associated with death and the afterlife. It is becoming an increasingly common aspect of today's tourism economy. Indeed, the branding of death for popular touristic consumption has been a priority for mainstream tourism providers, whether in the form of memorials and museums, visitor attractions, special events and exhibitions, or customized tours. Actual and replicated places of the deceased, horror, cruelty, or depravity are consumed through visitor experiences in dark tourism (P. Stone, 2013)

The topic of dark tourism has been researched to some extent in recent years. (Philip Stone, 2005) According to the author, the theory underlying dark tourism consumption is still lacking, as is the empirical analysis of tourists' motives; as a result, the aspects of dark tourism consumption have yet to be fully defined and are simply presumed. Sharpley and Stone repeatedly stated in 2009 that dark tourism as a topic is under-

researched. Various authors such as (Dann, 1998; Foley & Lennon, 1996; Lennon & Powell, 2018; Sharpley, 2005; P. R. Stone, 2006) have published articles on various areas of Dark tourism. Despite this, there is still a gap in the literature to the reasons why visitors participate in these dark activities.

(Deutsch, 2014) Her work indicates that Previous studies have been conducted particularly on Robben Island as a prison heritage conducted by Strange and Kempa in 2003. The study focused on Alcatraz and Robben Island as instances of historical prisons that have been transformed into tourist destinations, thereby falling under the category of dark tourism. But the significance of each destination differs, with one being more commercialised or “lighter” than the other, being more commemorative or “darker”. The concept of light and dark, also called the shades of darkness in dark tourism, will be explained in detail at section 2.5.4.

The focus of this thesis is on discovering the motivations behind tourists engaging in these activities by applying a case study of the memorials of the Berlin wall in Germany. There is not much research being done on the Berlin wall yet and by doing a case study this work aims to conceptualize the understanding and gain knowledge of this phenomenon. It will be conducted by interviewing tourists who have visited these memorials, using semi-structured, in-depth interviews. This method will allow gathering detailed data of what travellers believe and what their motivations are. With the results gathered the aim is to formulate new ways to attract a younger audience, new ways to promote the place, and finally improve visitor experiences. Also, to contribute in further research to dark tourism.

The target group on which this thesis would focus will be Generation Y , (CBI, 2020) often known as Millennials, represent a sizable market, accounting for around 40% of all travel spending. (MSCI, 2020) By 2020, roughly 1.8 billion people, or 23% of the global population, will be classified as millennials.

(CBI, 2020) The main Generation Y markets in Europe are Germany, the United Kingdom, and France. People born between 1980 and 2000 are known as Generation Y. The rise of technology and social media has influenced millennials’ values, their attitude towards life and travel. When planning a holiday, Generation Y tends to rely on social media for

information and inspiration. Millennials value authentic, genuine content created by fellow travellers much more than marketer-provided information.

(CBI, 2020) Because Germany has the most millennials in Europe, it will be regarded as the market with the most potential for Generation Y tourism. In 2020, Germany's millennial population will be 20 million, out of a total population of 84 million. The U.K (18 million millennials out of 68 total population) and France (15 million millennials out of 65 total population) are the countries with the most millennials coming in at second and third place. Although millennials are young, they value local cultures and traditions, active getaways, and enjoying time with friends and family when it comes to travel. COVID-19 resulted in a 98% decrease in the number of Europeans travelling outside of Europe in June 2020 compared to June 2019. Travel by Generation Y outside of Europe has nearly vanished. This target demographic, on the other hand, holds promise for the future of travel. According to (GlobalData.com, 2020) Young travellers are critical to the travel and tourism industry's revival. Once the restrictions are removed, Generation Y travellers are likely to be the first to travel internationally.

According to (Condor ferries, 2021.) 78% of people want their vacation to be educational and teach them something new to enhance knowledge. Millennials are 13% more likely than other generations to seek out historically or culturally important travel destinations.

1.1 Objectives and research questions

(P. R. Stone, 2006) underlines the importance of deriving and examining the reasons of 'dark visitors' to comprehend the phenomenon of dark tourism. Perhaps it is this underlying desire that is driving the current dark tourism debate.

To test this theory, the following research questions will be explored and answered for this thesis:

1. What are the main motivations for tourists to travel to these memorials/sites?
2. What do people expect from visiting these sites?
3. Why do people engage in this phenomenon?
4. Why do death and tragedy catch the attention of people?

5. How are these products/sites managed in the present day?

2. Literature review

2.1 Tourism origins

(Walton, 2020) International tourism had become one of the world's most important economic activities by the early twenty-first century, and its impact was becoming increasingly visible from the Arctic to Antarctica. Tourism contributes towards complete growth and development of a country: one, by bringing numerous economic values & benefits; and second, helping in build country's brand value, image & identity. Tourism industry goes beyond attractive destinations, to being an important economic growth contributor. As a result, the history of tourism has great importance in modern lives. That history dates to the end of the 18th century when the term "tourist" was first introduced. In the Western tradition, planned travel with supporting infrastructure, sightseeing, and a focus on vital destinations and experiences may be found already in ancient Greece and Rome, which claims to be the birthplaces of both "heritage tourism" and "experience tourism". Similar antecedents can be found in pilgrimage, which brings Eastern civilizations into play. Today religious objectives coexist with well-defined routes, commercial hospitality, and a combination of curiosity, adventure, and fun among the participants' motivations.

2.1.1 Modern tourism

(Walton, 2020) Modern tourism is a combination of activities that are becoming more intensive, commercially structured, and business-oriented, with roots in the industrial and post-industrial West. The 16th-century aristocratic grand tour of cultural sites in France, Germany, and notably Italy (including those associated with Classical Roman tourism) began. During the second half of the 18th century, in the time frames between European conflicts.

(Jorgensen, 2019) With the introduction of paid vacations, the concept of modern tourism arose. In several Western countries, a few factories offered paid vacations to their employees during this time. During the last part of the nineteenth century, more

emphasis was placed on the value of paid vacations, or at the very least cheap vacations, for working-class individuals. Most of the people were of English descent, which had a significant impact on the growth of mass tourism. During the interwar years, the annual paid vacation became a reality for a large portion of the working population.

Accommodation systems made it easier for the middle classes to acquire cultural capital. Guidebooks, primers, the creation of art and souvenir markets, finely calibrated transportation, (that array of information, experience, and polish required to mix in polite society) by the early 19th century.

(Walton, 2020) Following the end of World War Two, countries grew interested in tourism as an unexpected import and a diplomatic instrument, thus bringing rapid development in tourism.

(Jorgensen, 2019) According to the United Nations, the number of tourists arriving in 65 nations surged thrice from 51 million to over 157 million in the ten years between 1955 and 1965. This upward trend in international travel lasted until the mid-1960s. As a result, the late twentieth century might be characterized as an era responsible for the introduction of a phenomenon known as mass tourism. Although tourism has grown dramatically in advanced industrialized countries, where it has been ingrained in people's lifestyles and consumption patterns, it has also demonstrated its power in poor countries.

Tourism has two types and many forms based on the purpose of visit and alternative forms of tourism. Tourism can be categorized as international and domestic tourism (Tourismnotes.com, 2017). It also has many shapes depending on the goal of the visit and other factors. These are further subdivided into a variety of categories based on their characteristics. The following are examples of tourism types:

- a) Adventure Tourism
- b) Beach Tourism
- c) Cultural Tourism
- d) Ecotourism
- e) Medical Tourism
- f) Religious Tourism

- g) Rural Tourism
- h) Sports Tourism
- i) Sustainable Tourism
- j) Wildlife Tourism

This thesis would be concentrating on cultural tourism since the product (Berlin Mauer) is a UNESCO world heritage site. Cultural tourism will be explained in better detail in the following chapters.

2.2 Cultural tourism

(“Tour. Cult. Synerg.,” 2018) Cultural tourism is a type of tourist activity in which the primary objective of the visitor is to learn about, discover, experience, and consume the tangible and intangible cultural attractions/products offered by a tourism destination. These attractions/products are linked to a set of distinct material, intellectual, spiritual, and emotional characteristics of a society:

- a) including arts and architecture,
- b) historical and cultural heritage,
- c) culinary heritage,
- d) literature,
- e) music
- f) creative industries
- g) living cultures with their lifestyles, value systems, beliefs, and traditions.

Cultural tourism is crucial for a variety of reasons. On the one hand, it allows the local community to profit financially from their cultural legacy, allowing them to appreciate and conserve it, while on the other hand, it allows visitors to widen their horizons. As a result, cultural tourism can aid in the strengthening of identities, the improvement of intercultural understanding, and the preservation of a region's heritage and culture. Cultural tourism, like any other form of tourism, has its drawbacks. There may be negative consequences for residents, such as instability in the local economy, an increase in the cost of living, and an increase in pollution (*KOPS.Drohung Und*

Verheißung: Vorwort Zum Wechselspiel von Identität, Tradition Und Kulturerbe Im Zeitalter Des Massentourismus, n.d.; Vinyals-Mirabent, 2019; Whitmore, 2019).

2.3 Heritage tourism

(Teng, 2020) The visiting of constructed, cultural, or naturally created heritage sites is known as heritage tourism. Historic tourism can take many forms, and the various types of heritage tourism will be discussed. The tangible heritage and the intangible heritage are two broad forms of legacy. Heritage and cultural tourism are known to be incredibly revenue-generating for any country, and any country's heritage tourism requires expansion and development.

(Teng, 2020) Various groups of individuals, including friends, families, the elderly, and international groups, visit the heritage sites. Those group of people chooses to visit a variety of historic sites for the sake of education, exploration, and leisure, and they are directly or indirectly active in supporting a nation's economy. The tourist industry's historic tourism attractions are a significant and fast-developing area. To see some improvement in a nation's economy, cultural heritage tourism must achieve several objectives. The following are some of the major goals of cultural heritage tourism:

- a) There is a need for precise analysis and understanding of the exact resources available to heritage tourism.
- b) Another important objective of heritage tourism is to increase the number of tourists to heritage sites and provide them with authentic experiences.
- c) One of the main goals of heritage tourism is to increase the number of visitors to heritage sites and provide them with memorable experiences.
- d) To increase the production and receiving of income from heritage tourism.

2.3.1 Reason for the rapid growth of heritage tourism

(Teng, 2020) Governments of various countries encourage the promotion of a place's cultural and heritage Attractions since people who participate in heritage and cultural tourism prefer to visit the places and stay longer, utilizing local resources and promoting the enterprises of multiple people. Furthermore, cultural, and historic tourism is recognized to generate a significant amount of money for the economy as well as several

job opportunities for the local population. People travel to different historical, cultural, and natural locations that have a legacy, heritage, and great significance as part of the heritage and cultural tourism. (Poria et al., 2004) The tourists' perception of the site in relation to their own heritage and their willingness to be exposed to an emotional experience were linked to their reasons for visiting heritage sites. There are a lot of people that are attempting to construct venues for people to interact, raise curiosity and draw many visitors to the location. Nonetheless, the People's real interest in historic tourism has made heritage tourism famous. Knowing the facts and events that have transpired in the past culture and heritage tourism is one of the most important aspects of the industry.

(Teng, 2020) With the arrival of the "Baby Boomers, historical and cultural tourism began to gain a lot of appeal following World War II, this generation was more interested in debating, analysing, reasoning, learning, empathizing, and comprehending historical, cultural, traditional, and heritage facts. The rise of heritage tourism was largely due to this factor. Several people who engage in travelling in heritage tourism live in hotels, motels, bed, and breakfasts, and campgrounds. When many tourists visit heritage sites and stay for longer periods, this generates a lot of money for the hotel and accommodation industry. Cultural and heritage tourism are keyways to reinvest in the economy since many tourists who visit these cultural sites spend a significant amount of money in these locations, which is then recycled back into the local economy.

(*What Is Heritage Tourism?*, 2011) Cultural and heritage tourists stay longer, spend more money, and travel more frequently. They are also typically older, more educated, sophisticated, and richer than other tourists.

2.3.2 Dissonant heritage

Inside heritage tourism, there is another type of tourism called dissonant or dark heritage tourism, this type of heritage isn't well-liked since they are difficult to reconcile with the values and everyday experiences of visitors, because our modern society is rather peaceful. (Kuznik, 2018) Along with words like "difficult heritage" and "dissonant heritage," the term "dark heritage" has been applied to both locations and artefacts. Dark cultural heritage is defined as "cultural legacy associated with genuine and

commodified locations of atrocity, death, disaster, human depravity, tragedy, human suffering, and places of barbarism and genocide” in more detail (concentration camp in Auschwitz).

(Kuznik, 2018) Although the term "dark heritage" is new, the concept is perhaps one of the oldest types of tourism, as there is a basic human curiosity and touristic attraction to places of death and horror (including popular public events such as public hangings, beheadings, witch burnings, gladiatorial games, and so on).

2.3.3 How covid affected the tourism industry and cultural tourism

(Sba, 2020) In 2019, the tourist industry provided \$8.9 trillion to global GDP, a contribution of 10.3%. It is also worth noting that tourism employs one out of every ten people on the planet, or 330 million people. However, due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, the significant historic rise has come to an end in 2020. Since the beginning of the virus's spread, travel and tourism have been one of the most affected sectors, with planes grounded, hotels closed, and travel restrictions imposed. To combat the spread of the coronavirus, countries all around the world-imposed travel restrictions. Airport closures, incoming and outgoing aircraft suspensions, and state-wide lockdowns are just a few of the measures that governments are taking to help contain the pandemic.

2.3.4 Quick alternatives

(*Cultural Tourism & COVID19 | UNWTO, 2020*) The livelihoods of millions of cultural professionals have been significantly affected as more than 80% of UNESCO World Heritage Sites have closed. If tourism wants to help the survival of the culture sector, which includes movies, the arts, and many other categories, tourism destinations must improve their cultural identity and branding. Despite the difficulties, the tourism and cultural industries have an opportunity to form new relationships and collaborate. They should collaborate to innovate and broaden the offer, attract new audiences, create new talents, and assist the world in adapting to new conditions. As it says on their webpage “By reaching out to children and teens, the culture sector is producing dedicated global citizens and future tourists.”

(Heritage et al., 2013) Youth accounts for 18% of the global population. Young people, who make up a substantial portion of the community, can provide:

- a) Possibility of contributing to local development well-being.
- b) Can serve as a cultural bridge between the two worlds of tradition and modernity.
- c) Have the desire, energy, and enthusiasm to deal with challenges and problems such as sustainable tourism, heritage management community development and local development participation.

(Heritage et al., 2013) Young people around the world are becoming more interested in legacy preservation and promotion, realizing that legacy is not only a part of the past but also a part of their identity. As they affirm that "Teaching young people about legacy values promotes intercultural awareness, respect for cultural variety, and aids in the creation of a qualitative approach to a culture of peace."

2.4 Dark tourism

(P. Stone & Sharpley, 2008) It is not uncommon for people to visit and experience areas associated with death. People have long been drawn to sights, attractions, or events associated with death, suffering, violence, or calamity, whether on intention or not.

Dark tourism consists of traveling to locations associated with death or tragedy in some way (or at least something in one way or another "macabre"). That is, according to the rudimentary definition commonly used as a shorthand in academic research. But, of course, it is a lot more complicated than that one-liner implies.

(Smith, 2002) Dark Tourism examines into a type of tourism that has received little attention, notably only in North America and the UK. According to the authors, "dark tourism" is more than merely visiting sites where atrocities have occurred; it "is both a product of late-modern world circumstances and a considerable impact upon those circumstances. (Seaton, 1996) It is only recently that academic attention has been drawn to what has been dubbed "dark tourism" . (Tarlow, 2004) Visitors' motivations to seek out such sights or experiences have also been studied, but to a smaller extent, featuring possible "drivers" that include from morbid curiosity to *schadenfreude* (Seaton &

Lennon, 2009), this German concept consists on the enjoyment derived from other people's problems.

(P. Stone & Sharpley, 2008) Nevertheless the literature behind the motivation remains fragile and it is still unclear if dark tourism is demand or supply driven,(Philip Stone, 2005) asks for the creation of consumer behaviour models that take into account current socio-cultural dimensions of death and dying. This, in turn, is thought to lead to a better understanding of customer motivations in the dark tourism sector.

2.5.1 Definition & and Views of dark tourism.

(P. Stone & Sharpley, 2008) The term was first introduced by Foley and Lennon, and after they published their first book "Dark Tourism: The Attraction of Death and Disaster. London: Continuum." It remains to be one of the most cited paper for this phenomenon.

(Rojek, 1993) Was the first to establish the concept of 'Black Spots,' or 'commercial (touristic) developments of burial sites and areas where celebrities or huge groups of people have met with unexpected and terrible death,'. The yearly pilgrimage to the site of James Dean's 1955 car crash, the (again) annual candlelight vigil at Graceland in Tennessee in memory of Elvis Presley, and the anniversary of JFK's assassination in Dallas, Texas. He calls these three examples "postmodern spectacles," or "repeated reconstructions" that rely on modern audio-visual technology to maintain their attractiveness. Other attractions are classified as "nostalgic" places, such as national and urban cemeteries, and it is only later that he distinguishes disaster sites as "analytically separate from Black Spots as sensation locations".

(Seaton, 1996) Argues that thanatourism is the "travel dimension of thanatopsis," defined as "travel to a location driven entirely or partially by a desire for actual or symbolic experiences with death, particularly, but not solely, violent death", he suggests that thanatourism is fundamentally a behavioural phenomenon defined by tourists' motives, and that there is a 'continuum of intensity' based on the many causes for visiting a place and the degree to which the interest in death is generic or person-specific. According to him there are five possible categories of dark travel activity including:

1. To witness public enactments of death.
2. To sites of individual or mass deaths.
3. To memorials or interment sites
4. To see a symbolic representation of death.
5. To witness re-enactments of death.

(P. Stone & Sharpley, 2008) The fundamental issue of motivation remains largely unsolved. In other words, despite the literature's diversity of viewpoints on dark tourism, the topic of why tourists seek out such dark sites has received little consideration. Visitors are generally seen to be motivated by different degrees of interest or fascination with death, with the extremes hinting at its ghoulish motivations. More specific reasons span from morbid interest to empathy with the victims, to the need for a sense of survival/continuation, unproven aspects which, arguably, deserve proof within a psychology context.

2.5.2 Ontological security

As part of motivations of dark tourism ontological security has been mentioned by various authors before. Ontological security is a secure mental state that results from a sense of continuity in one's life events. The ability of people to provide meaning to their lives, as well as having a positive outlook on themselves, the world, and the future. It is a distinguishing trait of modern society, (Giddens, 1991) claims that the 'purchasing of ontological security' through numerous institutions and experiences that shelter the person from direct contact with madness, criminality, sexuality, nature, and death. The existential confrontation with death has the capacity to fill a person with fear, with death's inevitability prompting them to rethink the social frameworks in which they live and participate.

(P. Stone & Sharpley, 2008) Dark tourism has the potential to create a new social institution in which the functional value of death and mortality is recognized, its precariousness is appreciated, and efforts to ensure ontological well-being and security become a source of not only playfulness, humour, and entertainment, but also education and remembrance.

2.5.3 The supply and demand in dark tourism

(P. R. Stone, 2006) Without acknowledging tourist behaviour and demand for the dark tourism product, no analysis of dark tourism supply can be complete. Indeed, the capacity to extract and interrogate the reasons of so-called dark tourists is critical to understanding this phenomenon. Dark tourism is nothing more than a result of market demand as a result, (Seaton, 1996) proposes that black tourism is primarily a behavioural phenomenon defined by visitor motivations rather than specific features of a location or attraction. Seaton believes that black tourism is primarily a demand-driven phenomenon, whilst overlooking supply aspects. (Sharpley, 2005) shows that it is still unclear if the dark tourism phenomena are driven by attraction supply or by consumer demand. As a result, he contends that any framework for this phenomenon must consider both demand and supply factors. A structured framework of dark tourism supply is required to facilitate the identification and investigation of potential visitors and their experiences with these dark tourism items before one can systemically answer the fundamental question of why people visit such areas.

2.5.4 A dark tourism spectrum

(P. R. Stone, 2006) Before one can comprehensively address the fundamental question of why people visit such regions, a systematic framework of dark tourism supply is required to assist the identification and analysis of possible visitors and their experiences with these dark tourism goods.

