HOW DID THE FIRST WORLD WAR AFFECT LIFE IN GERMANY?

After the first world war life in Germany had changed a lot. Here are the ways life changed:

- The average diet was less than 1000 calories a day
- All the information was kept from the civilians in Germany
- Sailors and soldiers refused to fight as it was seen as a suicide mission
- Immune systems were weak and the Spanish flu killed over 700,000 people
- Many died of starvation, malnutrition, scurvy, tuberculosis and dysentery
- The German people were short on: coal, fuel, clothes, soaps, shoes etc...

Any information regarding the War was kept from the German civilians. This led to a sense of insecurity in the community. The people of Germany believed they were winning the war when in fact they were losing the war. This could lead to rebellions.
THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC

After the Kaiser abdicated many people were left confused and scared as throughout the war they believed they were winning the war. Due to the Kaisers abdication many groups of Soldiers and Workers wanted to start a revolution. However this was stopped by the leader of the social democrat party, he declared a new republic and became its chancellor. Ebert Friedrich is the leader and new chancellor.

- It was named Weimar Republic as it was created in Weimar instead of Germany’s Capital. Berlin was crazy at the time and it was no place to create a new republic at the time.
BENEFITS AND LIMITATIONS OF WEIMAR REPUBLIC

- **BENEFITS** - The German people have more freedom and involvement in how the country’s run. They also have more human rights such as freedom of speech etc… They introduced proportional representation.

- **LIMITATIONS** - A President may not want to be a democracy and could completely take over the country. Also there could be problems with the emergency powers as it is up to the president when he wants to use his emergency powers and if he considers it an emergency.

- **PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION** - The number of politicians in a party was based on the number of votes they got if a party won 10% of the votes it would give 10% of the seats.

This promoted equal rights in the democracy system and made the government fair. Whereas the Kaiser would have all power and he would make the ultimate decisions. This way there is a clear amount of people who agree with the situation and is a better way to run the country.
FRIDRICH EBERT - 1ST PRESIDENT OF WEIMAR

- He was the first President of the Weimar Republic
- He created the Weimar Republic and was also the leader of the social democrats
- He was president of the Weimar Republic from 1919-1925
- In 1900 he was elected to the city Parliament
- He became floor leader in the Reichstag in 1916

He was a key figure in the Weimar Republic as he created it. The Weimar Republic changed how Germany was ran and how the people of Germany benefit from this new system.