



MATILDA

EFFECT



Pionierinnen der Forschung **Female Pioneers of Research**

Pt. 10

Clara Immerwahr





Clara Immerwahr (1870-1915)

Chemist

Raised in a wealthy liberal family in Breslau, she studied at the local university and earned her PhD in Chemistry in 1900.

In 1901, she married Fritz Haber, upon which she had to give up her scientific career.





Clara Immerwahr (1870-1915)

Chemist

Her husband celebrated the use of chemical weapons he had developed in the First World War, upon which she publicly distanced herself from him and called this research a **'perversion of the ideals of science'**.

It was **'a sign of barbarity, corrupting the very discipline which ought to bring new insights into life'**.





Clara Immerwahr (1870-1915)

Chemist

After the first gas attacks on the Western Front in Belgian Ypres on April 22, 1915, and the subsequent approximately 100,000 deaths, Immerwahr took her own life on May 2, 1915, using her husband's weapon.

Her academic achievements were increasingly overshadowed by her efforts as a pacifist. Today, several academic and peace prizes are named after her.

