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Using and Abusing History

by Joe Escobar - Friday, May 17, 2013, 9:30 PM

This forum thread is for Using and Abusing History posts and replies.

After studying the required materials, address the individual questions in SEPARATE posts.

To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post.

To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post.

Sum of ratings: -

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Use and misuse of historical signs

by Megan Russell - Monday, May 20, 2013, 7:42 PM

While looking at these posters I wanted to see a common theme among them and failed to do so. While some are mocking the United States as a whole, others are mocking Americans. The first one shown, the bloggers for liberty, I believe to be harmless. They took a recognized poster and changed it for their business. No change in historical accuracy or complete change in message. In Bill Maher's poster, he changed the message from fear of the enemy to fear of the government. The original poster's trying to convince American's to car-share in fear that the materials or resources used while driving alone could take away from the United States war effort. Bill Maher has taken a poster, changed the person in the picture and the name on the top but changed the message on the bottom. "What the government SHOULD be telling us to Help Fight the War on Terrorism." This implies that the government is now the bad guy, bin Laden is sitting in the passenger seat still and we all know him as the big bad wolf of the 2000's. However, bin Laden is not the bad guy of this cartoon, the government is for "with-holding" information.

The cartoon I found most absurd was the "Do with less - so they'll have enough." The original poster is demonstrating that resources during the war are limited and in

order for our soldiers to properly fight for us overseas, we must ration here. In the second poster, they completely changed the original message and turned it into more of an attack ad than I noticed in other posters. They call liberals morons and tell them to root for "our" side for a change. This confuses me, obviously this is coming from a conservative stand point, but what is "our" side? Aren't we all from the same country? Therefore those "liberal morons" are on the only side of United States war effort. At the bottom of the original page it states "Rationing gives you your fair share." whereas the other says "If you love freedom, try rooting for some real freedom fighters." Perhaps this poster annoys me because I don't see the point in attack ads, but by calling yourself a "real freedom fighter" and that liberals are morons, that doesn't encourage me to join your cause. I believe this poster was more for shock effect, with the big bold red letters on the top. I see it as a negative demonstration of how American's view each other as civilians. If we're going around calling each other morons how are we supposed to come together as a country and prevail in a war?

While some of these posters are all in good fun, the last one I mentioned, along with the one about soldier vacancies, are made to shock the audience and grab their attention. Although this isn't a tactic I necessarily believe in, it is one that is proven to work.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Use and misuse of historical signs

by Jacob Kennedy - Monday, May 20, 2013, 9:51 PM

i feel the same way. i too looked for a pattern but couldnt find one. i found most of the posters to be quite funny in there outrageousness like the one with showing the flag raising on iwo jima mostly because I own the album with the art work of the 4 punks putting up an upside down flag. the last poster shown made me the most aggravated. Your with us or your with the Terrorist is one of the most bull shit things ever said. Apperently you can only think one way when we are at war.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Clever yet disrespectful

by Laura Wood - Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 7:37 AM

The two that made the biggest impact on me was the Bin Laden one, and also the one that says "you're either with us or the terrorist" I believe that they had the biggest impact on me because I feel very strongly about 9/11 and how people view the war and the people in it. History is being manipulated disrespectfully, I just feel like making posters like that is almost trying to make everyone robots to the government, like nobody should have their own opinion and cant be on both sides. I think that the messages are a negative one. It is not

fair to fill people's heads with propaganda that makes it to where you're either on our side or the terrorist side. Which I think is sickening. Some people like myself don't believe that staying in a war for multiple years like we have in Iraq is the right thing to do, so technically I am not on either side.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Using and Abusing History

by Veronica Wilkens - Monday, May 20, 2013, 9:49 PM

I find the differences between the old and the new to be the most interesting. For example, in the first (and several others) the newer poster is blurred slightly. I think without the original sitting right next to it for context, it may be used to make the ad appear "aged", giving the illusion that the discussion at hand is an old idea.

The first two "remakes" are still carrying a similar *kind* of message, so I think they still hold the correct spirit, as it were, for the poster. The next two (with the raising of the flag) flat-out insult. It seems silly to be so offended, but using such an emotional image for something completely unrelated (global warming) or opposite (anti-American sentiment) tarnishes the good feeling and patriotism of the original.