The level of darkness in all dark tourist destinations is not the same. The distinction between lighter and darker touristic destinations is first introduced by (Strange & Kempa, 2003). They studied Alcatraz and Robben Island, both former prisons that have been converted into tourist attractions, and found that while their histories are different, they share several characteristics. On the one hand, Alcatraz is being portrayed in a commercial and amusing manner, whereas Robben Island retains its seriousness and has a greater political influence in its interpretation. This means Robben Island is a shade darker than Alcatraz since it focuses more on promoting education, honouring, and remembering. (Seaton, 1999) points out, the production of the dark and

troubling past is determined not only by customer preferences, which are often influenced by the media, and commercial marketing ploys on behalf of the supplier but also by changes in the broader political and cultural context.

(Miles, 2002) argues that there is a 'darker lighter tourist paradigm'. He claims that there is a distinction between 'dark' and 'darker' tourism, arguing that certain destinations might have a greater sense of macabre and melancholy. Miles proposes that there is a critical difference between locations linked *with* death and suffering and sites that *are* of death and suffering, based on the temporal dimension and geographical connection with a location. As a result, Miles believes that the product (and experience) at Auschwitz-Birkenau is a location that is of death and suffering, potentially darker than that at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC which is considered a place linked to death.

The following diagram illustrates the darkness spectrum:

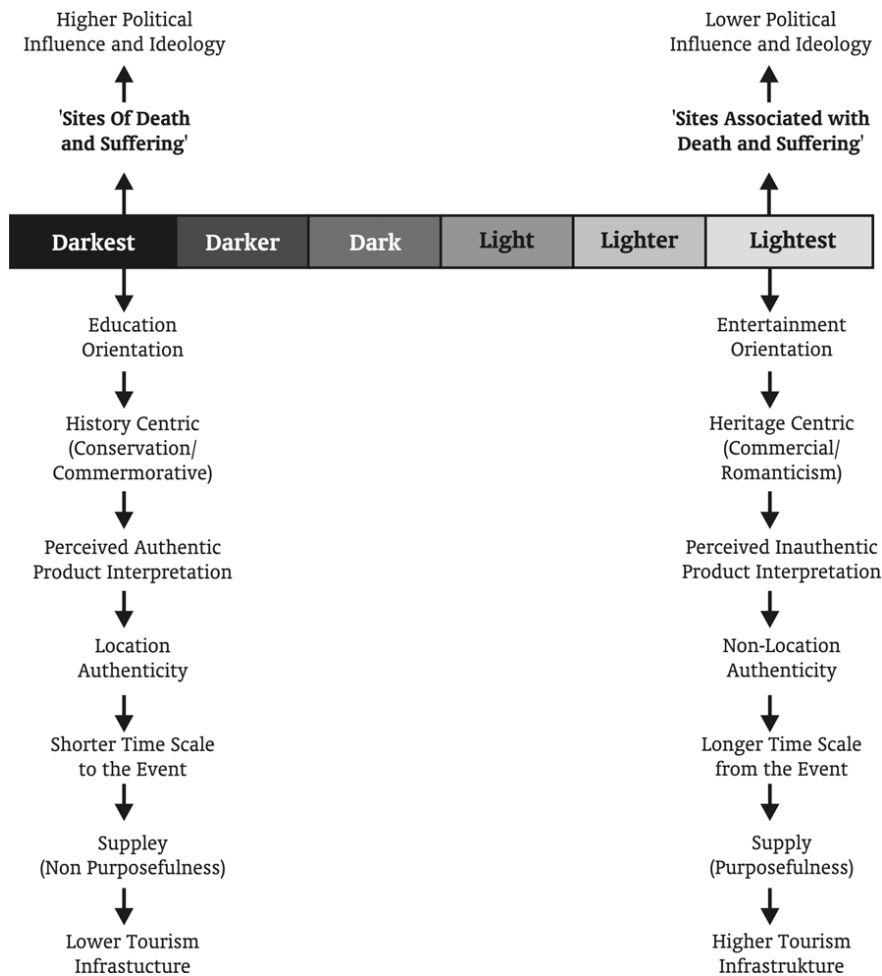


Figure 1: Framework of supply by (P. R. Stone, 2006)

The difference between darker and lighter tourism attractions is illustrated in this figure. Death-related sites are considered significantly more serious and gloomier than those that only exhibit a connection to death. (P. R. Stone, 2006) The darkest tourism attractions are in an authentic setting with far less touristic utility and thus infrastructure than their lighter counterparts. They also have a higher educational value, are viewed as more genuine, and place a greater emphasis on memorial and conservation rather than commercialism. The most sinister places are usually those where a recent catastrophe has occurred. The lighter tourist sites have the superior touristic infrastructure, and their primary objective is to entertain visitors, resulting in a reduced perceived authenticity by visitors.

Because the supply side of dark tourism has been extensively researched, the focus of this thesis is on the demand side of the problem, namely the tour guides' perceptions and perspectives, as well as their motivation and reasons for visiting dark tourism attractions.

2.5 Tourists' motivation

(Vargas-Sánchez, 2012) Motivation is a state of need or situation that motivates a tourist to act, in this case, to take a holiday that will likely provide fulfilment by resolving the specified need or condition. Tourist motivation research aims to determine why people desire to travel and, if they do, why they travel to specific areas and engage in specific activities while on vacation. As he states in his work "Motivation can be explained as a result of psychological need or through the purpose of choice of the trip". Each person has a different attitude and personality, as well as a distinct motivation to travel. This makes studying motivation difficult, but also interesting because we can make certain generalizations.

(Vargas-Sánchez, 2012) However, it is important to remember that travel motivation is frequently influenced by cultural ideas, conventions, and pressures, which are internalized and then manifest as psychological demands. The following points will explain in detail tourism motivation theories.

2.6.1 Escape-seeking and anomie-enhancement

(Iso-Ahola, 1982) Tourism motivation is believed to be made up of both escape and seeking. While tourists are willing to get away from their everyday lives, they are seeking for intrinsic rewards. These two motives of escape and seeking are not mutually exclusive; rather, they operate in combination. Iso-Ahola further proposed that tourist incentive has a psychological (personal) as well as a social (inter-personal) component. He then postulated four aspects to operate as push factors and driving forces for tourism behaviour: personal seeking, personal escape, interpersonal seeking, and interpersonal escape.

2.6.2 Push/pull factors.

The concept of push/pull factors has become a popular way to describe tourist motivation. Pull factors are destination-specific characteristics or external motives, attractions or the location are so appealing that people are drawn to it. The tourist is being 'pulled' towards it. The potential tourist will have received a ton of knowledge about the holiday or destination, as well as interesting products, throughout the information gathering stage of the decision-making process. Pull factors such as products and services will impact the final selection. Internal or interior motivations and forces that impact an individual when deciding are called push factors. These are referred to as "individual motivations" (e.g. needs, preferences). Aspects of the vacation such as accommodation, restaurants, entertainment facilities, and other such features are of little importance to the tourist in this case. Instead, the person simply wants to 'get away' from where he or she is now (Vargas-Sánchez, 2012).

2.5.3 Maslow's hierarchy of need and its application to tourism

Maslow's hierarchy of needs is often regarded as the most influential motivation theory, and it is easily applied to tourism motivation. Maslow identified five different needs:

1. physiological (hunger, thirst, sleep, sex),
2. safety (security, stability, protection),
3. social (love, affection, belongingness in interpersonal relationships),
4. esteem (self-esteem, self-respect, prestige, status),
5. and self-actualization (self-esteem, self-respect, prestige, status) (growth, advancement, creativity).

It is considered that lower needs must be met first before higher needs can be addressed (if you are hungry, you will not be interested in meeting new people; if you are lonely, it is more necessary to find social connection before focusing on personal or professional development). Of course, this is a simplified argument, but it explains Maslow's basic concept of the hierarchy of needs. (Vargas-Sánchez, 2012)

The central idea of one area of need being more prominent than the other is still applicable when applying Maslow's hierarchy of needs to tourism. Relaxation (and meeting physiological needs) is a major factor for some travellers when deciding on a beach vacation. Others visit friends and relatives to satisfy their want for love and

affection or travel to meet new people. Some people use their travels to improve their self-esteem and talents by participating in events and learning about different cultures. Certain holidays and destinations have a high level of luxury associated with them, and travellers may choose these to boost their social status and brag to their friends (Vargas-Sánchez, 2012).

2.5.4 Travel career ladder

(Ryan, 1998) The travel career ladder is a hypothesis that was established to motivate people to travel (TCL). This argues that tourist motivation is divided into five categories, and that traveller demands can be categorized into a hierarchy or ladder. Relaxation requirements are found at the lowest level; stimulation requirements are found at the second level; relationship needs are found at the third level; and self-esteem/development and fulfilment requirements are found at the fourth and fifth levels, respectively.

The study of motivation is complex and diverse, making it difficult to apply to tourism, and even more difficult to apply to dark tourism. Because visitors are not always conscious of their motives and needs, it is difficult to come up with precise theories and conclusions. The next section of the thesis will attempt to simplify the understanding of visitors' motivations for participating in dark tourism.

2.6 Dark tourism motivation

Although sun, sea, and sangria holidays remain popular, it is recognised that a trend toward alternative tourism experiences of cultures and histories has emerged. This has sparked a desire to visit more hidden tourist destinations and attractions, with dark tourism being one example. Visits to dark places or shrines are motivated by a variety of factors, resulting in a wide range of motives for engaging with the macabre. While the reasons behind dark consumption are numerous and multidimensional, attempting to unravel such a phenomenon is difficult. It is also accepted that the experience is subjective and that one's relationship to the dark tourism site will differ from one person to the next. (Robb, 2009)

(Ashworth, 2009a) provided four separate reasons that put dark tourism in a familiar context (Curiosity, identity, horror, empathy). The first argument issues people's curiosity, which is one of the major drivers of human beings. Curiosity is triggered by a feeling of uncertainty in the brain, and humans seek to satisfy this feeling. As a result, tourists are fascinated by the unusual, unknown, and unique, leading to the conclusion that at least part of the curiosity for dark tourism attractions derives from the same origin.

The identity argument is the second argument presented. Because many sites are part of the dark tourism phenomena date back several years, dark tourism is frequently linked to heritage tourism. As a result, they frequently have historical significance beyond simply being famous for a tragic event.

It is what Ashworth refers to as self-awareness and self-identity. Heritage tourism is also known as "roots" tourism, which means that visitors search for their ancestors and attempt to comprehend themselves and their history. (Ashworth, 2009a)

The third argument, he mentions the horror arguments, claiming that some people are drawn to and fascinated by awful events. People being amused by news of others' suffering may appear unpleasant and just not morally acceptable. Suffering and death have long been used as public entertainment, from Roman gladiatorial spectacles to Madame Tussaud's "house of horrors." The link between violent portrayals and entertainment could simply be an extreme manifestation of a more common and socially acceptable desire to the spectacular. The deliberate sensation of a mix of emotions of interest and terror through personal interaction with horror is a standard product of not only numerous tourism sites and trails, but also much literature, history, art, and, more recently, cinema and television production. (Ashworth, 2009a)

Finally, the last argument (Ashworth, 2009a) implies that there is the controversy of empathy. It is based on the capacity of visitors to identify with the attraction's horrible stories.

Another author states (Tarlow, 2004) Since motivational components also include an emotional aspect, Tarlow introduced four basic emotions that are part of the

psychological condition of dark visitors. These emotions are a sense of insecurity, appreciation, humility, and superiority.

Eventually there was one writer (Dunkley, 2005) that actually established a framework for comprehending the many causes and motivations for visiting dark tourism sites The following are :

- Visiting sites such as cemeteries and gravesites for contemplation for possibly spiritual and retrospective purposes.
- Thrill and risk seeking in the form of visiting attractions such as the running of the bulls in Pamplona.
- Validation and the confirmation of events that may have happened such as crime, murder, or disaster.
- Authenticity and the need to acknowledge the reality of a places or person's existence.
- Self-discovery and the intrinsic desire to learn.
- Visiting iconic sites that have immortalized key events, for example assassinations (e.g., the Dakota apartments where John Lennon lived) and significant landmarks (e.g., Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin).
- Convenience when an attraction is located infamous city (e.g., the Coliseum, Rome).
- Morbid curiosity and visiting sites where death or disaster have only recently occurred.
- Pilgrimage for religious purposes (e.g., to Mecca) or to disaster sites (e.g., Ground Zero).
- Remembrance and empathy when visiting, for example, war cemeteries or the clock tower at Old Trafford to acknowledge the Munich plane crash of 1958.

In light of these many motivations, it's also worth noting that grief-based tourists' trips to dark sites can be driven by a "pseudo-relationship." (Sharpley & Stone, 2009), to the mediatization of the person or event.

3. Case study

3.1 Summary of the cold war.

(Encyclopedia Britannica, 2020) The Cold War was an open but restricted rivalry that evolved between the United States and the Soviet Union, as well as their respective allies, following World War Two the Cold War was fought primarily on political, economic, and propaganda fronts, with weapons used only as a last resort. In a 1945 article, English writer George Orwell used the phrase to describe what he thought would be a nuclear standoff between “two or three monstrous super-states, each possessed of a weapon capable of wiping out millions of people in a few seconds.”

3.2 Berlin

Berliners awakened on a Sunday morning forty-five years ago today to find their city had been divided in two. As we all know, Berlin grew into two independent cities over the next approximately three decades. The Wall has a solid grip on the imaginations of many travellers. Thousands of visitors travel to Berlin because they are interested in something that is no longer present. The Wall is not on its own. Many of Berlin's top attractions bear a resemblance to the city's dark past.. (Nicky Gardner & Susanne Kries, 2021)

(Arandjelovic & Bogunovich, 2014) Two German governments were formed in 1949, and the country was divided into East and West for the following forty years. East Germany's capital was in East Berlin, which was under Soviet occupation, whereas West Germany's capital was moved to Bonn. The English, French, and American sectors of Berlin became an isolated island, both geographically and politically, because of this. both East and West Berlin became places where power and prestige could be displayed. West Berlin, about 120 miles within the German Democratic Republic, was a zone of Western military occupation, with military bases in France, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

3.3 Rise of the wall

(Arandjelovic & Bogunovich, 2014) when the Soviets cut off all connections to the Western zones (train, road, canal, electricity supply, and telephone) to keep the West

out of Berlin. This was their response for Western currency reforms. This resulted in the blocking of two and a half million Berliners in the Western sector, prompting a response from the opposite side in the form of the historic Berlin Airlift. The goal of the Airlift was to supply basic supplies (about 4000 tons of goods per day) to civilians in the Western region. The airlift lasted 11 months until, 12th May, 1949 (Feversham & Schmidt, 1999)

The Russians refused to recognize West Berlin as a separate territorial entity. As a result, Khrushchev demanded that the Allies withdraw. In 1958, he assigned them a six-month deadline. The Russians completely walled off the western parts of the city and began building the Wall on August 13th, 1961, when the West refused his demand (James, 1992). Berlin was the Cold War's symbol, and the Berlin Wall was the best physical embodiment of it, created to divide two sides of one city and one nation's people. Between 1949 and 1961, the GDR (German Democratic Republic) lost about 10% of its population, dropping from over 19 million in 1949 to just over 17 million in 1961, reasons being that most of the people that fled the country were heading to the west side of Germany in search of a better life. Both sides recognized that the Berlin Wall served as a guarantee of stability during the Cold War. The Berlin Wall was accepted by the West, interfering would be extremely dangerous (Loeb, 2006). (James, 1992) Along the border ring, 260 watchtowers defended the Wall. From 1961 to 1989, the ring encircling West Berlin was 102.5 miles long and divided East and West Berlin for 28 years.



Figure 2: Man attempting to escape and flee to West Germany. Nearly 1000 people were killed trying to escape the wall. source from (Faversham & Schmidt, 1999)

3.4 Fall of the wall.

(The et al., 2017) By 1989, the GDR had run out of options for stopping emigration to the West. Rather than fleeing through Berlin, people could now flee to Hungary via Czechoslovakia. Thousands of cars escaping the East were able to cross the recently opened Austrian border and continue to West Germany from Hungary. The Soviet Union lowered the Iron Curtain between the two countries on September 10, 1989, confirming the opening of this border. East Germans may now travel to the West without having to pass through the Berlin Wall. A Party member, Günter Schabowski, announced the GDR's decision to lift travel restrictions for East Germans wishing to visit west. Border guards were compelled to open the border hours later due to tremendous demand to cross to West Berlin.

(Arandjelovic & Bogunovich, 2014) The Berlin Wall came down on November 9th, 1989, and the German government resolved in 1991 to relocate the capital from Bonn to Berlin. Since then, Berlin has undergone significant transformations.

3.5 Bernauer strasse



Figure 3: Commemorative site, pictures taken by (B Arandjelovic, 2012)

(Knischewski & Spittler, 2006) The Bernauer Strasse memorial site is made up of three elements that together create a 'Memorials-Ensemble': first, there is the memorial itself, the 'Monument Memorial of the wall,' which was dedicated to the public on August 13, 1998. Following an open competition held by the German Historical Museum

(DHM) in 1994, the Stuttgart architects Kohlhoff designed it. Construction began on the significant date of November 9, 1997, the eighth anniversary of the Berlin Wall's fall. The 'Vorderlandmauer' (the wall facing West Berlin) and the 'Hinterlandmauer' (the wall facing East Berlin) are connected by a sixty-meter-wide strip of no-man's-land with patrol paths, arc lighting, and some smaller relics. However, observation towers and tank obstacles that had been removed in the early phases were not reinstalled. The two walls are flanked on both sides by eight-metre-high panels with reflective steel interiors to provide the impression of an endless extension of the border defences.

3.5.1 How is it managed?

(Knischewski & Spittler, 2006) The outsides of the barriers have been left to rust, giving the memorial's entry a gloomy appearance. Visitors can only enter the memorial through a slit between the concrete parts behind the 'Hinterlandmauer,' (back wall) where they can try (with varied degrees of success) to see what remains of the original 'Todesstreifen' (Death strip). It provides audio, video, and written records, witness narratives, guided tours, discussions, seminars, film screenings, and a bookshop with information about the Wall. It also hosts larger regular exhibitions, smaller temporary exhibitions on specific topics, and regular special events occurrences. The 'Versöhnungskapelle' (Chapel of Reconciliation) is the ensemble's final component. It has no official post-unification or Cold War connotations, contrary to popular assumption. The chapel was built in 2000 to replace the old church, which had been left in limbo after the construction of the Wall in August 1961 and was eventually demolished by East German authorities in 1985.

(The Berlin Wall Memorial Site | DW Travel | DW | 06.01.2017, n.d.) In 2016, 976,000 people came to see the Berlin Wall Memorial Site. According to the Berlin Wall Foundation, which manages the monument, there were around 15,000 more visitors in 2016 than in 2015. In 2016, 2700 people visited the foundation's historical sites daily.

The Berlin Wall Memorial had more visitors than ever before in the reporting year: almost 1,219,000 individuals visited the installations on Bernauer Strasse in 2019. When compared to the previous year, this new visitor record reflects an increase of 8%. (2018: 1,120,000). With its permanent exhibition, the Documentation Centre stands alone

"From 1961 to 1989, The Berlin Wall was erected in 1961 "480,809 individuals came to see it. The department communicates the Berlin Wall Foundation's and its sites' issues, activities, and subjects. It manages and coordinates media inquiries and creates both print and digital information and promotional materials for the Foundation. It communicates with the media and the public about the Foundation's events and thematic focuses on a regular basis. The department is also in charge of coordinating the event schedule as well as state and other official visits. Visits from government officials It also accompanies the foundation's internal communication operations. All printed items, such as flyers, brochures, invitation cards, and posters, are conceptualized, edited, and produced by this department. A mailing is sent out for each event, as well as a Facebook post. A specific visual was created for the communication of the special program on the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, which was used for all communication products (including the website, programme booklet, banners, posters, bags). The anniversary program was publicized not only through mailings and invitation cards, but also through the website "30jahre.stifungberliner-mauer.de", a separate program booklet (circulation 10,000 copies), and postcards. Between September 2019 and February 2020, this newly constructed, programmed, and designed website received 45,611 page views (Hannah Berge; Helena Kürten; Eva Philippi, 2019).

(Klausmeier, 1997) Unfortunately in the present day the Documentation Centre and Visitor Centre at the Berlin Wall Memorial are closed until further notice due to the corona epidemic. There are no guided tours or events scheduled at this time. However, Visitors to the Berlin Wall Monument having a smartphone or tablet computer with internet access can use the memorial's mobile website to create their own personalized tour of the memorial grounds.

