

Dietmar Bartz (journalist) and Heiko Werning (biologist) received a grant from the Reemtsma foundation to clarify the cultural history of the eel, especially in the times of national socialism.

Eels in national socialism (2004):

- The eels move a lot in their life: 'Gypsy-fish'
- On the other side: 'German' delicacy
- Eels meet antisemitic stereotypes ('wiggling'; it is not known where they come from/go to)

The relationship between eels and Sigmund Freud

- Young Sigmund Freud searched for sperm in the testicles of the eels
- He dissected 400 eels in a short time - but failed
- Paper in 'Mitteilungen der 'Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften' was not registered much
- Later, Freud destroyed most traces to his time as an eel-researcher (Psychological repression?).
- But he discovered the 'castration complex'...