The last posters are simply comical, in my opinion. Some of them worse taste than others, but none of them are terribly offensive to me. The last one is downright ridiculous. As Megan points out, insulting me in a poster isn't going to get me to do things the way you want. I do believe, however, that it will strengthen the resolve of those who would be willing to deliver - or at least think about delivering - such an insult.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Re: Using and Abusing History

by Tyler Kennedy - Monday, May 20, 2013, 11:11 PM

The last one, where it says "you, stop asking questions. You're either with us or with the terrorists" this quote comes straight from the ministry of love. Basically saying that if you question the way the government is handling "terrorists" then you yourself may be a terrorist. In a way this kind of looks like McCarthyism. I don't think this is an appropriate use of history. The original flyer was for buying war bonds, and doesn't make you out to be the enemy if you don't. On the other hand the new one is telling you to stop asking questions and if you do you're a terrorist.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Propagand Posters....Right or wrong?



by Nichole Sherman - Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 12:22 AM

As I looked through these posters I could not find a pattern. None of these posters really stood out at me more then the other. However I do not believe that history is being portrayed accurately or even in a positive light. Although I found many of these posters to have a comical side to them I also believe that they are spcifically targeted to hit peoples sense of patrisim, selflessness, religious views, and outlook on women in particular. All of these posters it me insome form. The poster of the woman showing her strength made me think that they are trying to show how strong women can be in the war times. The soldier posters made me think of patrisim. I thought that using the American Flag in a discriminatory way hurtful to our country and the pride we have established as a country. I could countinue on with these posters but i must say I feel as if these posters are used to shock the audience and it seems to work. As much as we may hate these posters they seem to work. So that must say something about our country doesn't it?

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Propagang Posters....Right or wrong?

by Heather Groves - Friday, May 24, 2013, 7:21 PM

I agree that the main point of these posters our to shock us, and to make us think. Though as for saying something about our country depends on which side of the spectrum your on. Some of them are so shocking that there is no words left for them like Join the Army, Vacancies available.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Manipulated History

by Macie Martin - Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 9:34 AM

The two posters that stuck out to me the most were the ones with the title "We Can Do It". The one on the left is trying to say that women can do their part in the war effort too and to me, the one on the right is saying that Americans are against the war effort and we need to join the alliance to stop it. Because back then during WWII, Americans were hesitant to join at first but gradually became accustomed to the idea because Japan had attacked us directly so they wanted to fight back. Whereas in the most recent, or present war Americans felt that there was no need to fight. That's why the girl in the poster on the right is supposed to be Princess Leia because she's one the "good guys", so you're supposed to join her in the effort.

But as a whole, none of the "fake" posters were related. Some of them had a common message like being against the war but others were of course ridiculous just as everyone has been saying and had nothing to do with war.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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a careless word

by Robert Sappington - Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 12:37 PM

Which one (or two) make the biggest impact on you personally, and why?

I would say the "careless word another cross" and "Join the army vacancies available". This is because their taking a statement about someone "running their mouth" and it causing a soldier to die vs anyone who joins the army just dies. The group that put out the first poster, the government, didn't want people talking about troop movements. The second one, just mocks people who join the army suggesting they will die. Its intentionally disrespectfully to service members, and a warning to others.

Is history being manipulated appropriately, cleverly, or disrespectfully?

For the one I suggested, its disrespectfully. I think this is because its a anti war or anti military/government poster. This is probably its intention.

Is the message a positive one? A negative one? A warning? A lesson?

The first part of the poster is a warning. The second part is a negative message.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: a careless word

by Heather Groves - Friday, May 24, 2013, 7:26 PM

This poster shocked me the most as well. At first I was not sure as to why, but it just plain shocked me, and left a bad feeling. While reading your post, what you wrote about it being disrespectful, and mocking those who have died serving our country, and that are serving our country. I am in complete agreement about what you said.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Using and Abusing History

by Jason Lyons - Wednesday, May 22, 2013, 4:36 PM

to me, most of these cartoons have little to do with each other. Atleast the ones from the WWI era made a little bit of sense. They had meaning behind then and most of the time were created with good intentions. The ones from recent times are just used to bash someone or something. I feel like people nowa days are so used to seeing these types or cartoons no one really pays any attention to them anyways. So the

creators have to go to extreme to try and convey their message. When I see these cartoons I rarely pay much attention to them. They really don't have any impact on my feelings or stance on whatever topic they are trying to portray.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Goodness Lady Liberty!!