4. Research methodology

This paper focused on a qualitative approach , as stated in the introduction on section 1.1, developing in depth interviews that was conducted over video calls or one on one conversations. (Bhat, 2020) A qualitative approached is described as a market research

method that focuses on acquiring data through open-ended and conversational dialogue. This strategy considers not just 'what' people believe, but also 'why'.

This research is developing in the science fields such as psychology, sociology, and anthropology. As a result, these methods enable in-depth and follow-up interview based on their responses, with the interviewer/researcher also attempting to understand their purpose and feelings. Understanding one's your target audience makes decisions might help in market research conclusions. (Bhat, 2020)

In-depth interviews can help collect data from your target audience to provide rich insights into their experiences and preferences. Although it is not overly structured, it does cover a few subjects based on a guide, allowing the interviewer to address areas that are relevant to the interviewee. During the interview, the interviewer processes the information that is generated, they ask open-ended questions in a favourable manner to encourage the respondent to react. The entire procedure is very casual, making it less ordinary and thereby it is considered to be extra enticing. Researchers employ a variety of questioning approaches to ensure that the results are comprehended through research and explanation. The interviewer conducts follow-up questions to gain a better understanding of the participant's point of view. Interacting with your target audience on a regular basis generates new information. When one communicates to their consumers, for example, one can discover more about their purchasing habits. Researchers and participants give their thoughts on a certain topic as well as solutions to the issues raised . (QuestionPro, n.d.)

Individual interview guidelines should contain around 6–8 primary questions. Prioritizing questions, such as placing the most critical questions first and optional items last, can assist ensure that at least a subset of questions gets asked consistently across the sample. This is especially crucial when there are numerous interviewers in the field, all of which have different relevant backgrounds and need to determine which questions should be prioritized. (Hamilton & Finley, 2020)

Qualitative research has its own set of disadvantages. The data collector's methodology and their own unique insights can change the information in subtle ways. The biggest disadvantage of qualitative research is that it takes a long time to complete. Another

issue is the restricted number of interpretations available. Observations and conclusions are influenced by personal experience and knowledge. Participants have more influence over the content of the data obtained in qualitative research because it is open-ended. As a result, unbiased validation of the results against the situations indicated by the respondents is difficult. (Omniconvert, 2020)

As said at the start the aim of the thesis is to understand visitor motivations while visiting these dark places and to also contribute to further research to the phenomenon of Dark tourism. Also, to confirm and disconfirm theories from the various authors mentioned before in the literature review and finally to try and reveal newer reasons.

4.1 Interviewing sample process

The study consists of ten people who have visited the Wall Memorial in Berlin, Germany, and are willing to share their thoughts. Social media networks were used to select respondents. The chosen candidates have all visited the Berlin Wall Memorial and come from a variety of countries (Germany, Romania, Bolivia, Venezuela, Brazil, Russia) and age groups (fitting the target group Generation Y). The participants were given the chance to thoroughly think and answer the questions that were asked.

The interviews were recorded over zoom or recorded in person, transcribed, and analysed. Some patterns emerged after reviewing the transcribed interviews. Opinions, statements, and individual words were labelled according to how they were expressed. Specific concepts were highlighted in terms of their frequency, the triggered surprise effect they may have had, and whether they were related to existing theories and investigations. The transcribed interviews were later coded, (*Coding Qualitative Data: How To Code Qualitative Research (2021)*, n.d.) By labelling and organizing qualitative data in order to identify different themes and their connections. Thematic analysis, which is part of qualitative data analysis, entails coding qualitative research to uncover common themes and concepts. Thematic analysis is a technique for extracting themes from literature by examining the structure of words and sentences. This process was done manually, and an inductive coding was approached, inductive coding or also known as “open coding” which starts from the beginning and generates codes

depending on the qualitative data. (*Coding Qualitative Data: How To Code Qualitative Research (2021), n.d.*)

The following figure represents what the author underwent during the coding process. To see the rest of the figures please head down to the appendix. this is an example of one code:

Respondent ID	Question	Themes						
		Undergraduate (bachelor)	Graduate (bachelor)	Master (undergraduate)	Master (graduate)	Profesion/Working	German /Domestic	Intemational
1	My age is 23. I am from Germany, and I am an undergraduate.	1				1	1	
2	I'm German. I'm 40. And my educational background I, I have a bachelor's degree and an apprenticeship, which is common education.		1		1	1	1	
3	I'm 24 years old. from Bolivia. And my background, I am a technical in commerce international commerce. And right now, I'm doing a bachelor in sociology and Communication and Media Science	1						1
4	22. Venezuelan and high school and university	1						1
5	I am 23. I'm from Germany. And I'm currently in the last semester of my bachelor studies		1				1	
6	Hi, I am 26 years old. I am of German nationality. And I am I have a bachelor's degree in business management.		1			1	1	
7	Okay, so my age is 23. And my nationality is German. And I'm a uni student		1				1	
8	33 years old, Brazilian, master's degree				1			1
9	So currently I'm 22. And I am Russian. And I'm studying right now. So I had my Abitur A few years ago, and now I'm in the sixth semester at the university	1						1
10	I am 28 years old and in Romania and I have a master degree in advertisement				1			1
	sum for refelction - not reporting purposes-)	4	4	0	3	3	5	5

Figure 4: Example of coding

As it can be observed with the previous image this is an example of one the coding process used in this thesis. The author got the idea to manually code the interviews from (*Analyzing Qualitative Data — Learning for Action, n.d.*) in which a table was created with the number of participants, the question that was asked and the themes that were found. On each participants column their answer towards the question that was asked. The themes were made while reading the participants answers. As said previously, this coding follows an inductive approach to which codes were made depending on what the

data offered. The author tried making theme codes that were repeated more than once so the table can be observed and appear cleaner and further organised.

The conversation begins with an introduction to the topic at hand, about what this work is about, what the author is hoping to achieve, as well as an explanation of the term "dark tourism." The concept was defined to provide participants a better understanding of what they are contributing to and what the study is all about. The interview questions were influenced by (Deutsch, 2014), and included demographic information such as age, nationality, and educational status. After that, the participants were questioned if they knew anything about the Berlin Wall memorials and if they had done any prior study, among other things.

During the interviews, the participants were asked these main questions.

1. Name, age, nationality, educational background?
2. Have you visited the Berlin wall memorial?
3. Did you know about the memorial before?
4. Were you motivated to visit the city because of the memorial?
5. Did you do any research beforehand?
6. What would you consider the main reasons you visited this memorial?
7. How was the memorial, how did it make you feel?
8. Would you visit again?
9. Would you recommend any friends or family members?
10. Did you consider the memorial to be authentic?

5. Results & discussion

5.1 Summary of findings

In this section, the study's findings are given and interpreted. Only two of the interviewed respondents were aware of the phenomenon of dark tourism, and nearly all the respondents replied negatively when asked about their knowledge of the term.

When the question about demographic information was asked ("**can you please state your age? your nationality? And your educational background?**"), the purpose of this question was to learn more about the participants' backgrounds. These questions give context to the survey that was conducted, allowing the researcher to define the

participants and evaluate their data more effectively. Half of the participants were from Germany, in which all of them had achieved higher education such as bachelor's degrees or masters. As a domestic tourist, this suggested that they must have some understanding of the Berlin Wall., also only three worked full time. The remaining participants were internationals from Romania, Bolivia, Venezuela, Brazil, Russia in which the majority had achieved higher education. When it comes to age the author did his best in having a more mixed age variety fitting the target group "generation Y" most people were in their mid-20s and only two participants over 30. Afterwards, the following question was asked "**Have you visited the Berlin War Memorial before?**" all participants affirmed that they have visited the Berlin memorial. Half of the participants have visited more than once while the other half only once.

Later the participants were asked if they had knowledge of this memorial and where they have learned about it with the question "**Did you know about the memorial before?**" to the author's surprise, as a matter of fact, three participants from German origins were not aware of the existence of the Berlin wall memorial. One participant responded by saying that they did learn about Berlin's history with the wall, but did not know that a memorial existed:

"I did not. Well, I knew about the Berlin Wall and its history, but I did not specifically know a lot about the memorial." (Male, 23, Interview 1)

Other participant claimed that she wasn't familiar with it but as soon as she googled Berlin what to see it was one of the first things that appeared. The last participant denied knowing about the memorial and claimed that she learned about this event in school but not much in detail:

"I didn't know about the memorial before I decided, going to Berlin, because when I chose Berlin, I googled the sightseeing and the attractions and then the memorial popped up" (Female, 23, Interview 5)

"Kind of from school, but not that much into detail" (Female, 25, Interview 7)

The remaining members were aware of its existence before visiting in Berlin, two people did not give a specific reason while the rest gave an explanation as to how they know

the memorial, those being: from school, by friends or colleagues or by simply learning through using the internet:

Gave explanations as to how they know the memorial, those being:

“Yes, I have been several times, Berlin, I've seen the memorial as well as, as is I saw the wall. It was one of the things you have to do as a student in Germany” (Female, 40, Interview 2)

“Yes, we did. So, we have talked about the Berlin Wall and the memorial connected to it back in school when we talked about it in our history class.” (Male, 26, Interview 6)

“... from where we are from the high school on studying history and things like that. And then because I went in an Erasmus to German. So, a lot of people talk to me about this.” (Female, 28, Interview 10)

After finding out whether they had knowledge or not the members were asked if their motivation for visiting Berlin was just because they wanted to see the memorial or if there were other factors involved; **“Were you motivated to visit the city because of the memorial?”**

One participant agreed to that question, and she justified it by saying it is a must see in Berlin especially with all the variety of culture that Berlin offers:

“Definitely the memorial, but they are also, you know, as I said, it has the old, you have a lot of museums, you have a lot of remarkable architectural buildings. So, it's the richness of culture and variety that Berlin offer” (Female, 40, Interview 10)

“Berlin was always a kind of hot spot. Yeah. Because of the uniqueness. And it, it was also, aside from the uniqueness It was really like, always considered across German citizen special play, is because of the isolated situation that there was a wall for a very long time” (Female, 40, Interview 10)

While others didn't affirm that the memorial was the reason of the visit, they did state that they were eager to learn about Germany's history, wanting to acquire knowledge about the German culture, and lastly, a few participants said they were there because they were either visiting friends or family members:

“Not really yeah, I went because of my friends, And I was interest in the history of Berlin that is, like, a different city from all of the other ones. So, I wanted to see how it is how the culture is to what it's an international city” (Female, 22, Interview 4)

“Yeah. In my case, where I was more interested in other aspects of the city, it was because and just getting out of my village, I was not interested in history, or often interested in the history of the city. But it was not the predominant reason for me to travel to Berlin. So, the predominant reason was family and friends.” (Male, 23, Interview 1)

“No, it wasn't the case, I was interested in seeing important sights, but the memorial wasn't the first thing in my mind and apart from that I had family members to visit as I said earlier.” (Female, 22, Interview 9)

“I would say the memorial was not the only thing. But it played a part in the decision-making process to go to Berlin at all, the cultural aspects like the music, the party lifestyle, the alternative way of living the sustainability motives behind the people living there, the art that is going on, but the other motives were the history motives” (Male 26, Interview 6)

When participants were asked one of the main questions during the interview (**“What would you consider the main reasons you visited this memorial?”**). After analysing that topic, the majority of participants in the study stated that the main reason they went to visit the Berlin Wall Memorial is that it seemed to be a must-see when visiting the city of Berlin. Even though this was one of the most frequently stated reasons, the author was able to discuss several other motivations with the selected participants. Other motivations such as wanting to learn about the history and wanting to see the memorial in person to be able to experience what it is like and how it is portrayed in the present day.

“It was recommended to me or suggested by a friend when you were, but I'm interested in history. And so, this is also the second reason I'm interested in German history. Okay, so it's as simple as it gets. Me being at being, you know, suggested to me and me being interested in history” (Male, 23, interview 1)

"I think it's like a must-see. I think it's like when you do the typical, I would say tourist tour, then, of course. And if you do like more individuals, it depends on what you're like what your interests are." (Female, 25, interview 7)

One female individual her opinion that it is not the same learning from books then compared to seeing it in person.

"I think it is, it's the power to see with the consequences of them. And see the memorial this touch? I think it's one thing to read it in books and see it in pictures, but if you see it, in reality, I think that is much more powerful, and a very effective reminder of the history that's written." (Female, 40, Interview 2)

A different opinion was voiced by a male individual saying that his motivation was just simply curiosity, and for educational purposes.

"Curiosity, interest in history. I study the wall, the Cold War and like the fact that the city was divided mature and yeah, then I wanted to see this in person, another reason would be for educational purposes, I wanted to learn about the city's past" (Male, 33, Interview 8)

Almost all of the participants expressed interest in the issue of the wall, stating that they wished to learn more about it and learn more about the area. It was clear that there was a desire to obtain a feel of how things were at the time. Surprisingly, about a bit more than half of the group carried out a research beforehand before visiting the memorial stating that it was in the thoughts of the participants to visit this historic monument, while one male said it was recommended.

"Not actively. Okay. So, if it counts that you read in general about it, or watch documentaries about it, but that then yes, but not accurately. and this person recommended me because that was new, but I was into history. And so that person said, look, you got to see it and visited because you are interested in history in general and not just Checkpoint Charlie" (Male, 23, interview 1)

The author also wanted to know how the participants felt when they first saw the memorial. (**" How was the memorial, how did it make you feel"?**) With this being asked there were various responses; Nearly all of them said they had an empathetic feeling

towards seeing the wall memorial justifying that a lot of people and families suffered during the division of Berlin and that a lot of families died trying to escape East Berlin to West Berlin.

"I think it made me feel relieved that the wall is gone. And make me feel sad or make me feel empathy for the people that suffered? And I don't know, maybe it also, even if it had nothing to do with it had me feel a little bit stronger than we as a nation. Could I don't know, both standard and come back even stronger out of it." (Female, 23, Interview 6)

While others felt sad or frightened that something like this did happen in the past, there was only one individual that did not like the memorial experience saying that there was too much information.

"A lot of information, maybe too much too overwhelming, I was a little bit disappointed, not necessarily by the Berlin Wall Memorial, but by the fact that so much of it was gone. And it was me the first time when I came to Berlin before I went to Memorial that I realized, wow, there's not much left. And then that kind of surprised me, even though I had some knowledge about it." (Male, 23, Interview 1)

This thesis also covers some secondary findings, which may or may not directly connect to the research topics but may help in better understanding visitors' feelings and perceptions of the attractions. All the participants stated that they would definitely suggest the Berlin Wall Memorial to their friends and families, implying that their expectations were met or even surpassed. Only half of the people in the group said they would return to the memorial.

"Yes, to refresh my memories, I would go but it's not the most interesting side I want to go back to my list of days where I want to go back to the Berlin War Memorial. Wall Memorial is not one of my top 10 places I would visit" (Male, 23, Interview 1)

"I think I would go back for sure, by myself, I would go again, with friends that have already seen it. And I would take people that haven't seen it, both people from Germany, but also people that are not from here, and that maybe don't know the history behind it, give them a chance to experience it. So yeah, I would come back." (Male, 26, Interview 6)

“I would recommend it just because it's a crucial part of German history. And it's a really good thing that they preserved parts of the wall to be able for people to look at. And I would recommend everyone to go” (Female, 23, Interview 5)

“, ...especially like people, of all ages. So, everyone like can take apart from the memorials into their brain and think about it later (Female 28, Interview 9)

Another question arose which was if the participants found the memorial authentic. Only half of the comments were positive when asked about the perceived authenticity of the attractions, with the memorials being viewed as quite authentic. Even though the participants were aware of the touristy aspects of the places, they did not consider them to be too commercialized or disrespected. The rest of the participants responded negatively by saying that even though its true that's there's only one wall memorial when it came to the experience it was not unique.

Finally, the participants were asked for their thoughts on how to appeal to a younger audience. The logic behind this follow-up question is that, as stated at the beginning of the thesis, one of its objectives is to discover an approach to attract a younger audience, as most people that participate in Heritage or Cultural Tourism are older. The following statements were made:

“Use modern technology and social media. But I think it's not just it Not I think new technologies are not the only solution or not a solution of how to interest young people. I don't know whether the use of new technologies is so like social media and apps are the only way of the best way to attract young people to be interested in the history of the Berlin Wall or German history in general.... I tried to summarize it, right now with some easy words, but fine. It's not just new technology but rather tried to find a way to connect the past to the present. Okay. Problems are their similarities, be it, be it solutions for problems, right. But try to connect the past and the present. Because what I remember a little bit was that, okay. You know, we have this thing from a past right now and in the present. What, how can it help? It's a lot of information. Yes, a lot of information. How does it help us right now, or maybe for the future, and this might be a great approach, to find a way to present the whole content and the memorial in a way

not just teaching us not informing, informing us about the past, but rather helping us to have a present and for the future?" (Male, 23, Interview 1)

This male individual believes that a way to attract a younger audience is to use modern technology. The author replied to the participant stating that this already exist to which he replied that it might be too much information for them. And therefore, he added that the visitors might get bored after reading a certain amount of information and will stop interpreting it. This affirms that monument sites should better their engagement of young audience.

"I think I would just basically use a kind of function like time travelling, yeah. Okay. So, where you are basic, so use, like the opportunity to, to show, you know, that the Berlin is at its time, you know, like, from, I would say, the 1900s towards, you know, 2021," (Female, 40, Interview 2)

"I think I would like the use of virtual reality, just to be able to not only look at pictures but to experience how it could have been, during that time that you could stand in front of the wall or could stand in between the wall or see the houses around that I would, I would say that would be nice. And that will be interacting. And you could also show, you could also experience different years of the wall, or you could also maybe see the construction of the wall, that will be nice. And I think that would make me will make me come back because I would kind of be ensured to see different things when I visit. After all, I don't think I could see all of them in one turn." (Female, 23, Interview 5)

These statements made by the two females who suggested using modern technologies to attract younger people. One of them explaining that a "time travel" theme could be created in which people could see the evolution of the wall and the chain of events that had happened in the upcoming decades, she did not offer an explanation of how to do so. However, the other person suggested applying virtual reality which could be a solution to the other respondent idea. She later mentioned that if this type of attraction existed, she would of visit the memorial again. In the present day this doesn't exist in the Berlin wall memorial, it only exists next to checkpoint Charlie, and it's called "TimeRide". TimeRide is a virtual reality attraction, transports you to a split city. This attraction immerses visitors in the capital's life before to reunification. visitors may

experience an autumn day in divided Berlin in 1980. The Black Box at Checkpoint Charlie is an intriguing Cold War display.

5.2 Discussion

The above-mentioned findings will now be discussed and understood. Only a few of the people interviewed had heard of the term "dark tourism." As a result, travellers are unaware that they are participating in such a niche aspect of tourism, and the Berlin Wall Memorial is regarded as a typical tourist attraction. According to the findings of the conducted interview, Tourists visit the Berlin Wall Memorial to learn more; as some of the participants have indicated in response to the question of why they went to this specific location, most people highlight the educational and informative value of visiting the memorial. These comments support prior claims made by (Dunkley, 2005) who noted the educational importance of visiting dark places, among other things. The arguments of confronting the truth, confirming, and acknowledging occurrences should also be mentioned. Educational motivations and a desire to learn more appear to be the main reasons for visiting dismal places, according to this survey. As a result, it's logical to expect that educational parts of holidays are highly valued by visitors. The term "entertainment" encompasses more than just leisure travel. Since the majority of those who took part said they couldn't imagine leaving the city without paying a visit to the memorial.(Dunkley, 2005)

Another popular reason for visiting the Berlin Wall Memorial is because it is a "must see" for anybody visiting Berlin and to learn about the city's vital history. This might be said to apply to all tourist destinations around the world, regardless of their nature. When visiting Berlin, a visit to checkpoint Charlie, Brandenburg Gate, or the East Side Gallery is a "must." Nonetheless, aside from being one of Berlin's most popular tourist attractions, the Berlin Wall Memorial has a greater significance due to the way it is shown to the public. This is why, Checkpoint Charly, for example, cannot be compared to the Berlin Wall Memorial directly, as they are managed very differently – even though both portray the same history. Yet, one attraction is commercialized (Checkpoint Charly) while the other serves a more commemorative purpose (Berlin Wall Memorial). Having said, the Berlin Wall Memorial cannot be compared to other non-dark nature sites

because of its perceived severity and significance. This can also be linked to the educational motivations. There is a link between wanting to learn about a city's history and visiting it. Another observation was that participants from Germany claimed that understanding about their history is crucial to prevent something similar from happening again.

