



FIG. 6.1. The Nazi party barred smoking in many public spaces, including party offices and waiting rooms (*Diensträume*). Note the negroid head on the cigar; Nazi antitobacco activists tried to characterize smoking as the vice of degenerate Africans. Source: *Auf der Wacht* 58 (1941): 24.

That recognition was fostered, I shall argue, by a national political climate stressing the virtues of racial hygiene and bodily purity. Tobacco in the Nazi view of the world was a genetic poison; a cause of infertility, cancer, and heart attacks; a drain on national resources and a threat to public health. The Nazi regime launched



FIG. 6.2. "You Have the Duty to Be Healthy!" Cover from the Hitler Youth manual, *Du hast die Pflicht, gesund zu sein!* vol. 1, *Nikotin und Alkohol*, ed. Reichsjugendführung (Berlin: n.p., n.d.), with thanks to Charles Rosenberg.

an ambitious antismoking campaign, involving extensive public health education, bans on certain forms of advertising, and restrictions on smoking in many public spaces (see figs. 6.1 and 6.2). The aggressive steps taken in this direction were consistent with the regime's larger emphasis on doctor-directed "health leadership"