by Chazz Milner - Thursday, May 23, 2013, 11:33 PM

Woah! Is the bottom poster the Statue of Liberty telling people not to question why we are still at war with the Middle East or we are with the terrorists? That seems like an odd poster for this time in age where people are taught to question and determine their own opinions based on true information. It seems like it would be ineffective and almost provoke anti-war sentiment today. Also, the poster transformed for Star Wars makes me laugh out loud. My seven year old son loves Star Wars and thought the poster was funny and when I explained the history behind it he somewhat understood. He said "well everybody wants to fight the Empire anyway, well except the bad guys." 😊

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Goodness Lady Liberty!!

by Robert Sappington - Friday, May 24, 2013, 2:11 PM

"Also, the poster transformed for Star Wars makes me laugh out loud." Do you think this is a miss use of the poster? or think it was for fun? I think they were using something funny, like star wars, but also making the empire reference. Or maybe I'm thinking too far into it.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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If they are hiring why is there so much whining about the job market?

by Gregory Vandelune - Friday, May 24, 2013, 3:17 PM

People cannot be manipulated by propaganda unless they allow themselves to be. The overall reaction to the poster with "You're Either With US or You're With the Terrorists!" is an example. I have read some people expressing disgust or outrage by it. The reality is simply that the poster is part of Micah Wright's anti-war propaganda and can be found on his website. (<http://propagandaremix.com>) People are quick to make rash judgments and assume that the government is propagating such ridiculousness. I like to believe that is the result of people becoming "TV intelligent and functionally illiterate." People need to think for themselves, research issues, and formulate intelligent, independent, well-thought-out opinions.

I am amused by the "Join the Army....Vacancies Available" poster. In my little world, the poster was made by someone to the left of center who is all too quick to provide commentary about a war in which he chose to not participate and probably knows little about. He is most likely a man who still likes cartoons. What do you know? Yes, it is Micah Wright. It is funny to make jokes about people who volunteer to sacrifice themselves so that others(Hollywood cartoonists) may have the luxury of spewing nonsensical rhetoric.

People sleep peaceably in their beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on their behalf.

- George Orwell

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: If they are hiring why is there so much whining about the job market?  

by Nichole Sherman - Friday, May 24, 2013, 4:21 PM

I agree with your statement "people cannot be manipulated by propaganda unless they allow themselves to be" I believe that if we as a people really knew what was going on not just in here at home but with our men and women everywhere then there would be less of a who says? who cares type feel to the world. Our service men and women are no joke. They sacrifice their lives for ours. "Freedom is a right ultimately defended by the sacrifice of America's servicemen and women."

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: great thought, great quote  

by Karlee Andrew - Friday, May 24, 2013, 9:22 PM

I was reading your post and had to agree with you on the comment you made about join the army vacancies available. Yes, the person who made this was most likely the man who would never consider fighting for his country, but luckily we do have other brave people who will. Also, I really love your quote you shared at the end. I'm definitley going to write that down, thankyou.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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clever yet disrespectful  