As previously indicated, after the participants had earned some trust and became more engaged in the discussion, they stated that empathy and curiosity were also important factors in their decision to visit the Berlin Wall Memorial. It is regarded as a historically significant site, which for some participants was another compelling reason to visit the memorial. (Ashworth, 2009b) This fascination is also linked to the empathy part of tourist motivations for visiting dark sights. Curiosity, which was also highlighted by (Dunkley, 2005) was mentioned by various participants several times; interest in attending this memorial is related to a greater or slightly lesser extent of curiosity. Since several respondents mentioned that they were aware of the Berlin Wall monument but were nonetheless disturbed by the events, it seems only natural that they would be more interested in learning more about it when visiting the actual site of the events. It is thought that the idea proposed by (Ashworth, 2009a), which describes how individuals seek out the extraordinary and unique, plays a significant effect in this. People's desire for unfamiliar and extraordinary encounters appears to be an obvious quality linked to their need to fulfil their curiosity.

The memorial played an even more essential and personal role for some of the participants, highlighting the importance of "root" tourism and heritage tourism. Even though these participants did not grow up during the Berlin Wall's duration, their relatives did, and they have heard endless stories about the events. This emotional connection to the Berlin Wall Memorial is part of the identity debate (Ashworth, 2009b) that he has brought up in his studies. Many dark tourism sites, he believes, have historical value, as evidenced by memorials such as those in Berlin. Visitors seeking roots tourism look for their own past and history, as well as a link, as can be demonstrated in the case of these participants. (Ashworth, 2009a)

A further emotional connections can be created. When (Tarlow, 2004) first outlined the major emotions that determine the dark visitor experience, he mentioned that feelings

like appreciation were found. A sense of insecurity was suggested as another emotion. Since most of the participants reported to have felt sad, surprised, afraid, disappointed, and uneasy when visiting the memorial, it is reasonable to conclude that the feature of insecurity is exposed here in this thesis. The participants did not express any special feelings that affected their decision to visit the attractions. Nonetheless, it is reasonable to assume that these anticipated emotions influenced the decisions in some way. This statement was made because all the respondents were familiar with events that occurred during the Berlin Wall era, some to a greater extent than others. Visitors to the memorials must have had specific expectations prior to their visit. Because of the importance of the subject, no one could have anticipated having a fun and entertaining time.

Some of the earlier authors' (Dann, 1998; Foley & Lennon, 1996; Lennon & Powell, 2018; Sharpley, 2005; P. R. Stone, 2006) assumptions about the motivations of tourists who participate in black tourism have been supported in this thesis. The fascination with death and the desire to feel closer to the afterlife, according to many authors (Dann, 1998; Foley & Lennon, 1996; Lennon & Powell, 2018; Sharpley, 2005; P. R. Stone, 2006), are fundamental motivations for attending dark attractions. This study found no evidence to support these claims. Although death is obviously displayed, it is not a place where the presence and history of death predominates.

6. Conclusion

The reasons why individuals engage in dark tourism have been examined before, and this thesis contributed to a better understanding of tourists' behaviour. Dark tourism is a relatively obscure and new phenomenon that has existed for years without complete awareness. Because the case study focused on the Berlin Wall Memorial, the findings may help with better management of the attractions in question. Dark tourism covers a wide range of different types of tourist attractions. Some have a lighter or darker shade or blackness than others. Based on the findings of the literature review and the findings of this study, it can be concluded that the participants do not engage in dark tourism on purpose. The participants in the study, as well as many others who came across the

thesis while working on it, had never heard of the term. The name and its meaning are well-known in literature and among professionals, but they are not well-known among the public. Clearly, this is a unique insight gained while working on this thesis and cannot be extended to a significant extent.

After thoroughly presenting and debating the findings of this study, it can be concluded that a significant number of tourists who visit the Berlin Wall Memorial do so out of genuine interest in German history and not out of a malicious fascination with death and suffering. Because the study only included ten people, this cannot be said to be true for the vast majority of visitors. The educational aspects of the visits are strongly represented because nearly all respondents knew about the history of the wall at some point in their previous education or social setting. This leads to the conclusion that, when traveling overseas, visitors nowadays are not only looking for amusement but also value and prefer to highlight educational features. The Berlin Wall is seen as a pivotal moment in history and is thus treated with great respect (see section 5). To summarize the data and respond to the study topic, this paper highlighted a variety of motives that should be considered in future research. Tourists come to see the Berlin Wall Memorial because of its historical significance and the desire to learn more. As a result, one of the key motives is educational background. Another driving force is the desire to view the sight as well as demonstrate empathy to the persons and families who were affected at the time.

The explanation of the phenomenon before the interviews may have had a negative impact on data collection. Because the explanation of dark tourism could have a negative connotation, respondents may have believed that their visits to dark tourism places reflected negatively on them. As a result, attaining the expected findings was not entirely straightforward, and the participants required some encouragement. Following that, further data was gathered, and it was discovered that pure curiosity and empathy were also strong motivators. The most fundamental features of humanity are portrayed. Visitors come to the wall memorial not only for the educational value, but also for emotional fulfilment.

There were no links found between visitors' interest with death and their desire to confront their fears about the afterlife. These declarations are most likely unsuitable for

the nature of the dark tourism attraction under consideration. It is intended that by reading this paper, you would gain a better grasp of tourist motivation.

7. Limitations & further research

Limitations were implied from the start because the research technique was based on personal interviews. The sample size is quite limited, with only ten interview partners. This study selected the most representative sample available, including participants of all ages within one generation and different ethnicities. Nonetheless, the sample's representative significance is only given to a limited extent, leading to the conclusion that the result cannot be generalized. The study provides a deeper understanding of people's motivations in relation to dark tourism, specifically the Berlin Wall Memorial. The main findings can be applied to almost all other dark tourism destinations around the world, although some of the information gleaned from this study is limited to the wall monument. Levelling all the various dark tourism locations is quite difficult, therefore this constraint could not have been avoided. To have a better knowledge of what motivates individuals to engage in dark tourism, segmentation study on the various types of dark tourism attractions identified in the literature review should be done.

Personal interviews are a challenging strategy for obtaining optimum and representative results because they are time consuming. In addition, the speaker had a difficult time finding suitable appointments for the participants. Before beginning the interviews, it is critical to remember that they are time-consuming, and efficient time management is recommended. While analysing the interviews, the researcher encountered some difficulties in locating useful information. Since the term dark tourism was mentioned beforehand, participants were encouraged to express their opinions, which, according to this thesis, are linked to the perceived negative implications of their travels. Other implications were that the author attempted to gather participants in person at the Berlin Wall Memorial when the author was there before gathering them from social media sites. The problem was that there weren't many people who were eager to interview them and state that they felt uncomfortable.

The phenomena of dark tourism, as well as the underlying reasons of travellers, is a complicated subject. To gain a better understanding of why people attend dark attractions, researchers should concentrate on the psychological aspects of the issue at hand. This should include psychological study of respondents' responses and behaviours to obtain highly relevant data. People's motivations are a big topic in general, but they're much more so when it comes to dark tourism. Future research should focus on determining how motives fluctuate depending on the type of dark attractions to better predict tourist behaviour.

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Appendix

Abbreviation

C: Cesar

I: Interviewer

Interviewer 1

C: can you please state your age? your nationality? And your educational background?

I1: My age is 23. I am from Germany, and I am an undergraduate.

C: Have you visited the Berlin War Memorial before?

I1: Yes, I have one time.

C: When?

I1: That must have been in 2016 or 17? I cannot remember.

C: Did you know? Did you know about the memorial before?

I1: I did not. Well, I knew about the Berlin Wall and its history, but I did not specifically know a lot about the memorial.

C: And where did you learn all of this?

I1: Well, first, all German students. Take your A levels in Germany are quite compulsory to learn about this part of German history. So, one aspect where learning was in school. The second aspect was out of my interest in German history. And that is also how and for myself to the third part is probably because of my family, because my

family comes mostly from East Germany. So as Eastern German backgrounds, especially like my parents, my grandparents lived in eastern. So, you have three aspects of how I knew about the Berlin Wall and its history. So school, private interests, or personal interests, and then family.

C: You mentioned before about your interests, what motivated you to have an interest in knowing about your history or your country's history?

I1: No, not, necessary. I just told you how I got the information. The question you asked was why I wanted to obtain that information. And it is a good question. I've always been interested in history. I actually can't tell you why. Might be because of the first TV series or movies that I've watched Well, I was interested in history. And then step by step like what was kind of like a chain reaction. And then I know more about history, why I'm particularly interested in history. Car retail, I would guess I was younger and started watching movies. And later on, and when it comes to German history, well, as I said, when Germany was a big focus on educating young people, especially in gymnasium. So, grammars portrait, you know, educating students about German history, right? And, yeah, and I also got interested in German history because I, I learned how diverse palmistry is, and how many things we're talking about the 20th century, which, which, and when it comes to world history, right, Germany had a big impact on 20th-century history with two world wars, and then also import war to play place, especially with a berlin wall in Berlin. Right?

C: You said that part of the motive was because most of your family are from the east side of Germany. Do you consider this historic event to be more important to east Germans?

I1: Which historic event are you throwing towards to?

C: The divided Germany

I1: You mean, like the period, right? I think, the wall very difficult question. I would guess, but not based on any studies or anything that for Eastern, East Germans, who also lived in the GDR, in East Germany that the wall and this whole period was very important to them. And I think it holds a lot of significance because just this image of a separated Germany is still in the minds of a lot of people. And also in my mind,

someone was born eight years after Germany was reunited, officially in 1990. So yeah, it's a big image. To my mind, to be honest, I can't tell why it might be a mix of my history. And my family background. Again, who's from the east. Whether my family has directly suffered or not probably? Well, I can tell you that they haven't. I Don't remember what you asked me. But what I can tell you about my family doesn't have, I don't have a direct connection to the wall or suffering to towards it. Or let's say at least direct suffering. Some parts of my family wanted to leave. But they never tried. So no one was killed or shot, wounded. And whether it was still a lot of difference between west and east, I guess, when it comes to the perception of this period and what it meant. But yeah, I think we're not talking about history. Well, we can dive more into the history of it. But the thing is, obviously have different perceptions. But I think in the minds of people who want number one, I grew up in GDR, its still very, very important period, and also for people who were born from the east, I think, are now living in the eastern part of Germany. I would assume that the wall and the whole history and the period from 61 to 90. And 1990 has more importance for people who are from the east of Germany one, because they might have lived in GDR, or two. They have family members that live in GDR and were affected by it. Personally, in my family, no one was negative was directly affected by the war. They couldn't leave the country. They didn't get wounded or killed because of the war.

C: So, they had good living conditions?

I1: yeah.

C: So, when you first visited the Berlin, wall, were you motivated to visit the city just because of the memorial, or were there other factors involved?

I1: Yeah. In my case, where I was more interested in other aspects of the city, it was because and just getting out of my village, I was not interested in history, or often interested in the history of the city. But it was not the predominant reason for me to travel to Berlin. So, the predominant reason was family and friends. Okay, visiting friends.

C: Did you do any research beforehand when you first went to the memorial?

I1: not actively. Okay. So, if it counts that you read in general about it, or watch documentaries about it, but that then yes, but not accurately. So, one week before going to Berlin, and I didn't inform myself specifically on the topic over years, months, you know, as a hobby or as a leisure activity for myself about various parts of job history, but not necessarily before trips.

C: But did anyone recommend you? You just went by your own will?

I1: Yeah, I went because I wanted to see it with my own eyes and this person recommended me because that was new, but I was into history. And so that person said, look, you got to see it and visited because you are interested in history in general and not just Checkpoint Charlie, which I would say even more touristic and most importantly, more like Theoretically, you know, like, more would like theatre. Right? When are you going to Checkpoint Charlie? to people either in the uniform of the Soviet Union or World War Memorial the berlin wall memorial is more. Straight one.

C: I'm going to ask you a similar question. I asked you at the start. What would you consider be the main reason you visited the memorial?

I1: Well, the main reasons that I do things. One, number one, it was recommended to me or suggested by a friend when you were, but I'm interested in history. And so this is also the second reason I'm interested in German history. Okay, so it's as simple as it gets. Me being at being, you know, suggested to me and me being interested in history

C: As a German, do you think it's important or duty to learn about your past?

I1: Well, yes, but I also think it's important. So yes, it is important for me. But I think it's also important for every other citizen of another state to know about their history. Okay. But I argue that German history is more important to my interests and other histories? No, not necessarily depends on what you're interested in, if you're, into global conflicts and stuff like that if that interests you. And if you want to know how to make was in the future, then you might want to look a little bit more into German history. But yeah, I'm very interested in German history, because one, it's my part of my, my history, my personal history, right? out of the identity of my culture, okay. And also, I think, because of the German school system s, there was a big emphasis on learning about German history.

C: Why do you think it was important for the school? To learn this.

I1: What? Well, while you wonder why we had to learn a lot about German history, especially last century, it's quite easy to answer that. Yes. So there's a big emphasis in Germany by the German government on preventing what happened to us last century. So, education, especially when it comes to fascism and racism. At least education, we're just talking about trying to educate you, we're not trying about actual actions, because we enjoy acting. Because at the end of the day, we still have problems with racism, some of it but at least the government tries to educate people. And that's why also this replacing the big role, not just in the subject history, but also have a subject that comes for example, to German social studies. Germany in the last century has always been a big topic, not just the Second World War, but also the Cold War.

C: How was the memorial for you? How did it make you feel the first time?

I1: this is going to sound like it's like a tourism expert analysis. First of all right, that was pretty crowded. So, you would argue nowadays with finalists, say it was overcrowded. A lot of information, maybe too much too overwhelming. A lot to read, but a lot of people also who were standing in front of you know All texts that I wanted to read, you know, information and whatever I wanted to get. So yeah, my opinion what but I had to I had been involved in general was the word or two words too much on one and too many people, but also too much information, I mean, you can decide on your own what you want to read because it was an overwhelming, overwhelming and many things. And also, but this is like just a side thing. I was a little bit disappointed, not necessarily by the Berlin Wall Memorial, but by the fact that so much of was gone. And it was me the first time when I came to Berlin before I went to Memorial that I realized, wow, there's not much left. And then that kind of surprised me, even though I had some knowledge about it. And then being naive and coming home, I was 12. But first, have to read it. And I realized was entirely wrong. Not entirely, but almost entirely Gone. It was a surprise.

C: Do you think it's good how they are managing it now?

I1: It depends whether they are up to date, I do not know, to my perspective, like almost five years ago when I last went. So, I do not know how changed. I do not know

whether they prefer the organization's necessities, necessities, which are nowadays needed. So especially talking about new technologies, digital media, and stuff like that. So, it is also important to connect with the younger generation. Especially with younger generations, right? Because these people will shape not just Germany, but also the world. And I don't know whether the whole presentation of a button war memorial is up to date. I do not know. And secondly, I also don't know whether it needs to be up to date in terms of new technologies and software and apps and social media? I don't know I don't know about. And, again, I don't know where it's needed. So, I can't comment on that. I would have to see it on my own first, and then I also would have to evaluate whether it is what kind of strategy they should follow to educate people appropriately. But then again, the question is what is appropriate?

C: You mentioned teaching the younger generation because this is my follow up question. If you had any recommendations for the management of the site, what would you recommend attracting a younger audience?

I1: Well, I could say, now tell you, okay, use modern technology and social media. But I think it's not just it Not I think new technologies are not the only solution or not a solution of how to interest young people. I don't know whether the use of new technologies is so like social media and apps are the only way of the best way to attract young people to be interested in the history of the Berlin Wall or German history in general. I don't know. I think it would be better to kind of connect the problems that we had me personally but Germans, people in that during that time we called one berlin wall. As with nowadays problems, right? Because I always see history as a way of learning from us. And so if we, if you might come up with a way of we are responsible people for the management of the site, if they come up with a way to connect problems with profits back in the day, and that would be a better approach. Okay, nowadays problem like. So we talked about climate change, or climate change, for example, also involves like, like shortage of resources, right. And the conflict between main, like big countries what's so like, an easy example might be to say, okay, we had a Cold War, or there was a cold war between two superpowers. Two empires. Some people would argue that take weapons, but I think those are quite big empires in my opinion. Yeah. So now we could look at nowadays, whether we can see similarities.

I tried to summarize it, right now with some easy words, but fine. It's not just new technology but rather tried to find a way to connect the past to the present. Okay. Problems are their similarities, be it, be it solutions for problems, right. But try to connect the past and the present. Because what I remember a little bit was that, okay. You know, we have this thing from a past right now and in the present. What, how can it help? It's a lot of information. Yes, a lot of information. How does it help us right now, or maybe for the future, and this might be a great approach, to find a way to present the whole content and the memorial in a way not just teaching us not informing, informing us about the past, but rather helping us to have a present and for the future. I don't know how to do that. That's Yeah, apart from the more technology, I think this is like the most answer, but what I expect that people are like, are we have to use more social media and adapt technologies. Maybe that might be the case. But what I mentioned earlier, could also be away.

C: Would you visit again or do you think this is just a one-time thing?

I1: Yes, to refresh my memories, I would go but it's not the most interesting side I want to go back to my list of days where I want to go back to the Berlin War Memorial. Wall memorial is not one of my top 10 places I would visit.

C: Would you recommend any friends or family

I1: Yes, I would

C: Did you consider the memorial to be authentic?

I1: No Well, again, what do you mean with it offers authenticity?

C: if it's more commercialized as a tourist attraction

I1: Not commercialized? No, not necessarily. But it's also a tourist attraction. You have to keep it in mind. I mean, not, I think the main what, if my, from my memory was not the main focus of his whole site is not making money, I guess. It could be wrong. Things are not just for commercial use. But I think it's more like an educational focus. Would you think it'd be a good thing? If they commercialize in this memorial? It's a good thing.

C: Would you think it would be a good thing they did commercialised?

I1: No, no, I don't think so.

C: Why so?

I1: Depends. Don't see how this could improve the quality of my visits to visitors. Experience, right. I mean, usually when you want to, when you want to commercialize it more, you also want to generate more income. And then the waste generated don't improve the whole experience for the visitor, and also not for like the learning aspect of it. So, if you want to focus on learning, maybe even learn something for the future. And yes, you try to keep up the quality, not necessarily the income generated.

Interviewer 2

C: Can you please state your age, your nationality, and your educational background?

I2: I'm German. I'm 40. And my educational background I, I have a bachelor's degree and an apprenticeship, which is common education. So that's more learning on the job can experience and so yeah, that's my background and of course, a lot of additional education in various areas as well.

C: That's ausbildung in German right apprenticeship or not?

I2: Yes, but I also get university studies and education in the US.

C: Have you visited the Berlin Wall Memorial before?

I2: Yes, I have been several times, Berlin, I've seen the memorial as well as, as is I saw the wall. It was one of the things you have to do as a student in Germany to visit Berlin that was before the reunion, it was hard, for students to visit Berlin and to get a good understanding of the situation in Berlin.

C: Why is it important for students to visit these places? As you mentioned before,

I2: I think, I think it's it's, you know, it's Germany, you know, after World War Two, Germany not necessarily had a lot of analysis of the history of the war, it was more. It was just history as such, but not mostly history in terms of analyzing what led to, to

that situation, what makes the Nazis so strong. And I think this is to remember, the heart of the history, which is not the most pleasant one in German history. It's really to be closer and to good to get a good understanding of what are the consequences of it. But I think it's more the fact. And that's the emotional part that the to feel and also see the separation. Of a country that was united for a very long time. And to face the consequences of war. I think that's the emotional part. And I think there are only a few other places like Cyprus, where you have the country as well, you know, with a Greek and Turkish part. And I think it's, the similarities are very much the same. But of course, you know, not with a holocaust And I think that's, really the part that made it unique. And also, the Alliance, you know, like the Russian American and British. French, against the Nazi I think that is, is, a demonstration, especially since Germany was really in Berlin, especially in Berlin, was very much the centre of Europe. probe, if you look at it from North to South and East to West Berlin is very much in the centre. I think,

C: I've heard from various people that Berlin is like the capital of Europe because it's like, the heart of Europe. You know, it's in the middle of everywhere.

