To continue refuting Ruth Bettina Birn’s specific falsehoods point by point is to feed the charade that she is engaged in a scholarly discussion. Thirty examples (many containing multiple instances) of her fabrications, which I have documented in “The Fictions of Ruth Bettina Birn” should be sufficient to establish this. Nevertheless, just so others cannot say that I have not responded to them, an addendum to this article taking up her individual misrepresentations, as well as my original reply, can be found on the Internet at goldhagen.com. Here I will briefly put Birn’s commentary in its appropriate general perspective, so that people may know what she is up to: attacking my book and my character by ascribing to me views and ideas that are the opposite of my own.
Hitler’s Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust is a 1996 book by American writer Daniel Goldhagen, in which he argues that the vast majority of ordinary Germans were "willing executioners" in the Holocaust because of a unique and virulent "eliminationist antisemitism" in German political culture which had developed in the preceding centuries. Goldhagen argues that eliminationist antisemitism was the cornerstone of German national identity, was unique to Germany, and because of it “Former Harvard professor Goldhagen comes out swinging in this frontal assault on anti-Semitism and its practitioners and does not pause for breath until the final page…. A frightening photograph of a mutable demon so many fail to recognize and continue to embrace.” —Kirkus Reviews. WORSE THAN WAR – The Film with Daniel Jonah Goldhagen. The first major documentary to explore the phenomenon of genocide and how we can stop it. National Television Premiere: on PBS on April 14th, 2010.