by Karlee Andrew - Friday, May 24, 2013, 8:32 PM

The poster that stood out to me the most was " A careless word another cross", manipulated to, " Join the army vacancies available". This made the biggest impact on me personally because of how ignorant it is. On the right the poster is referring that a military person may be killed because someone was careless and gave out classified information about US military troop movements. It was presumed that the Germans had many spies in the US before WWII began. So everyone, including regular citizens were cautioned not to say things about where their military people were or were going, etc. This is also like the well known saying, "loose lips sink ships." People are always listening trying to get information, so people needed to watch what they said . On the right hand side the poster is anti-military. Exclaiming, yeah join the military and your gonna get killed. It is mocking the war propaganda posters that encourage you to support the war. I believe this poster is manipulated pretty appropriately for World War two, but back then almost everyone supported the war so than this poster would be disrespectful . Answering the last question, This message is very negative. "Join the war, vacancies available", because it implies if you join the army your gonna die.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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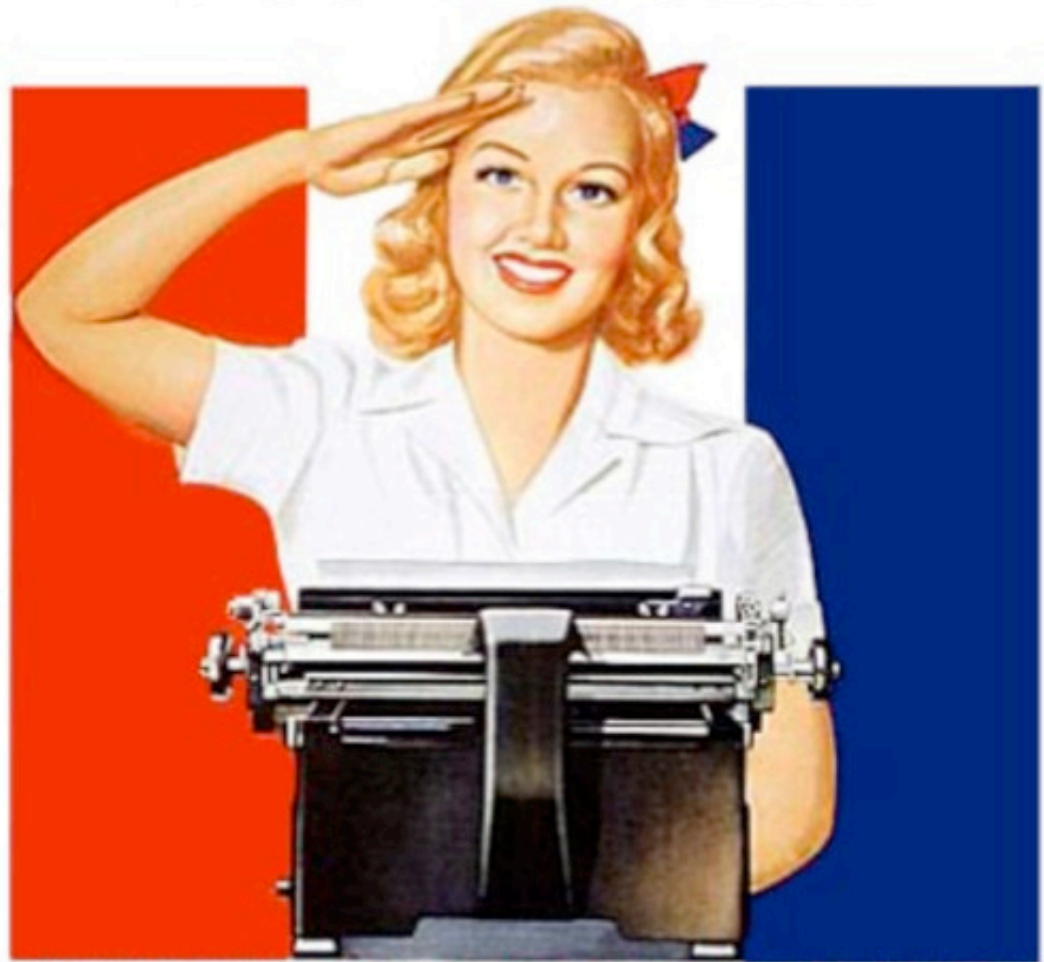


image i found  

by Karlee Andrew - Friday, May 24, 2013, 9:08 PM

I went and searched on google for more posters that manipulated previous war propaganda posters to come across this one posted below. This is the same image as the first one listed on the forum but with an addictional saying. " You write what you're told", "We could'nt control the people without you". This poster really struck my attention because it is entirely true. I cannot stand the fact that most of media is controlled by the government. The government only tells us and shows us what they think we need to see and most of the time it is lies anyway. The government controlled the people back then by posters and other such thing.Now, today things have only become more controlled . Who knows where will be 50 years from now. We already have no privacy, the governments always somewhere sneaking around, doing what they need to to stay in control of us.

YOU WRITE WHAT YOU'RE TOLD!



THANKS, CORPORATE NEWS!