I2: If it was for where it is, it is without a doubt. I think during the Prussian Empire, it was the centre of Europe or, well, it was the competition between London and Berlin. Yeah, for a very long time, which led into World War One and World War Two. And so I think it's, it's just logical. And when Germany got reunited that Berlin become the capital again, but if you look at it, it's an I think, unique in comparison to other major capital cities. Yeah, you see, and still feel even 30 years after, the reunion that it is divided, in a way, it's more like little suburbs. And, and it's, it's merged the little suburbs into a city called Berlin. But if you look at it, and go to the different suburbs, you realize that it is, is still divided for a very long time. Yeah. And then there are still a few areas where you can see parts of the Berlin Wall, but the majority of them is, is just torn apart. And you still see it is actually in museums all over the world that they got some pieces of the Berlin Wall and audit and to memory, it and I think it's it's even more, I think, outside of Berlin, more remembered, as then in Berlin itself. And actually, that had led to a very, people in Berlin have a very special sense of humour. I think, part of it, of the tragedy. And I think the good part that I like to see and is really

after the Holocaust, that a lot of people and Jewish people are coming back from Israel and living in Berlin again. And I think that is, for me the most positive even more important than the war effect here that Berlin, achieved after such human tragedy with the Holocaust. I think that's a really good, good way, even though I think recently, I think a lot of conflicts are occurring again. But the thing Berlin is very important. I, and I think it's quite interesting. And I like the fact that it's not the capital of the EU, even though it's the centre of Europe. It's not the centre of the European Union. So, I think that is a good statement. If you have that history, and I think, you know, Europe is so interesting, and so has such a variety and richness of history. Yeah, I think it's good that you take a place that is not so overwhelmed with history. You know if you go to London, to Barcelona, Madrid, Rome, Milano, there's Paris, and there are so many cities in Europe that have a long-time history and tradition. And I like the fact of variety. And I think it would be also in this kind of respect, respect from the Germans towards the other European because I think World War Two was avoidable. And I think it was a lot of pain and suffering for entire Europe, and now living in Switzerland for quite a while. And you see that there is no damage from World War One and World War Two. I think you see the importance of peace because you cannot pass on, you know if it comes to art if it comes to architecture. Yeah, yeah. I think there is a gap. You know every war creates a gap. And it's a loss for, for the future generation. I think the importance is of history, the history is always part of the future. Yeah, I think it's, it's good if you can connect the past and the dots and with the future. So I think it's learning it's a kind of handover. it's like handing over a company. But it's tradition, but it's also out of the tradition that broadens your view on challenges, new things. And in with war, you destroy a lot. I think the former recently in Europe, the former Yugoslavia war shows you, in a very hard and intense way, how bad was on and I think even though becoming as European from various and different routes, I think it's we all European, and I think it's important that you know, a small city is chosen, so that not everyone becomes overwhelmed. And taking into account you know, when Europe started the conversation with the European currency, I think there was a big discussion, actually with Britain to have at one of the notes or bills, the picture of the queen. Immediately. other kingdoms started all we want to have our kings and queens on the bills as well. I thought it was quite wisely to show the variety of Euro but

without really benefiting one country over another. And I think that that is quite good. Yeah. And I think Berlin is taking it very responsibly. Yeah. And I think it's in terms of culture, in terms of variety in terms of diversity. However, I wish, I think word junk. I think the variety and I think the one of the deficit you're facing if you're living outside of Germany, but being German and taking a look at it is the fact that I think English is not so common in Germany as it is in other countries like the Netherlands or the Scandinavia. So, and I think languages are very important to communicate with people and also for integrating and I think this is one of the benefits of English and Spanish and other languages. It's a language thing, because, you know, if you understand each other, it makes life so much easier. And I think that is when I would say one of the deficits in Germany is in really, Berlin is not that it's the same actually with Paris. You know, everybody assumes that you speak French, though they speak fluent in and well, a lot of people well, English, they refuse to do. I think that's, that's important, this open-mindedness the smaller countries are very open-minded and much more multilingual. And I think that itself opens up. Yeah. In many ways, in terms of feeling easier. Well, it's also in terms of a thing in terms of not, I wouldn't say necessarily racism, but I would say just the tolerance towards variety, in terms of gender in terms of cultural backgrounds, in terms of also in terms of thinking, and looking at things from a different perspective, I think diversity is tolerance and diversity are the main drivers to make a city, really a world or even European city. Very important. I've been in New York for many years and live there and also in Chicago. And I can move to say if the richness of America is not the history, but the open-minded and, and the tolerance towards different, you know, backgrounds, a different culture different. it's the diversity that makes America that rich. And I think is, I think, Europe, especially the Germans are more likes, followers and Law orders and not necessarily openminded I think that is gone over the years. Yeah, I think Berlin illustrates it very nicely. You if you see like, the castle. And all the older buildings that before World War II, World War One, it shows you the achievement the spirit of building something new. It has an international approach, and over time, a bit during World War One, but I think more importantly, during World War Two, that is gone towards the now and lost by the Nazi regime, just by introducing law and order. I think the wall illustrates it. It's basically if you have seen it, yeah. And when you went to

Berlin, while the wall still exists, it was you were allowed to fly, but you're not allowed to fly that high. So at the time, the Americans were allowed so you can fly with Panem. from Western Germany to Berlin, and you're not allowed to fly that high, usually flying, you know, like line 9000 or 10,000 meters high. But at that time, it was just allowed, to fly 3000 because they fear the higher you fly that you spy out Eastern Eastern Germany and the Russian line of defence. And that was quite interesting. And, when you flew them to a girl, it's all looked like, you know, like, it's like a heart. But the wall was dividing that heart into two pieces. Yeah.

C: When you first visited the memorial, did you know about it?

I2: Yes. It's, you know, it's part of German history. And yeah, it's like, why you have it at school in your history. lessons here it's very often, you know, it's written about it is it said, you know, it's so rich of tradition and I think Berlin is such is, is, is pretty much a memorial for because there are so many museums memorials, and because of you know, like the centre of the Nazi regime during World War Two, so we'll see it all Yeah, and this is something you learn really, you have this touchy subject, actually, every year in history in your history lessons. And I don't know if it's still the case, but in my case, it was a case where so we avoid repeating. So it's the idea behind it is to avoid it and don't let it happen again. So that it sticks in your, in your mind in your memory. And whenever you action that you keep and bear this in mind. Okay.

C: Were you motivated to visit Berlin The first time you went? Just because of the memorial? Or were there other factors involved?

I2: Definitely the memorial, but they are also, you know, as I said, it has the old, you have a lot of museums, you have a lot of remarkable architectural buildings. So it's the richness of culture and variety that Berlin offer first, because it's not just, you know, the like, the memorial, but it's like the, it would say, like 200 years of tradition. Okay, that you can see in different areas. So it's that. And also, Berlin was always a kind of hot spot. Yeah. Because of the uniqueness. And it, it was also, aside from the uniqueness It was really like, always considered across German citizen special play, is because of the isolated situation that there was a wall for a very long time. . And also when you go by car, which was very tight restrictions, or by train, it was quite extreme.

And if you feel like they have felt that you're entering a different country, which was quite strange here. So it was easier for German-speaking, it was easier to travel to Switzerland or Austria, than to Eastern Germany, or Berlin. It was that was quite bizarre. Experience. And so for that, it was quite a unique moment. Yeah. So whenever you travel to other places, it's entering your country. But, it's really, your feel and sees the that there is the country you travelled to all countries around Germany, I would say they're very much united in a way that by there, you see the flags, you know, it was very long, long time that you've seen. Yeah. And the flag is, of course, a symbol of national pride for the degree. And it was very rare that you saw German flags in Germany, aside from the public buildings. And I think that changed the bid through the World Cup in 2006. That took place in Germany. That was a little interchange towards normality. Yeah, but it's still not the same as, as in other countries in Europe.

C: Did you do any research beforehand going to the memorial? We recommend the by any by some friends, teacher colleagues, so on.

I2: well, as I said it was by teachers and of course we be part. I spoke to my parents and grandparents. Yeah. And so actually, my, my father's parents came from Eastern Germany. And they were, they're refugees, so to speak. So they moved first, to Berlin. And then Berlin, to Hamburg. Okay. But they were on the loose. Yeah, they were on the loose, to, to move and they had friends in Hamburg. So that helped him them, to move to Hamburg.

C: You answered me before this, but I'm going to repeat the question. So what would you consider to be the main reasons he visited this memorial?

I2: It's, I think it's the power to see with the consequences of them. And see the memorial this touch? I think it's, it's, it's one thing to read it in books and see it in pictures, but if you see it, in reality, I think that is much more powerful, and a very effective reminder of the history that's written. And I think it's, it's really good to have it and it's good to Yeah, it's kind of good illustration of and also shows you really to avoid any further Wars was not so solution it's not I would say it's the last option at all when it is made all because I truly believe that even the winner of the war is the loser. After all, they lose all the history, as I said, you know, if you're travelling, for example,

in Switzerland, you see all the old older buildings, you see the different architectures through the hundreds of years. Yeah, and I think this richness and makes you clear how senseless war truly is what it is due to this price so much. In everyone's in their days in the war. There is no true victory even if they say so. You know, they are the winners and losers. But it's not because everyone loses and I think that memorial is intense and shows you this is a very powerful way.

C: How did it make you feel when you first saw it?

I2: I was very sad. Because as I said, it illustrates the losses that come along with it. And that makes me sad. Yeah. It's a loss, as I said, of, of the people that are passed on, about the whole locals about the loss of, you know, like, through the Holocaust, a lot of artists were really couldn't work, do their jobs that were built isolated in this society. I think it's the loss of the end, the loss of diversity and the freedom of the free spirit. I think that is the most powerful, and it shows you the importance to be free and open-minded. It's a very, I would say, really a very powerful statement, even though it doesn't speak or say anything about it, it creates a very strong message.

C: what recommendations would you give the memorial to attract the younger audience?

I2: Why so?

C: I'm not sure if you're aware, but people who engage in culture, tourism or heritage tourism tends to be people slightly older, because they have more spending power, and they're just more interested in history.

I2: Agree, I actually would, to attract more, I think I would take, like, I think I would just basically use a kind of function like time travelling, yeah. Okay. So where you basic, so use, like the opportunity to, to show, you know, that the Berlin is at its time, you know, like, from, I would say, the 1900s towards, you know, 2021, and so, best tickly, always, you know, like, take a four or six-year-old child, and then really every year, but still stay as a 46-year-old child, so that you do time travelling and then basically show how they grow. So you that you involve the younger so that they, you know, these older people were young, and the reason why they interested in it, because they also combine it with their childhood. And I think that's, that's really to, to build a bridge between the

older people, the younger people are then when you show it from a perspective of a young person when these older people were young and experienced action, you know, war, and also the building of the war. Yeah. I think that that would help. I would more like a kind of interaction, but I would do it out of the out of from a perspective of a four six-year-old child or teenager so that they basically can feel more attached to it, how the teenager at that time felt, and so that they can see it from their generation's eyes. And the point of view, I think that would help a lot. Instead of you know, recreating and, you know, we under digitalization and technology. So, I would also illustrate the time travel, you know, what happened, for example, take the place how it broke, like before the memorial, yeah. So how the place also changed over time and how we develop towards that more a place so that people really can see the variety and the change is such, because I think memorials just one place, but I think that led to this place and make it more memorable a place. I think this is the travelling and the transition that led to it. Yeah, I think that should be more illustrated. I think that that would help. I've seen this kind of animation and in other areas, for example, it is used by sure how mass Tourism destroys. islands for example, also the PISA Yeah, how the climate change and environmental changes lead towards major changes in, in the architecture and all the places. Also, if you have fewer posts, you can throw computer animation, you can see how it looked like before going to wartime. And, you know, like you can travel with digitalization, like 3000 years in time. Yeah. And I think this kind of interaction makes it more like a living place because you know, more memorials have tended to be as dead. Yeah. And there's no interaction, but I think it's important to pass it on and be more remarkable. For younger. I think I think so that makes them more living things. And, you know, it is, there's a reason it gives you more an answer to the reason why is this memorial there? This is just, you know if you do not know the read about it, it's just, you know, a place. Yeah, in there. There is no, it's not a living thing, but it was a living place. And this is true. Remember this living place? And not to remember? Just the memory, the memorial is such, yeah, this is just a reminder. Yeah. But you should more focus not on the room, remembering, but more focused on what happened. Why, you know, the travel towards the place that it became a rememberable place, I think that would help the people a lot because then they understand that they can put things more in better perspective and better context.

And I think it's, it's also for the younger generation, you know, like my generation, we learn the World War two from our parents and our grandparents. But if you know, the generation after mine, they probably know a little bit from their parents, but not necessarily. Yeah. And so it's, it's if this passing on them hasn't happened or doesn't happen. I think it's for them. It's just, you know, Memorial, and that's it. Yeah. And I think to make it more attractive to younger people, I think it's this kind of interaction, I think interaction always means it's also too, you take a step towards the younger people. Yeah. If you just keep it moral as such, it's for people who experience that it's a reminder, they look at it from that perspective, but I think even people who are experienced, I think they like to see the transformation and how it became that Memorial place. I think that would help them a lot of very certain because touch and feel, you know, our senses are more touch and feel, and really to experience themselves. So I think that that helps a lot.

C: Would you visit again, or do you think it's just a one-time thing?

I2: No, I'm planning to go to Berlin again, summertime and also into the beginning of next year, so I like Berlin, and I enjoy the transformation that villains are going through. And I think it's, it's remarkable, and I think it cannot often enough visit two. Yeah, remember that also giving hope for or challenge? Because it's a reminder, the memorial but if you'd see how burdens changing I think it's also that gives the hope and his outlook that there is I would say I think back to old glory is the Wrong phrase, but I would say definitely to more open-minded and become again the heart of Europe without really, you know, like being that powerful but you know, the heart doesn't need the power because at least it knows that it has the power to keep your body alive. Would you recommend any friends or family members to visit the place? Yes, for sure. And I did.

C: would you recommend it to anyone?

I2: of course I would it's a must see!

C: And for my last question is did you consider the memory to be authentic?

I2: As far as the attraction I would say it's authentic.

Interviewer 3

C: Can you please state, your age, your nationality, and your educational background?

I3: I'm 24 years old. from Bolivia. And my background, I am a technical in commerce international commerce. And right now, I'm doing a bachelor in sociology and Communication and Media Science.

C: Have you visited the Berlin Wall Memorial before?

I3: Yes. I was in Berlin a lot of times. So I kind of like watching the memorial, a lot of times, not each of them. But I will say more, more than 10 may be in Berlin, in the memorial? maybe five or six times. And the first time was, was 2013.

C: Did you know about the memorial before you visited the first time?

I3: Yes, I did. Because I, I started in a German school. So we can, yeah, learn about the history, in general. So I was kind of like, an inform. Before going to Berlin.

C: You said that you went to a German school, is it important to remember the past of what things happened?

I3: Yes, of course, of course. And not only Germans, everything like history, but it's also very common to repeat itself. if we don't remember it, so and most of it can be avoided., I think it's important. And most of it, because of the tragic weighting these events, I think it's very important.

C: Were you motivated to visit Berlin because of the memorial? Or were there other factors involved?

I3: I will say a lot of factors were involved. But I must admit that it wasn't the main factor, it was my first time in Europe and Germany, as well. So everything that's more involves Berlin, it's you know, everything you learn from the culture, from the old political sphere, all the cultural sphere. It's pretty awesome. So I was there because we were doing like, we were meeting with a couple of friends. After all, we were in the exchange. So it was quite of a reunion party or combat. Of course, there was like, the underlying factor was, ya know, a little bit of the history or know the places that are very, very known worldwide about Berlin,

C: what are the motivations that you have to visit Berlin? Apart from visiting friends.

I3: I don't know because I had the opportunity to, and I was here in Germany. So it was easier to go to Berlin. And in some way because of my, my educational background, was more like, interest in all the German culture and Berlin as well. Because Berlin how I see Berlin is not only the capital of Germany, you can say is like, worldwide capital, like old importance that Berlin has is it's huge. So I think it was because of like, a persona and celebrity lie of opinion. And how do you say it like? Yeah, perception? I don't know.

C: Would you consider Berlin To be International.

I3: Yeah, yeah. Totally. A lot of Germans say that Berlin is not Germany, because it's way too different from a normal Of course, I don't want to generalize that they internationality because what I said, Berlin is a worldwide capital, it's huge is one of the biggest, I think, the second or third, second. The first one, and it's the first one. That's the first one is the biggest city in Germany. So all the movement is yes. So, of course, is it a national weight is one of the most international city in the world, I would say. So yeah, that's, that's pretty awesome. Above Berlin. And, and yeah, not only, like the movements that you find there. And everything, how I say like, the history or historical background is pretty cool as well.

C: How come?

I3: Because of what we're talking about, not only because of war, one war world to everything that involves, like, the academic or intellectual atmosphere from the war, you know, like, in politics, Germany was important in history and everything in like, the Weimar Republic, and arts as well, sociology, you know, like, everything, like, I don't know, it's, like, all the history that had that has, and had Germany's it's big, big and big.

C: Do you think Berlin is culturally different from other cities? Or is it rich in culture?

I3: Could be, could be? I don't know. It's, it's, I think it's hard to Like, give, as a concept of the culture here in Germany, that's a very, I think, very identity conflict. Bad. I think it has some, like, his own identity and culture. And it could be in some way, way too

different. Concerning another German city because of this internationality. And, like, the movement, and I think, yeah, Berlin is like, totally a specific example of a city. And not only as a city, like in general, like, in, in Germany. That's why all the people are always intrigued, to know Berlin and to, yeah, to be there. Because it's different. That's the thing is, it's way too different.

C: Do you think, older people are more interested in the past than younger people?

I3: It could be I don't know if I, I mean, you should, we should like to check some empirical data about that. But in some way, I think, I think but I'm not sure. Actually. I don't know. I don't know, maybe I don't know. I'm sure that there's of course, the motive because why people go to Berlin is like the party and the city and everything comes first then the historical power, of course, is to report politics important. For all people for an old man or woman, Of course, it will be more interesting to go and visit the building because of the historical history then rather than a party because old people do not like a party, you know? Yeah, but it could be both I'm not sure that for younger people I will say Yeah. It's less like the morning of this historical motivation is less. I don't say that they are not interested in going to wedding because of the historical events. But I do not think it's like the first you know, like

C: Now going back to the Berlin War Memorial, when you first visited it, did you do any research beforehand?

I3: Ah, what do you mean the first time when you won the first time? And if I remember. I didn't if I was too young, I didn't.

C: would you recommend any friends? colleagues? Maybe family members? teachers?

I3: Yeah, I think it was more like a social event. Like we were with friends and we're relating to letting's do a tour. And it was my friend because I stay with a friend that was doing his exchange there, he was living there. I was living in a clown town. So he, he was to me, you have to visit this place. And then, of course, I wanted to visit them.

C: Why did he say that?

I3: Yeah, because of the, it's, it's, it's huge. I mean, you don't know to I don't know, too, Paris. And you don't visit like the Eiffel Tower or to the sounds the same in Berlin.

You know, like, the cultural part is really, important. And of course, it's most interesting. interest. It's an interesting thing to do. And, and more if you like, all these events, and I don't know, I studied sociology, so I think it's very interesting. I enjoy history as well. So, yeah, the first time was because more of we have to, but not like an obligation because I mean we're in Berlin, like, it's a need to its part of the business in the city, you know, you know, to see and say, okay, we will not see anything else. Its part of the Berlin is it part of the Berlin experience, that's the thing, that's the word that part of the Berlin experience. And now you have a lot to see a lot of seeing to see not only like the world war two related memorials, but the museums and, galleries. It's like, the culture is incredible. And the cultural institutions Well, yeah, cultural situations.

C: I'm gonna ask you again for a question as previously well, would you consider the main reasons you visited the memorial?

I3: Then my main reason was to know and I will say relating to social stuff, like being able to say I was there. And then the second one could be like, the interesting part about it, like to, be able to look how it is how it was, get, like, I don't know, create a thought in your mind. Being able to see it in your eyes is completely different from seeing a picture or reading it. And the third one, I don't know could be a part of the experience. barrows experience yet?

C: When you visited the memorial for the first time, how did it make you feel?

I3: impressed but I didn't feel anything more, You know, because I was young. So I didn't want to know. Now it's impressive and actually, it's kind of when you roll there and think about the history is kind of like heavy to think about all the people that died all over everything that involved the only thing about a lot of fighters from the Cold War and World War Two, and then yeah, a constant has your slider on the concentration camp. it's hard in some way. And I think, when I was there, we were discussing this, how people in some way said like a tourist attraction that they like or take a picture with. Isn't that for example with this all these just memories that are It's kind of it's in those heavy and it's really sad You know? So I think when I if I go there I will keep to my pain being respectful about your respects right yeah and that as well

you know and what you said at the beginning to remember history you know because the part of world war two and then everything that in the middle of it, yeah it's the worst tragic abandoned from human history and you know so it's now when I go there is completely different for the first time because I was young I was not interested I was like that's cool I know where he was I can say I can I watch it and you know about the pictures but he didn't have like these personal subjective like a heaviness I don't know how to say like, yeah, like sentimental.

C: Do you think it's unethical if you take pictures of my boys where you have to be more serious?

I3: That's a dilemma. That is a dilemma. Because you can watch it in a lot of ways for example, if you go to a cemetery, you are not taking pictures with the cemetery. I mean, you can take a picture of I do not know their architecture, or like the structures and stain but you're not like

C: but do you think people will like that?

I3: Of the pictures of the structure? Yeah, of course, there are a lot of people who are beings are not everyone but of course, but I do not know if you're there and you're with your friends and you're like drinking or you're Yeah, it's for other reasons. It's like sitting in a place where people were murdered like they're right where you are and you're like, you know being disrespectful so I don't think it's you don't have to read but there's like an ethical and moral thing like underlying their bad with the wall about it, but I'm talking about right now about the Jew Memorial next to Checkpoint Charlie with the wall I think it's different with the wall I think is different because it's, of course, everything that involves a worldwide the wall was really bad and sad as well. Bad. It was not that like all these events not were concentrated in the last place, you know, of course, the wall and inside your gallery. It's awesome in it, it is intended to take pictures and all the How to do you say artsy see movement and stuff of the city. So it depends on comparing them in the wall. I think it's not a problem at all. I don't I don't think it's a brawl. It depends.

C: would you visit again, what do you think?

I3: Of course, I always when they're and my friends that live there. Because when I went the main reason I'm going to Berlin is to meet my friends. I have a lot of love of friends that study there and live there. So I'm almost like, let's go on they're like, Nah, they're sick of it, you know, it's like all the time we're going so there's no they don't have like that interest. But when I get to go I go and I enjoy it. I enjoy it because we talk about it. We talk about all the historical movements and stuff events and as well like I like to I don't know sometimes you go with different people so it's interesting for me as a sociologist as to I don't know how people react with how different people react and yeah, but I will whenever I get the chance go and the last time we went and we're everywhere in Berlin we wanted to go like to the museums and every one our friends didn't want to. Or maybe we have already been there so it's not consulting new, but we wanted to know you're like man we have through any Yeah, not have to but by you know it was our interest. So yeah, we'll definitely go and I think Berlin there's not all there's it's hard to get a point where you look everything you know, even in the galleries and stuff there's not always the same there's always something new like Berlin? It's a worldwide exponent.

C: Would you recommend any friends or family members to go?

I3: Definitely. Yeah. It's one of the greatest cities I, I met, I went. And my, of course, my family and my friends and my family, we'd more interesting all these historical and memorials and cultural institutions. Bad. Yeah, we'll recommend it and friends that are not that interested, I will do it as well.

C: And for your last question, yeah, yeah. Did you consider the memorial to be authentic? Authentic?

I3: authentic? I don't know how to answer, to be honest. But now what do you mean with authentic like, compared to other memorials?

C: Do you think it's authentic or do you think it was lacking something? Or is it just something authentic that means it stands out? Just a typical Memorial like every overall.

I3: I think I can say no because they're are loads of memorial similar, not similar to the berlin wall but you get the idea.

Interviewer 4

C: Can you please state your age? your nationality? And your educational background?

I4: 22. Venezuelan and high school and university?

C: Have you visited the Berlin Wall Memorial before?

I4: Yes. I've been there. I think once and it was around last year, I think maybe the year before that.

C: Did you know about the memorial before?

I4: Yeah, I did know.

C: Could you tell me a little bit more detail about how you know about it?

I4: Well, I did this. It's called a student school in Germany. And there you get like the high school certification that a German does. And there we saw a little bit of German history. And we like had a few classes of alike, what happened, what went down? And how it was basically why it was built, what happened in that time, and all the horrible things that happen, of course, and then how they got to get together, unify, and then destroy all these, this wall. And then what happened after that, like, what was the impact in Germany overall, after that?

C: Would you consider it's important for German history to learn about this?

I4: Yes, of course. I think everyone that comes to Germany should not everyone around the globe should know about that, because it's something that cannot be repeated. Because it, I think it was one of the most tragic things that happen, like in history. And it's something that you know, what people say that history tends to repeat itself. And I think it's something that cannot happen. And I think that's why it's very, I am proud of the German educational system because they always have these reminders and they have these commemorations all around Germany, not only in Berlin, there are like buildings with like, all the names of the victims and everything. So yeah, I find it important. I think it's, we never need to forget that. And we never need to let something like that happen, especially right now. Where, like, political parties,

like if they are like getting a lot of like AFD recognition and votes, which is like super strange, you know,

C: would you say the game votes because some populations of Germany are tired, or getting annoyed by immigration?

I4: Of course, I mean, they are for sure. I don't understand their point of view. I've tried to talk to a few of them. And they always say that, and we because we are also foreigners, we come to steal their jobs, or maybe like, take a place of taking a little bit of place in the country, and that we are going to be overcrowded by some time. But I think coming from Venezuela. Coming from a place of tragedy, I just think if my country was as good as if my country was like, liveable, I wouldn't be here. I'm not here by choice. I am here because I need to be here. You know, I here. I'm here to make a living because I'm young and I want to take care of my family, too. You know,

C: And people don't realize that right?

I4: People don't realize that there is I met this guy, I'm in a German course. He didn't have an arm. He lost his arm because he came with a horse from Syria, I think that he got into this, like big shape with a ton of people, you need to be like crowding in the shape. So he lost his arm, like, I don't know, fighting somebody, I think. And it's like, they don't realize it is like, they don't come here because they want to or because they want to steal your job is like, and also, even if we want it to we don't have the possibilities. We don't have the advantage that you guys have. So he's like, I don't understand their point. I think it's really silly. It is right. Yeah. It's always

C: Were you motivated to visit Berlin the first time just because of the memorial, or were there other factors involved?

I4: not really yeah, I went because of my friends. My boyfriend's friends were there, so I just wanted to meet them. But I had never been there. So of course, I wanted to see the memorial. But no, it wasn't the first

C: What reasons Did you have apart from visiting friends? To go to Berlin? I'm sure you have other reasons.

I4: well, I've also family there. And I mean, it's Germany. So of course, I wanted to see the capital of the country I was living in. And I was interest in the history of Berlin that is, like, a different city from all of the other ones. So, I wanted to see how it is how the culture is to what it's an international city, how it's the capital of the world, you know?

C: Do you consider it to be different to other cities in Germany?

I4: 100%. Okay. 100% do it's like, you hear English in the streets, people are way more open because they're used to this internationality. And there is way easier to find jobs. Because even if you don't speak German, you can get a job because everyone is used to just speaking English in the streets. And yeah, it's really easy to meet new people, because people are a little bit more. I know loosened, like, open. Yeah, of course, there are like some, it's not all perfect, because it's also a big city, it's full of people. So it's a little bit more dangerous than the other cities, I think, like, from what I've seen, but I like this, I think it's a city that really supports individualism and that everyone is just been who they are doing what they do and you always fit in someplace you're not like an eccentric do yourself, you don't feel like an outsider. So you always, always fit in.

C: Did you do any research beforehand?

I4: not really

C: Were you recommended by any friend's family members to visit this monument

I4: My boyfriend, yeah, well, so he was a first day there. So of course, we wanted to visit also, as some natural places, but like, we knew we had to like it's a must to visit like this monument. And to of course, like, do some research about the history that happened there. And we also like, I think, when it was one of the first places we went to, and I loved it, because of all the energy that's happening there for me was a little bit weird. when I first saw it is like, all all the that you read, all the history just comes back to you and you're like like you have it here. You know, like, some years ago, people were fighting, there were people like, on top of this war, saying we're gonna throw this away, you know, we're gonna rebuild this country, we're gonna do it. And they made it like Germany right now. It's just one of the most perfect countries, you know. So it was like, all that came back to me. And he was like, really strong energy. Plus, that now is just like, super artistic. But like, everyone there just seemed not to

care anymore. Because they just go I don't know, it's their everyday lives. They live around there. So they just pass like the pass like to wish around the wall like every day. Like it's nothing like this. Yeah, I mean, of course, they know, of course, they may be remembered but it's not something like that strong anymore. Because they see it every day for me was like, that was a bit shocking.

C: What over emotions did you feel when you first saw the wall for the first time?

I4: What it was like a really strong energy beginning, I know a little bit frightening because of everything that happened and you start thinking what if it happens again, but then it was like somehow I felt proud of those of these people that they managed to rebuild like a whole country from zero and to change not only just the country in an architectural way but also like in the mentality of the war. How do you go from that to being one of the most open countries you might have? And of course yeah 100% I I feel like super proud of the way me that I wish like we could do that in Venezuela because we are like in the situation we are right now. We need that we need to like rebuild the country not only on the outside that we of course needed but like here you know, like exactly like in mentality wise like, I know being a little bit more open more comprehensive saying, okay, we did this but this doesn't define us like we can be so much better and we're the only way to do it is with a union, you know, and that that's what I admired the most. Because finding somebody and being agreed on that, like, yeah, we hate this president, we hate these, we want to end with it. That's the easy part, but getting together and saying.

C: what would you consider be the main reason she visits the memorial.

I4: I think it's just such a big historical thing, I think it's a for me was the most important reason was, I just thought, it's a mass is something that we have heard of since I was in Venezuela like German history is something that everyone knows about, or should know. So I think if we are here, and we have the opportunity to go there, it's like a shame not to, not to go there. And I do not know, like, maybe listen to the people there about what they think about it. If they were alive at that moment, or something like that, you know,

C: Do you think it's important remembering the past?

I4: Yeah, 100% 100%, especially with a situation like that, that, as I said, cannot be repeated, like, in any way or any country. And I think, here is such a big part of the German culture, you know, when I arrived here because I don't know, You know, in Germany, I was like, cool, guys. And there is the game and why don't you have your flag out to for example, to my house, to my German host family, because I was an au pair. And what did he say? He talked he told me that for the heat for him, it was weird like your show showed this kind of pride because it can be misinterpreted. He can you can be considered as a Nazi. Because you know, this logo, none of them were, they would always say like Germany, above all, you know, so when you put your flag, you don't mean that like, I don't mean that when I do that with the Venezuelan flag, but it could be misinterpreted as what he said. That's why he doesn't. for Germany, right? At least for history, sadly, okay. And I don't mean to say that all Germans misinterpreted, or the old Germans think that way. But he didn't feel comfortable doing it. He didn't feel comfortable painting a German flag on his face, or just showing German music all the time, you know, but then, because for me, it was a little sad, because he was like, dude, yeah, that happened. But it's, it's not, it's not your fault. It's not the fault of your wife or your kid like you weren't even there is it is in the past, and you guys are much better right now. Like you are having never been so long in your home, and you're opening the doors for me, and you're helping me like starting my life here. So you are much more than just that. And people should also recognize that part of you, you know, because, like, what's the German stereotype all around the globe? Like, they're cold, and they're like, they have this square in their minds and saying, Yeah, workaholics, but they are just much more than that. And that thing that happened yet, we cannot forget it. But we also need to not forget how they overcome that in what they have. What they are right now is what Germany is right now, that it's a masterpiece, in my opinion. So after that, I read this interview that I don't remember the name of the viewer or anything. I just saw him on social media. And people were asking him that, like you're a German, you're famous. But you also don't seem to show this German pride. It's shocking to all of us that he responds. He said something so interesting. well, he said, they show their pride in some other way. Like, they don't put the flags out or paint their faces. They show it with a like a health system that works with one of the best educational systems in the world. Like I don't know they're killing

it in sports, they're killing it and like they have the best like engineers in worldwide you know, they have so many of the best things like you come here and you have a really good life. I earn like minimum wage, you know, I'm living my best life ever, you know. So you know, they show it just not in the same way as us. But they do show it, we just need to look in the details, you know, of the life that we

C: would you visit again, the monument? Or do you think it's just a one-time thing?

I4: yes I would visit the monument again.

C: would you bring someone who hasn't been there?

I4: Like, if somebody hasn't been there, it's a must for them. They need to go but alone, I will do it. I will do it too. Yeah, I do it. Because I know it's full of art, there is a letter, I know hidden messages in there that you cannot see them all in your first time. You know, the first time is mostly really shocking when you take a few pictures, and then that's it. But then if you maybe you go again, you spend more time looking at the pictures, analyzing what this means, like looking at the drawings like I don't know, what was this person thinking? What is the message behind this? So I think that's also really important that you can see the feelings of the people that lived in that time.

C: What would you recommend making the monument more attractive, For younger people?

I4: Wow, that's a hard question. Because as you know. for me, it was very attractive, I don't know. Maybe? I would I have no idea. Maybe I would preserve more like the part around it. Because it's when you go there is just like in the middle of the street. And there's like tons of people just walking by if you're alone, maybe you don't even see that he's there. You know, someone has to tell you like, yeah, it's just right there, you know, and I would maybe change this around, it's like for a little bit of, I don't know, flowers around making a little bit more special because it is. Right, and we should treat it that way. Maybe I don't know a little bit of maybe more art, maybe some plants around that no one can actually like just trespass and just walk behind and keep with their day like, you go there. And you get like, boomed. Do you see that? Okay, it's there. Do you know? And if you want to go you go there and you watch it. It's not like

with 100 people just walking by I will do that maybe like change a little bit the surroundings.

C: Would you recommend any friends or family members?

I4: Yeah. As my family has never been here, just my cousin that lives in Berlin. And but when they come, Of course, I'm gonna bring them there.

C: And the last question, did you consider the memorial to be authentic?

I4: I think so. I think it is authentic. Because it's, it's not just a reminder, like, Oh, we build this to remember these now. It's something that was built that was destroyed. And now there's just a half of it. And it's like, you know what, that's there. That's there. Just to, just to remind us, like, it was built. It was super, it was super tragic. It was like, a lot of people die. Like, you got to remember that. But you could also remember, now it's destroyed. Now it's in half. Now. It's artsy. Now. It's a monument as you say, now we can just walk by and keep on with your with our day because we have a good life, you know, like, we go to Yeah, he says, artistic in the way that it was, it's just not something that they built to remember, but something that happened, and they just let it be there. Like, you know, it's, it happened to like, it was here. Like, there were people on top of these. I don't know, it's just something so like, I don't know, you feel like you were there, you know, because it was like, Oh my god, it was people here and they were fighting they were like, screaming and I don't know I love that. I don't know like that. I don't know if we should call it an instinct were when we fight for our rights when we all get together and we all get super similar. It doesn't matter if you're from Venezuela or Germany or whatever, when you get together for a class and when you fight for that and you start screaming and you start like, hey, hear my voice. You know, we all like have that like, I don't know the region, I don't know, fighting instinct. And when you look at that, and when you remember, wow, there were people here that destroy the sheet and now look at this country like how amazing it is. It's like well, you get that you Get a little instinct, and you get that feeling like wow, this is incredible.

Interviewer 5

C: Can you please state your age, nationality? And your educational background?

I5: I am 23. I'm from Germany. And I'm currently in the last semester of my bachelor studies. Also, I'm a female and I use the pronouns she and her.

C: Have you visited the Berlin Wall Memorial before?

I5: Yes. Just recently, and it's my second time.

C: Did you know about no Memorial before visiting Berlin?

I5: I didn't know, about the memorial before I decided, going to Berlin, because when I chose Berlin, I googled the sightseeing and the attractions and then the memorial popped up. And also, some friends just right now before my trip told me about it. So, I didn't know.

C: Did you do any research beforehand,

I5. only about what I should visit.

C: And guessing you only did it because your friends recommended it to you.

I5: I also chose it because I wanted to have a cultural experience in Berlin. And since I'm a German, I wanted to educate myself also about history.

C: You mentioned culture. Could you please specify?

I5: I mentioned culture because I wanted to know more about the history of Berlin and of Germany. And I think there's nothing that also played a huge part in developing the German culture as it is today and had a huge, like, the Berlin Wall had a huge influence on the and the development of the people of the Germans.

C: what would you consider to be the main reasons you visited Berlin?

I5: I think the main reason I visited is that it's an international city. But it's so interesting and so diverse. It's just not a city like others. And it has one of the hugest cultural significance in the country. And a city where you can learn a lot and still have all the modern ways of life as well.

C: Would you consider Berlin to be international?

I5: Yes.

C: Or rich in culture?

I5: Yes.

C: Could you explain yourself?

I5: I think they are international because they have a lot of international tourists as well. But they also have the Berliner atmosphere. And you can still sense you're in Germany, even though there are many international people around.

C: Were you motivated to visit the city because of the memorial?

I5: As I mentioned previously I didn't know much about the memorial so no I wasn't motivated to go to the city because of that, if anything I was eager to visit such an international city, having a one of the biggest cultural significance in the country . Also to visit friends that studied there.

C: Regarding more about the memorial, what would you consider? were the main reasons you visited the memorial?

I5: Because I found it interesting to see how the wall might have looked like how thick it was, or how tall it was. Because even if you read articles, you can picture it so well. So wanted to see how it was constructed. And I also wanted to see that sounds bad, but I wanted to see parts of the death strip as well, because, yeah, that was a horrible thing. And but it's also interesting, I guess, and I think I just wanted to see the remains of it because the thing Berlin does its best to keep in the people's mind is that the city is united again, other countries united again.

C: Could you describe it in a few words What intrigued you to visit the wall?

I5: Because it's a place of suffering because many people were. Many families were divided for years and the house around the wall. So, some people were just staring at the wall never able to cross. I think that was it's as interesting as it is bad. So it's kind of nice that today, you can just look at it without the restraints or the bad things the war brought to the people's lives.

C: As a German as yourself, would you consider it's important remembering?

I5: I think, yes, I think it's important to remember it. Especially when you see it, it's not the same. But when Trump tried to build a wall, on the border to Mexico, that also takes away opportunities from people that might separate some families of people. And it separates. Yeah, it just separates people from opportunities or loved ones. So I think will be will be important for the whole world to remember what one war could do to city alternation.

C: What kind of message do you think the previous government that build the wall was trying to send?

I5: I think they were trying to set to, to show that they get just because they won the war, they could just that country was there. So they could just divide how they wanted to. So like, kind of a sign of victory?

C: How did it make you feel when you first had a glance at the wall?

I5: I heard a lot about the wall before and we also learned about it in school. So I think it didn't catch me. So, of God is probably someone that never heard of it, or for someone that likes new factors, new information. But I liked that it was very quiet there. Not many people were talking, everyone was just kind of wandering around reading the signs. So it was a very peaceful atmosphere, like a remembering atmosphere, and also lots of emphasis, empathy, I think and remembrance. And another was, I think the atmosphere was fitting to the memorial.

C: Do you think it will be an act of rudeness if someone was smiling at a monument like this?

I5: There are different kinds of monuments on the wall, I'm not quite sure if one should smile or not. Because that the wall is tear down is really like a happy sign among could be happy. But if you smile in the picture could also be very disrespectful to all of those that suffer to the wall. And us smiling just basically says, Yeah, it says, Well, I don't know I can't say the word I was thinking of an interview. But it's not very respectful to all those that suffered. If you take smiling pictures, pictures of the side like that, that will be the same as going to Fukushima and smiling at the atomic dust

C: You mentioned earlier, that you learn about this when you're younger. Did you learn it in school?

I5: We talked about it in history class, and then German class because around the same time you important in 10th grade, I think 10th 11th 12th grade, you come to the Second World War, the Nazis and the Berlin Wall. And they were also talking about how was for Yeah, the people living there. And we also did a class trip to Berlin and 10th grade. But to be honest, I can't remember if we visited the wall or not. But maybe I had other things on my mind, like shopping and stuff like that are not cultural experiences at that age.

C: How did it make you feel? Any emotions come across once you've seen it.

I5: I think it made me feel relieved that the wall is gone. And make me feel sad or make me feel empathy for the people that suffered? And I don't know, maybe it also, even if it had nothing to do with it had me feel a little bit stronger than we as a nation Could I don't know, both standard and come back even stronger out of it.

C: Would you visit that again? What do you think is just a one-time thing?

I5: I would have visited and visited again with someone that hasn't been there. But just alone? I don't think so I was there Once I read all the things that there was to it. I experienced the atmosphere. And I don't see what could change there. So yeah, I would rather look at different parts of Berlin, man, I'm visiting the next time because the city is huge. And there's so much more to see as well.