We Couldn't Control The People Without You

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTRY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

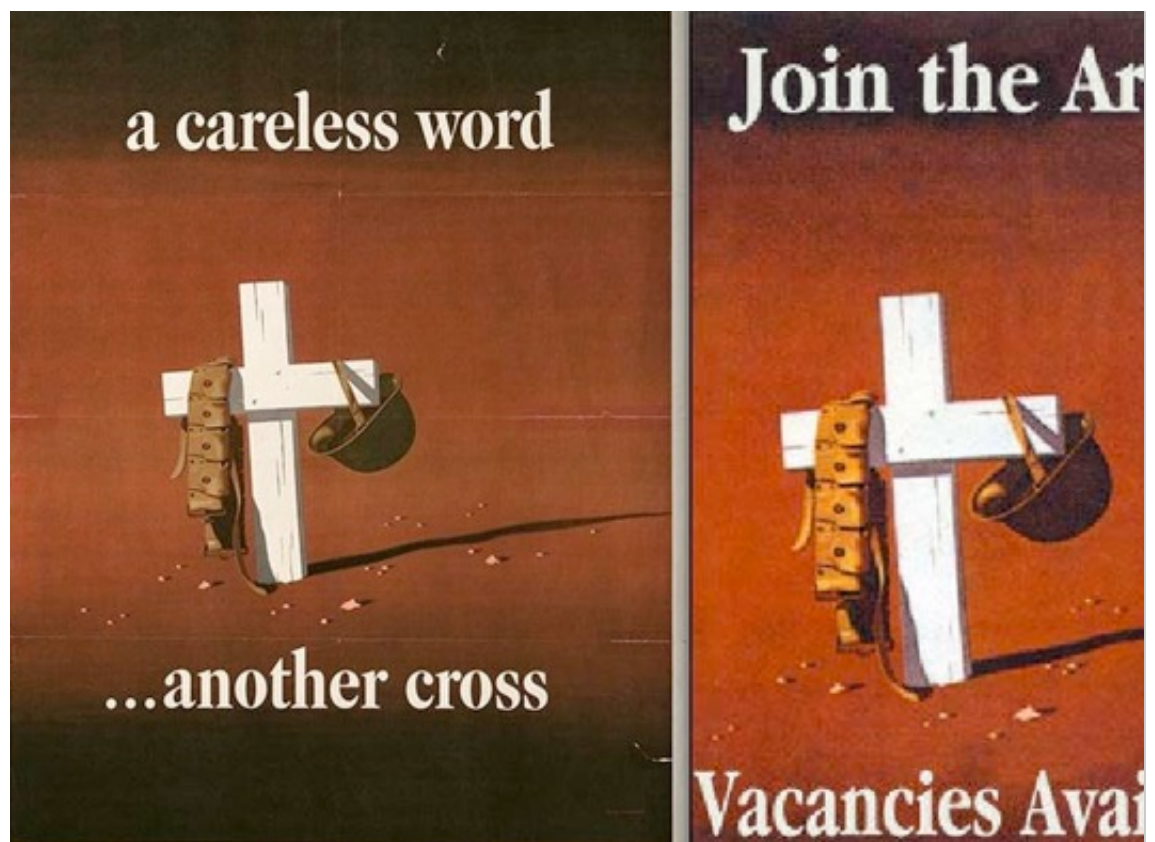
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Use and misuse of history

by Robert Badewitz - Saturday, May 25, 2013, 8:26 PM

To be honest all of the images used in the provided material are terrible and boring to me. Except the highly offensive yet effective soldier grave poster.



The altered poster in comparison to the old one does not carry the same meaning as it did. The old one was trying to say that if you were to talk and give away information, it could get into the wrong hands and cause deaths to American soldiers. The new altered one is clever and carries a different meaning, it tells you to "Join the Army, Vacancies Available" in a satirical sarcastic way it is telling you not to join the army, because you will end up dead. This poster is extremely effective in the way it makes its point. It is very clear and to the point. I do not feel that it was altered in an inappropriate way, though a bit offensive in the way it uses dead soldiers to get the point across. I feel it is a negative message, that is being used to give an important warning.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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history abuse



by Haley Shaw - Saturday, May 25, 2013, 9:44 PM

The poster that left me with the most questions was the vacancies available. Why would a person even take the time to make a poster like this? It's disrespectful to the troops and their families that have made the biggest sacrifice of them all. I see this as an un-American act that just shows how ignorant this individual is. The other posters were just kind of funny they really didn't mean anything. I did a Google search of propaganda posters and one that kind of was funny and I was surprised to see that they would actually make a poster for STDs.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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