C: As a person of your age, would you say this attraction does not attract younger audiences?

I5: What attracted me as well. So I don't think you can generalize it, it doesn't attract younger audiences. But I think you have to say that. As bad as it sounds, but the only thing you can do there is walk through it, read the signs and look at the remains of the wall. It's nothing personal. It's just, I would say the same experience for everyone. Yeah, it's not, yeah, not unique enough, or different, different enough, every time that you would visit more than one.

C: What recommendations or improvements they can do.

I5: I think I would like the use of virtual reality, just to be able to not only look at pictures but to experience how it could have been, during that time that you could stand in front of the wall, or could stand in between the wall or see the houses around that I would, I would say that would be nice. And that will be interacting. And you could also show, you could also experience different years of the wall, or you could also maybe see the construction of the wall, that will be nice. And I think that would make me will make me come back because I would kind of be ensured to see different things when I visit. After all, I don't think I could see all of them in one turn.

C: Would you recommend any friends or family members,

I5: I would recommend it just because it's a crucial part of German history. And it's a really good thing that they preserved parts of the wall to be able for people to look at. And I would recommend everyone to go. Because it was a nice experience once just because I wouldn't come back has nothing to do with the memorial being not important enough was just that one visit was enough to capture all of it.

C: Did you consider it to be authentic?

I5: I will consider it as authentic because after all, it's the original parts that are still there and still standing. So would say it's authentic. And it's also really nice that you have one of these designs you can read to somehow get thrown back into the times. But yeah, I mean, all the modern cars drive by. There's so much life around it, which doesn't. Yeah, it's so operating in modern life that summer loses its authenticity.

Interviewer 6

C: Hello. Can you please state your age, education and nationality?

I6: Hi, I am 26 years old. I am of German nationality. And I am I have a bachelor's degree in business management.

C: Have you visited the Berlin Wall Memorial?

I6: Yes, I have been to the Berlin Wall memorial in 2019, with a couple of friends. And I've spent an afternoon there.

C: You mentioned you have been with a couple of friends, right? Did you know about the memorial before?

I6: Yes, we did. So we have talked about the Berlin Wall and the memorial connected to it back in school when we talked about it in our history class. But the thing is that we only touched it lightly. And now that we are a little bit older, and more mature and thinking about what happened in history, and especially in German history. We were getting more into it and finding the interest by ourselves to see the Berlin Wall memorial and what it's been about, you know, that's how we came up with the idea to make a trip to Berlin and connected with a visit of the Berlin more Berlin ball Memorial.

C: Okay, were you motivated to visit the city just because of the memorial? Or with the other factors involved?

I6: I would say the memorial was not the only thing. But it played a part in the decision-making process to go to Berlin at all. Yeah.

C: Could you please explain that? What are the motives you had to visit Berlin?

I6: So, we wanted to go and see Berlin for many reasons. On the one side, the cultural aspects like the music, the party lifestyle, the alternative way of living the sustainability motives behind the people living there, the art that is going on, but the other motives were the history motives. When it comes to memorials, and information offers, like memorials like that, or Checkpoint Charlie or other museums that offer insights into why Berlin was the way it was, and how the whole East and West Germany history affects Berlin, as it is in today.

C: Would you consider Berlin to be a different kind of city compared to all of Germany?

I6: Yeah So, Berlin has been split so many years ago, and you can still feel and see the differences from these, this history back then. You know, the buildings look different. The people that not everyone, of course, but the people that live in East and West Berlin, talking like all East and West Berlin. They are still different to each other, you know. East Berlin is greener. Wild West Berlin is more industrial and more advanced, you could say, while this Berlin is more alternative and artsier, I would say.

C: Did you do any research beforehand, visiting the place?

I6: only minor research we knew where it was kind of what it consisted of like what you could see there. A little bit like how much people recommend how much time you spend there. There wasn't like a full-day adventure, but more of an afternoon trip, like one two hour thing. But that was just about it.

C: Did you research by yourself with this friends or family members recommended?

I6: I researched by myself. Okay. And I was exchanging what I found out with my friends to agree on if we wanted to go there, and if so, how, and when.

C: What would you consider the main reasons you visited this memorial?

I6: I am interested in my countrys past, it history and why it was divided for so long

C: So, coming back from the start, you said, you would like to see these memorials because you've wanted to learn about the past? Could you elaborate a bit more on that? Why are you so interested in the past?

I6: Yes. So as you know, you know, that Germany was split into the east and the west. And the thing is that our generation, we didn't experience it. But still, we consider ourselves to be from the east or the west, even though we didn't we weren't born in that country specifically. And for me, and my friends. Especially, it was interesting because we are from the east, you know, from the GDR. So, we were the people on the side of the wall that was closed, while the people from the west could travel where they wanted to, and we as people from or my parents, my grandparents, as people from the GDR, were the people that were restricted and had this socialistic life. And we touched it in high school, but I wanted to better understand what it was like for my parents to grow up in times like this, and what it must be like for my grandparents and my parents, to be restricted like they were. So that's why I wanted to figure out like, how was the history and I think the best place to figure that out is Berlin, as it was this the centre of this whole place, laying in the middle of all East Germany. But being split anyways, you know, it was in the middle of East Germany, but it was still divided into east and west. So it was just crazy to think about,

C: Would you say that to this day, you can tell that people who were brought up in West Germany, or the east have a different mentality?

I6: I mean, in a way, everyone is affected by their parents. And I think our parents in the east, where what they know is that there have these kinds of restrictions like for them, the world, the world was just like, the smaller place because all these options like the Western world, was not going to close to them like it was not open for them. So of course, this carries into the children and our generation now. We're more locally-focused, and we want to make the most of what we have here. Especially bringing new life new joy, creative ways into the cities and the landscapes of East Germany. Today's is Germany. So that's where I think you can see the biggest way how that affected us. You know, people from East Germany, young people, don't go to the west because they make more money. They say I want to stay in the East because I want to turn this into something beautiful turn this what our parents left us into something even more beautiful. The people from the west can stay where they are because all they look for is money, freedom and everything that has been taught to them. Back in the days where it was like the West is like open and free and rich and whatever. In the east are more like we want to turn but we have an interest Something colourful and artsy. You know

C: How was the memorial? How did you feel? How did that make you feel when you first visited?

I6: I mean, coming to it and looking at it. Now, it is an interesting place because you stand there. And it's like, part of it is the actual wall. Still Standing from what it was like back in the day, you know, the original stone and the original layout and everything. But then parts are open, where it's like this scenery of reality, and what it turned into. So it's an interesting place, and it made you feel kind of not melancholic, but like thoughtful, because you thought like this, used to exist like this. And now it's this open place where you can look through and you think about man, this was a couple of years ago. But back in the day, it was like a proper solid wall, where soldiers were guarding it with their lives, I guess, to prevent people that are not supposed to cross this border to go over it. So yeah, it makes you think like, Man, what kind of times was that? Like? How did it make the people on this side of the wall feel? While on the other side? How

were these people feeling? So the memorial gave you a chance to immerse in the history and the thought and feelings of what it must have been like, back in the day, back in the day, wild today? Is it being this just open? kind of creative? the exhibition,

C: Do you think is a good idea how the managing, managing it today?

I6: Yeah, I think I think it is because it perfectly connects to the creativity of Berlin. And this open mind, thinking Yes, with the history that it has, and the purpose or the goal that it shares to educate people and show like, hey, this is what we're coming from. Therefore we are what we are. And this is where we want to go. So, I think they manage to put it together really nicely.

C: Do you think it's important to commemorate these events?

I6: For sure. I think it's one of the duties of an advanced and forward-looking country and community to commemorate the things that happened in the past and look into the future, saying, like, we don't want to get there again, like we don't want this kind of split country, split society again. So this is what it was, but hey, let's turn it into something different. So that's why I think yeah, it's very important to commemorate in a way.

C: Do you think people should benefit from other people's suffering?

I6: No, no, I don't think it should be. It should be commercialized, in the sense that it can be maintained, and that it can be taken care of and maybe improved or, you know, taken further and, and you know what I mean? And taken expanded, yes, but not commercializing in a way that a company is making a profit out of it. So it should be this project with the goal of education and commemoration. And therefore it can be commercialized, therefore people can pay small fees to get into or maybe buy souvenirs. It reminds them of them. But I think all the money that comes from these things should be put back into the thought behind it The goal of this project is to educate.

C: What would you advise or recommend to them to attract a younger audience?

I6: Talking about local audiences, so people like me from Germany, I would say, including, like today's opportunities or options technologically, like maybe kind of

music, or live shows, or these kinds of changing art installations where local artists can put their art or their interpretation of this memorial, this history into perspective, just to bring a fresh wind into it. And looking at it from a more global perspective, as a global visitor, definitely expanding the English descriptions and English information around it. Which they are already good. But I believe that many people are interested in much more, there's always room for improvement. Yeah.

C: Would you visit it again? Or do you think it's just a one-time thing?

I6: I think I would go back for sure, by myself, I would go again, with friends that have already seen it. And I would take people that haven't seen it, both people from Germany, but also people that are not from here, and that maybe don't know the history behind it, give them a chance to experience it. So yeah, I would come back.

C: Would you recommend any family members, friends, today?

I6: Yeah, of course. I mean, I believe that you have to reach a certain age or that you have to reach a certain knowledge and maturity, to understand why this place is so important. You know, why this place was so important, and why it's so normal now that we don't have it anymore. So I wouldn't take my six-year-old cousin, and be like, hey, so this was the wall, look at it and learn from it. He wouldn't be very entertained with it. Right? Exactly. I mean, it's a nice place to play around for sure. But like the goal of it is still to learn and to experience the history. So that's why Yes, I would bring family members. But if they want to enjoy the place and the experience, then they should be old enough and willing or interested enough to get into it.

C: Did you consider the memorial to be authentic?

I6: Yes, I would say so. It is authentic in reflecting what Berlin is to me, you know, having these elements of the past connected to these elements of today like how things have changed, but also keeping what they were. So, therefore, I would say yes, yes, it is authentic.

Interviewer 7

C: Can you please shortly state your age? your nationality? And your education? state status?

I7: Okay, so my age is 23. And my nationality is German. And I'm a uni student.

C: Have you visited the war memorial before?

I7: Yes, Maybe five years ago

C: Did you know about the memorial before?

I7: Kind of from school, but not that much into detail.

C: Do they teach you this in school when you were younger?

I7: Not really. I mean, like the history, of course. But with that, specifically, not really.

C: Were you motivated to visit the city because of the memorial?

I7: No we went for other reasons like sightseeing other things like checkpoint Charlie, the tower, Olympic stadium, also to visit family members.

C: What were your reasons to visit Berlin?

I7: It's the capital. And I want to like to see the capital and the museums and galleries. So the cultural side.

C: Did you do any research before hand?

I7: No I did not, I just did some research for some sight seeing and places to visit, but not necessarily about the memorial.

C: Would you consider Berlin to be culturally rich?

I7: Yes.

C: Could you go into more detail with that, please?

I7: I think because there are a lot of nationalities living there. So there are, yeah, more cultures coming together. And with that I mean, with the history and everything, so, and the museums and memorials. So that's a lot of cultures

C: With visiting the memorial, did you do any research beforehand? Or if you just recommended by someone to visit?

I7: I would do, a little bit of research. But I would not go into much detail. And I would expect when I visit them on Memorial that there will be some information.

C: what other reasons, would you say of why you went there?

I7: I think it's like a must-see. I think it's like when you do the typical, I would say tourist tour, then, of course. And if you do like more individuals, it depends on what you're like what your interests are.

C: Would you say the reaction between a domestic tourist or an international tourist,

I7: That is hard to say because I think it's personal. Because I mean, when you're domestic, like travel, I, I think you have more, closer to the culture. But if you are from like an international traveller, then I think you can also get, like, into the culture, when it's your interest, or you have some like, relatives that are German, for example, like family or friends that are close to the culture.

C: How did it make you feel the first time you stared upon it?

I7: I think when I when I visit these places, it's always like, I imagined, like what it would be in that time, like in the past. And yeah, so I think I I feel like you're standing in the past.

I think it's important not to overlay commercialize these monuments because the author authenticity is really important. And if it's too, like, too much commercialized, then this is missing. And I think it's also important to include the locals. But also, yeah, like, do it 50/50. So, I mean, everybody must know, like, what is going on and what it stands for. But also, yeah, as I said, authenticity is very important. You mentioned

C: would you consider the more authentic?

I7: No, I mean, it cannot be that authentic, because it's not that that time anymore,

C: would you visit again? Or is it just a one-time thing?

I7: I would visit it again with like, friends to show them but for myself. I don't know because it's a long time ago, maybe yes. But mostly, like showing friends or family.

C: Would you recommend any friends or family members to visit this?

I7: Yes, I would.

Interviewer 8

C: let's start with the first question is, could you please state, your age, your nationality, and your educational background?

I8: 33 years old, Brazilian, master's degree.

C: Have you visited the Berlin Wall Memorial before?

I8: Yeah, the one in Bernauer Strasse.

C: Did you know about the memorial before you went there?

I8: Yes.

C: Did you plan to visit beforehand?

I8: Yeah.

C: Did you do any research beforehand?

I8: Yes as I had general interest to see the Berlin Wall.

C: could you go into more detail about why you were interested?

I8: Curiosity, interest in history. I study the wall, the Cold War and like the fact that the city was divided mature and yeah, then I wanted to see this in person.

C: Were you motivated to visit the city just because of the memorial or because of other factors?

I8: I think overall historic significance agree but not the memorial specific.

There were also different reasons I knew that it was the most international city in Germany relatively cheaper than other cities.

C: What kind of Things are cheaper?

I8: Like the rent and, food cheaper than other cities other big cities. For instance, like Paris for example Or London.

C: While you were visiting the memorial, how did that make you feel?

I8: It made me feel and intrigued by them. The fact that there was still a piece of the wall the parts of the wall fall against the structure. But it was difficult to get to know how you would feel, maybe because I didn't live at that time. Another reason would be

for educational purposes, I wanted to learn about the city's past. There was a lot of information walking past the wall in which you can read victims past and experiences during the cold war.

C: Do you think these kinds of projects have a positive impact?

I8: Yeah, I think so. Because otherwise, if even being there is difficult to, connect, but I know intellectually, what happened. So this is very educational, you know, the feeling of like, real compassion, you cannot, it's difficult to be transmitted by just visiting a landmark. Also, I went, for example, to Auschwitz, but another concentration camp is terrible. But I think, for example, I felt more watching movies like romance based on that, and you can feel all this instead of this kind of enemy movement. But visiting the place, it's doesn't have that kind of effect the same way no more educational in intellectuals, for is good to know is whether the city does this. Especially when there are other landmarks with the same purpose. varied a bit as you mentioned in the beginning, the memorial for the Jewish. So yeah, everyone goes there, but not everyone kind of understands a little bit what that is about.

C: Would you visit the memorial again or is it a onetime

I8: I think after the first time it is enough Yeah,

C: what kind of recommendation or advice that you would give to these kinds of infrastructures to attract more people? especially younger people?

I8: I think to try to do more interactive. I remember, scores to Checkpoint Charlie there was this or not there is still on there. You could enter. And it was like a globe. Yes. Where you could see, I suppose there was a free 360 view of what was the war before? Yeah. is accessible. Yeah.

C: And would this connect people a bit more or spark more interest?

I8: Yeah.

C: would you recommend any friends or family members?

I8: Yeah.

C: Did you consider them to be authentic? Or just something casual?

I8: I think is authentic. Few CDs can maybe really be the only ones. And even though the East Side Gallery is more impressive. The graffiti is on the wall. And they are there we can learn a little bit. Yeah, just feel a bit. Yeah, could be more Yeah, more. More things like more interactive. I remember it spent a maximum of two hours in a row and the limit more, could be a bit deeper.

Interviewer 9

C: Can you shortly state your age, nationality and educational background?

I9: So currently I'm 22. And I am Russian. And I'm studying right now. So I had my Abitur A few years ago, and now I'm in the sixth semester at the university.

C: Have you ever visited Berlin Where? The Berlin Wall Memorial?

I9: Yes, a few times, like three or four times.

C: Did you know about the place before you went to Berlin?

I9: Of course, because it is our like, main city here in Germany. But the first time I visited Berlin was when I was like 12 or 13. And I was Visiting it with my best friend in their family.

C: Did you do any research beforehand?

I9: Yes I did

C: What were your reasons for you to visit Berlin?

I9: First of all, because there were like, like few family members of my best friend And because I wanted to get to know the city at a young age.

C: Can you tell me why you wanted to get to know the city of Berlin at a young age,

I9: Because it is like, the capital city of Germany. So, you have always like something to do with it. And like history lessons or something. And I think as a child back then I just

wanted to get to know it and be like, a little bit hip, you know because all cool people visiting like Berlin.

C: Were you motivated to visit the city because of the memorial?

I9: No, it wasn't the case, I was interested in seeing important sights but the memorial wasn't the first thing in my mind and apart from that I had family members to visit as I said earlier.

C: would you consider the city, the city to be culturally rich?

I9: Of course, there are places where most of the history of Germany took part. And it's like, in every corner, you can see something that is like, like, connected to the past of Germany and the world.

C: Do you think Berlin does a good job of portraying these kinds of history?

I9: of course, like, they not even like pay very much money to get everything like done. So it's is secure for the future. They are like, to an advertisement for it. And I'm like, saying, here is something that took part in the history of Germany and the world and sees it and we can like offer you to, like, take a look into the past. Take a look into what happened and how people have been and so on.

C: So did you see any of these advertisements before coming to Berlin the first time, especially, for example, seeing monuments like memorials?

I9: Yes. Like, in the school, for example, they always had like these advertisements one day where they said, okay, there's Berlin, and they have like, a lot of history that you should have known or that you like, must learn because it's something that you have to remind yourself in the future. And nowhere, and when you are like, for example, when you are in a city like Bremen or something, there's always something related to the capital city or to the things that happened in the capital city or things that are in the capital city like Berlin. Today

C: Could you give me an example of that, please?

I9: For example, like how Bremen is like build and how hot all the politics were in the past, okay. There is always something related to Berlin. And two things that happened

there. So if something happened in Berlin, then the affected that to like different cities or areas here in Germany.

C: What would you consider will be the main reason to visit the memorial?

I9: Because the wall, or the great wall here in Germany, affected most parts of Germany, especially like the east side of the wall. And in our history lessons back then in school, that's very early, like in the fourth and fifth class. We always like reflecting on it and how it was and how it happened, and so on. So we always had this kind of connection to it. But mostly because like, everyone is talking about it. So it wasn't like, like, it was always like the thing that you have to know as a German, or that you have to know if you come to visit Europe, because it was like, a big thing of the Nazi time. Okay, and what's the big thing like, the past time, from enough time, so after that, it's like, going down? And maybe a little side effect of the wall was that there are very many influencers? Like posting pictures in front of it, and so on? And like, presenting them in front of it? Yeah.

C: From what you just said previously, about the influencers? Do you think they're portraying a good image way that when they post pictures about memorials or are they the respective enough?

I9: Yes, it's like, half-half in because, at a certain point, it's completely okay, to post something about the past, and so on. It is like, it's important to remind everyone, especially like the younger generations, and so on, or people that don't have like, this, like mind for it, to remind them that something was happening in the past and that we have to think it in all of our like life. But on the other way, when people are just using it for fame or something, it's not that nice, because it's not respected at all. So it's like, the people like, really into giving you the information that something happened to pass and like, are serious about it. Completely. Okay. I love it. And it's something really important for our Ask nowadays because the web is always like coming more and more in the front. But if you have, like, if the reason is that you just want to get fame and slap a smile in front of it. I don't find that is like, good or respective.

C: It shouldn't be commercialized?

I9: It shouldn't be commercialized, I think you can pay like money for the things that will be everything is like clean, restoration, yeah, for the restoration. But I don't think that people should like to get money for it to have like, like a capital, you know. Okay. Thank you.

C: How did it make you feel the first time?

I9: so, it was really impressive because, um, pictures or like in our lectures, it's always like that, okay, there was there is something that is like big and it has to do with a lot of history in our country. But at the moment that I stood in front of it, I was like this is something that people can't unsee it is like in your life at this point where it happened. It was like the maintains of your life and it was always there, and you always see it and it's like put you in a corner, you know, it's like you don't have any way out of it. it is just like what you see, and you already feel how like it presses you down.

C: Do you think you will visit it again?

I9: I will visit a visit again. And I think as you grow older, it becomes a different part of your life. Because when I was a child, I didn't understand as much as I would now understand. And so if I visited today, or if I wasn't today, I would more like recognize the really like meaning of it, and how it like would be the part of the lives that generations before.

C: You mentioned remembering the things in the past, would you consider that to be something important?

I9: Yeah, definitely, it's very important to always have an eye on the past and what happened. So, some things shouldn't happen again, or won't happen again. And just to like, don't forget the past, because there are like people dying for us. And people are

risking their lives and they are living, just to make our future safe and good as we can live it now.

C: Would you recommend to any friends or family members,

I9: Definitely, especially like people, of all ages. So everyone like can take apart from the memorials into their brain and think about it later. And as I grew up, I always like visiting it, because sometimes you are like visiting something and get like this feeling that you remember the past that when you come back home, you forget it. So if you visited visiting it again, it will come in like, like, back, and you remember that it is important to always have it in your hands. So I would recommend all of my families and friends and not even our family and friends like all of the people here in Germany or Europe, or, like, I would say the whole world because it's like very, very, very much of the history of the world. And I think most of the countries like were affected by that. Yeah.

C: what recommendations would you give them to make a better service or experience?

I9; I would like to say to them that they should have like some history not of the whole monument, like, of the whole wall, but especially from people that were affected by that past, like in the past, because if you see something big, it's like impressive. And you start to think about history, but if you hear people's stories about it, like in the back, then it's like more affecting you in the soul in your head because you then start to think, Okay, how would I react in their life? Or how would I react at that point of their like life? So I would like to recommend them to share more of the people's stories, and that they don't have any profit out of the like, for example, museums and so on. So it is, like cheaper for people that can afford but are interested in the past or history and so on.

C: Would you consider the memorial authentic and this is the last question.

I9: No, it would be more like authentic if there were more people background in it, okay, because it is like important because it's something that affected of Germany, but it affected like more of the people than the wall itself. So It should be more like the main eye on the people that are living with it.

Interviewer 10

C: Can you please state your age? your nationality? And your educational background?

I10: I am 28 years old and in Romania and what was the last question.

C: your educational background? What studies do you have?

I10: I have a degree in advertisement.

C: Have you visited the Berlin Wall Memorial before?

I10: Yeah. Once. I think last year, I am not sure maybe in November.

C: Did you know about the memorial before you went?

I10: Yeah. Yeah, I knew about Yes. Oh, explain yourselves, please.

C: How did you know?

I10: From where we are from the high school on studying history and things like that. And then because I went in an Erasmus to German. So a lot of people talk to me about this.

C: And you mentioned earlier that you studied this in school. How come? Why did you study that?

I10: Because we were studying like the How do you saveThe world Okay, the world? Okay. Yeah. And then the themes about hidden politics.

C: Were you motivated to visit Berlin? Just because of the monument? Or were the other factors involved? Like, were you a motivator for over reasons to go to Berlin?

I10: I think no, It was just to travel with my and to visit more cities in Germany since I was doing my Erasmus there.

C: when you visited the monument, did you do any research beforehand?

I10: I think No, Okay. Like I have seen before pictures and things like that. But I did not look for information before.

C: I asked you before, but I am going to ask you again. So, what would you consider the main reason was to visit the memorial. Did you? Were you motivated by yourself with anyone recommended to you?

I10: It was no, I think I wanted to see it because I think is an important part of the history of Berlin. To see what happened there. To know more about the culture on the history.

C: Would you consider Berlin to be rich in culture?

I10: I am not sure about it.

C: When you first went to the memorial, how did it make you feel? Like what were your first impressions?

I10: Well, I am sorry, I don't know how to say that. I was disappointed.

C: Why were you disappointed?

I10: I think it was because I saw a lot of pictures of it. And when I went there, he was like, it was too small, No, not small. in size. Yes. I didn't know he was in. I was thinking of another kind of world.

C: What recommendations would you give to make the monument more attractive so let's just say a younger audience like yourself?

I10: I think I think it's this is difficult to do. Because I think you do not have to change anything because he's like the world and all the history and things like that. But for the young people, I think it's important to explain very well the history to make them know what happened there and why was a result of the war. I don't know maybe to come

soon, too to consumers more generally. Yeah. Okay, maybe you can do it through social media or something like that. Okay.

C: Would you visit again? Or do you think it's just a one-time thing?

I10: No, I think it's a one time thing.

C: Would you bring any friends or family members?

I10: Yes.

C: Did you consider the memorial to be authentic?

I10: Nope, authentic in the part that theres only one memorial un berlin like this yes but no in the experience as in its not an authentic experience.

Respondent ID	Question	Themes						
		Undergraduate (bachelor)	Graduate (bachelor)	Master (undergraduate)	Master (graduate)	Profesion/Working	German /Domestic	International
1	My age is 23. I am from Germany, and I am an undergraduate.	1				1	1	
2	I'm German. I'm 40. And my educational background I, I have a bachelor's degree and an apprenticeship, which is common education.		1		1	1	1	
3	I'm 24 years old. from Bolivia. And my background, I am a technical in commerce international commerce. And right now, I'm doing a bachelor in sociology and Communication and Media Science	1						1
4	22. Venezuelan and high school and university	1						1
5	I am 23. I'm from Germany. And I'm currently in the last semester of my bachelor studies		1				1	
6	Hi, I am 26 years old. I am of German nationality. And I am I have a bachelor's degree in business management.		1			1	1	
7	Okay, so my age is 23. And my nationality is German. And I'm a uni student		1				1	
8	33 years old, Brazilian, master's degree				1			1
9	So currently I'm 22. And I am Russian. And I'm studying right now. So I had my Abitur A few years ago, and now I'm in the sixth semester at the university	1						1
10	I am 28 years old and in Romania and i have a master degree in advertisement				1			1
	sum for refelction - not reporting purposes-)	4	4	0	3	3	5	5

Figure 5: Code 1

Respondent ID	Question	Themes			
		Yes	No	once	More than once
	Have you visited the Berlin War Memorial before ?				
1	Yes, I have one time.	1		1	
2	Yes, I have been several times, Berlin, I've seen the memorial as well as is I saw the wall. It was one of the things you have to do as a student in Germany .	1			1
3	Yes I was in Berlin a lot of times. So I kind of like watching the memorial, a lot of times, not each of them.	1			1
4	Yes. I've been there. I think once and it was around last year, I think maybe the year before that.	1		1	
5	Yes. Just recently, and its my second time.	1			1
6	Yes, I have been to the Berlin Wall memorial in 2019, with a couple of friends. And I've spent an afternoon there.	1			1
7	Yes, Maybe five years ago	1		1	
8	Yeah, the one in Bernauer Strasse	1		1	
9	Yes, a few times, like three or four times	1			1
10	Yeah. Once. I think last year, I am not sure maybe in November.	1		1	
	sum for refelction - not reporting purposes-)	10	0	5	5

Figure 6: Code 2

Respondent ID	Question	Themes				
		No (no specific reason)	yes (no specific)	Yes (from school)	yes (from friends or work colleagues)	Yes (from the internet)
1	I did not. Well, I knew about the Berlin Wall and its history, but I did not specifically know a lot about the memorial.	1				
2	Yes, I have been several times, Berlin, I've seen the memorial as well as, as is I saw the wall. It was one of the things you have to do as a student in Germany			1		
3	Yes, I did. Because I, I started in a German school. So we can, yeah, learn about the history, in general. So I was kind of like, an inform. Before going to Berlin.			1		
4	Yeah, I did know. , I did this. It's called a student school in Germany. And there you get like the high school certification that a German does. And there we saw a little bit of German history			1		
5	I didn't know, about the memorial before I decided, going to Berlin, because when I chose Berlin, I googled the sightseeing and the attractions and then the memorial popped up	1				1
6	Yes, we did. So we have talked about the Berlin Wall and the memorial connected to it back in school when we talked about it in our history class. But the thing is that we only touched it lightly.			1		1
7	Kind of from school, but not that much into detail	1				
8	Yes		1			
9	Of course, because it is our like, main city here in Germany		1			
10	yes from where we are from the high school on studying history and things like that. And then because I went in an Erasmus to German. So a lot of people talk to me about this.			1	1	
	sum for refelction - not reporting purposes-)	3	2	5	1	2

Figure 7:Code 3

Respondent ID	Question	Themes					
		Yes (Memorial)	No (specific reason)	yes (History)	No (Visiting Family)	No (Visiting Friends)	Yes (Berlins culture)
1	Yeah. In my case, where I was more interested in other aspects of the city, it was because and just getting out of my village, I was not interested in history, or often interested in the history of the city. But it was not the predominant reason for me to travel to Berlin. So the predominant reason was family and friends.		1		1	1	
2	Definitely the memorial, but they are also, you know, as I said, it has the old, you have a lot of museums, you have a lot of remarkable architectural buildings. So it's the richness of culture and variety that Berlin offer	1					1
3	I will say a lot of factors were involved. But I must admit that it wasn't the main factor, it was my first time in Europe and Germany, as well. So everything that's more involves Berlin, it's you know, everything you learn from the culture, from the old political sphere, all the cultural sphere.		1				1
4	Not really yeah, I went because of my friends, And I was interest in the history of Berlin that is, like, a different city from all of the other ones. So, I wanted to see how it is how the culture is to what it's an international city		1	1		1	1
5	As I mentioned previously I didn't know much about the memorial so no I wasn't motivated to go to the city because of that, if anything I was eagered to visit such an international city, having a one of the biggest cultural significance in the country . Also to visit friends that studied there.		1				1
6	I would say the memorial was not the only thing. But it played a part in the decision-making process to go to Berlin at all, the cultural aspects like the music, the party lifestyle, the alternative way of living the sustainability motives behind the people living there, the art that is going on, but the other motives were the history motives	1	1				1
7	No we went for other reasons live sightseeing other things like checkpoint Charlie, the tower, Olympic stadium, also to visit family members		1				1
8	I think overall historic significance agree but not the memorial specific. There were also different reasons I knew that it was the most international city in Germany relatively cheaper than other cities		1	1			
9	No, it wasn't the case, I was interested in seeing important sights but the memorial wasn't the first thing in my mind and apart from that I had family members to visit as I said earlier.		1	1	1		1
10	I think no, it was just to travel with my and to visit more cities in Germany since I was doing my Erasmus there.		1				1
	sum for refelction - not reporting purposes-)	2	9	3	2	2	8

Figure 8: Code 4

Respondent ID	Question	Themes	
		Yes	No
1	Not actively. Okay. So if it counts that you read in general about it, or watch documentaries about it, but that then yes, but not accurately. and this person recommended me because that was new, but I was into history. And so that person said, look, you got to see it and visited because you are interested in history in general and not just Checkpoint Charlie	1	
2	well, as I said it was by teachers and of course we be part. I spoke to my parents and grandparents		1
3	I didn't if I was too young, I didn't.	1	
4	Not really	1	
5	Only about what I should visit		1
6	only minor research we knew where it was kind of what it consisted of like what you could see there. A little bit like how much people recommend how much time you spend there. There wasn't like a full-day adventure, but more of an afternoon trip, like one two hour thing. But that was just about it.		1
7	No I did not, I just did some research for some sight seeing and places to visit, but not necessarily about the memorial.		1
8	Yes as I had general interest to see the Berlin Wall.		1
9	Yes I did	1	
10	I think No, Okay. Like I have seen before pictures and things like that. But I did not look for information before		1
	sum for refelction - not reporting purposes-)	4	6

Figure 9: Code 5

Respondent ID	Question	Themes					
		Reason (Recommended by a friend/colleague)	Reason (educational)	Reason (history)	Reason (experience memorial)	Reason (part sightseeing place experience)	Reason (curiosity)
1	It was recommended to me or suggested by a friend when you were but I'm interested in history. And so this is also the second reason I'm interested in German history. Okay, so it's as simple as it gets. Me being at being, you know, suggested to me and me being interested in history	1		1	1	1	
2	I think it's, it's the power to see with the consequences of them. And see the memorial this touch? I think it's, it's, it's one thing to read it in books and see it in pictures, but if you see it, in reality, I think that is much more powerful, and a very effective reminder of the history that's written			1	1	1	
3	was to know and I will say relating to social stuff, like being able to say I was there. And then the second one could be like, the interesting part about it, like to, be able to look how it is how it was, get, like, I don't know, create a thought in your mind. Being able to see it in your eyes is completely different from seeing a picture or reading it. And the third one, I don't know could be a part of the experience.				1		1
4	I think it's just such a big historical thing, I think it's a for me was the most important reason was, I just thought, it's a mass is something that we have heard of since I was in Venezuela like German history is something that everyone knows about, or should know.			1			1
5	Because I found it interesting to see how the wall might have looked like how thick it was, or how tall it was. Because even if you read articles, you can picture it so well. So wanted to see how it was constructed		1			1	1
6	I am interested in my country's past, it history and why it was divided for so long		1	1			1
7	I think it's like a must-see. I think it's like when you do the typical, I would say tourist tour, then, of course. And if you do like more individuals, it depends on what you're like what your interests are.		1			1	
8	Curiosity, interest in history. I study the wall, the Cold War and like the fact that the city was divided mature and yeah, then I wanted to see this in person, Another reason would be for educational purposes, I wanted to learn about the city's past		1	1	1		1
9	Because the wall, or the great wall here in Germany, affected most parts of Germany, especially like the east side of the wall. And in our history lessons back then in school, that's very early, like in the fourth and fifth class. We always like reflecting on it and how it was and how it happened, and so on. So we always had this kind of connection to it. But mostly because like, everyone is talking about it		1	1			
10	I think I wanted to see it because I think is an important part of the history of Berlin. To see what happened there. To know more about the culture on the history.			1	1		1
	sum for reflection - not reporting purposes-)	1	5	7	5	4	6

Figure 10: Code 6

Respondent ID	Question	Themes					
		Disapointed	sad	Frightened	empathatic	interested	remembrance
1	A lot of information, maybe too much too overwhelming, I was a little bit disappointed, not necessarily by the Berlin Wall Memorial, but by the fact that so much of was gone. And it was me the first time when I came to Berlin before I went to Memorial that I realized, wow, there's not much left. And then that kind of surprised me, even though I had some knowledge about it.	1				1	
2	I was very sad. Because as I said, it illustrates the losses that come along with it. And that makes me sad. Yeah. It's a loss, as I said, of, of the people that are passed on, about the whole locals about the loss of, you know, like, through the Holocaust, a lot of artists were really couldn't work, do their jobs that were built isolated in this society.		1	1	1		1
3	impressed but I didn't feel anything more, You know, because I was young. So I didn't want to know. Now it's impressive and actually, it's kind of when you roll there and think about the history is kind of like heavy to think about all the people that died				1	1	1
4	A little bit frightening because of everything that happened and you start thinking what if it happens again, but then it was like somehow I felt proud of those of these people that they managed to rebuild like a whole country from zero and to change not only just the country in an architectural way but also like in the mentality of the war			1	1		1
5	I think it made me feel relieved that the wall is gone. And make me feel sad or make me feel empathy for the people that suffered? And I don't know, maybe it also, even if it had nothing to do with it had me feel a little bit stronger than we as a nation Could I don't know, both standard and come back even stronger out of it.		1		1	1	1
6	it's an interesting place, and it made you feel kind of not melancholic, but like thoughtful, because you thought like this, used to exist like this.				1	1	1
7	I think when I when I visit these places, it's always like, I imagined, like what it would be in that time, like in the past. And yeah, so I think I I feel like you're standing in the past.				1		
8	It made me feel and intrigued by them. The fact that there was still a piece of the wall the parts of the wall fall against the structure. But it was difficult to get to know how you would feel, maybe because I didn't live at that time				1	1	
9	it was really impressive because, um, pictures or like in our lectures, it's always like that, okay, there was there is something that is like big and it has to do with a lot of history in our country. But at the moment that I stood in front of		1	1			1
10	I was disappointed. I think it was because I saw a lot of pictures of it. And when I went there, he was like, it was too small, No, not small. in size. Yes. I didn't know he was in. I was thinking of another kind of world.	1			1		
	sum for reflection - not reporting purposes-	2	3	3	8	5	6

Figure 11: Code 7

Respondent ID	Question	Themes		
		No	Yes (alone)	Yes (with friends)
1	Yes, to refresh my memories, I would go but it's not the most interesting side I want to go back to my list of days where I want to go back to the Berlin War Memorial. Wall memorial is not one of my top 10 places I would visit		1	
2	I'm planning to go to Berlin again, summertime and also into the beginning of next year, so I like Berlin, and I enjoy the transformation that villains are going through. And I think it's, it's remarkable, and I think it cannot often enough visit two		1	
3	Of course, I always when they're and my friends that live there. Because when I went the main reason I'm going to Berlin is to meet my friends.			1
4	yes I would visit the monument again.		1	
5	I would have visited and visited again with someone that hasn't been there. But just alone? I don't think			1
6	I think I would go back for sure, by myself, I would go again, with friends that have already seen it. And I would take people that haven't seen it, both people from Germany, but also people that are not from here, and that maybe don't know the history behind it, give them a chance to experience it. So yeah, I would come back.		1	1
7	I would visit it again with like, friends to show them but for myself. I don't know because it's a long time ago, maybe yes. But mostly, like showing friends or family.			1
8	I think after the first time it is enough Yeah	1		
9	I will visit a visit again. And I think as you grow older, it becomes a different part of your life. Because when I was a child, I didn't understand as much as I would now understand. And so if I visited today, or if I wasn't today		1	
10	No, I think it's a one time thing.	1		
	sum for refelction - not reporting purposes-)	2	5	

Figure 12: Code 8

Respondent ID	Question	Themes	
		Yes	No
	Would you recommend any friends or family members?		
1	Yes I would	1	
2	of course I would it's a must see!	1	
3	Definitely. Yeah. It's one of the greatest cities I, I met, I went. And my, of course, my family and my friends and my family, we'd more interesting all these historical and memorials and cultural institutions	1	
4	Like, if somebody hasn't been there, it's a must for them. They need to go but alone, I will do it. I will do it too. Yeah, I do it. Because I know it's full of art, there is a letter, I know hidden messages in there that you cannot see them all in your first time.	1	
5	I would recommend it just because it's a crucial part of German history. And it's a really good thing that they preserved parts of the wall to be able for people to look at. And I would recommend everyone to go	1	
6	Yeah, of course. I mean, I believe that you have to reach a certain age or that you have to reach a certain knowledge and maturity, to understand why this place is so important	1	
7	Yes, I would.	1	
8	Yeah.	1	
9	Definitely, especially like people, of all ages. So everyone like can take apart from the memorials into their brain and think about it later	1	
10	Yes.	1	
	sum for refelction - not reporting purposes-)	10	0

Figure 13: Code 9

Respondent ID	Question	Themes	
		Yes (authentic)	No (unauthentic)
	Did you consider the memorial to be authentic ?		
1	No, not necessarily. But it's also a tourist attraction. You have to keep it in mind. I mean, not, I think the main what, if my, from my memory was not the main focus of his whole site is not making money		1
2	As far as the attraction I would say it's authentic	1	
3	I think I can say no because theyre are loads of memorial similar, not similar to the berlin wall but you get the idea.		1
4	I think it is authentic. Because it's, it's not just a reminder, like, Oh, we build this to remember these now. It's something that was built that was destroyed. And now there's just a half of it. And it's like, you know what, that's there. That's there. Just to, just to remind us, like, it was built. It was super, it was super tragic. It was like, a lot of people die.	1	
5	I will consider it as authentic because after all, it's the original parts that are still there and still standing. So would say it's authentic. And it's also really nice that you have one of these designs you can read to somehow get thrown back into the times	1	
6	Yes, I would say so. It is authentic in reflecting what Berlin is to me, you know, having these elements of the past connected to these elements of today like how things have changed, but also keeping what they were. So, therefore, I would say yes, yes, it is authentic..	1	
7	No, I mean, it cannot be that authentic, because it's not theat that time anymore,		1
8	I think is authentic. Few CDs can maybe really be the only ones. And even though the East Side Gallery is more impressive. The graffiti is on the wall. And they are there we can learn a little bit.	1	
9	No, it would be more like authentic if there were more people background in it, okay, because it is like important because it's something that affected of Germany, but it affected like more of the people than the wall itself		1
10	Nope, authentic in the part that theres only one memorial un berlin like this yes but no in the experience as in its not an authentic experience.		1
	sum for refelction - not reporting purposes-)	5	5

Figure 14: Code 10