

HST 203: History of the United States Sp14 (Escobar Meta 41237 41238)

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Using & Abusing History

by Joe Escobar - Saturday, May 10, 2014, 11:04 AM

This forum thread is for the Using & Abusing History discussion.

After studying the required materials, address the questions in your 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.

IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post. Do NOT simply leave it RE: Using & Abusing History

Sum of ratings: -

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Ä careless word...another cross" "join the army.. vacancies available

by Kenzie Hazen - Saturday, May 10, 2014, 10:43 PM

This poster impacted me personally because I have had many family members that have joined the army, and some that have died fighting for our country. I think history is being manipulated disrespectfully because they could have definitely used a different slogan because in the second poster they are telling people to join the army because there are vacancies and because a lot of people have died. Instead they could have worded it differently, by possibly saying they could save our country if they fight, or other reasons. I think this message is one hundred percent negative. They are telling people to join the army for all the wrong reasons. In the first poster they are telling us that if one says something that would aid the enemy, it will lead to a death of another soldier, and the second one is telling people to join the army because so many people have died, and there are spots available.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Ä careless word...another cross" "join the army.. vacancies available

S

by Austin McQuaw - Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 5:59 PM

I agree that the second of those two is disrespectful. It's making fun of the typical "join the army" slogan. While the typical advertisements promote that positivity will result from joining the army, the spoof is mocking the original by reminding us that deaths are also a result. I think that the spoof is weak and cheap. It is only borrowing the image from the original while ignoring the theme. So, not a great tie-in there. Also, there are many reasons to sign up for the army, and many reasons to either support or oppose the war. Some people sign up for the benefits after serving. Some people sign up for a cause beyond that. To focus solely on death could be very disrespectful to those serving for a greater cause. They've accepted risk because they hope for a positive outcome and believe the risk is worth it. So I think it could be disrespectful to place the fear of death as more important than their idea of the necessary outcome.

The spoof is sort of hiding behind a veil of humor to push an incomplete anti-army agenda.

However, people see things through entirely different perspectives. And I think it's probable that most of us do not have an absolutely clear perspective. Since people have different perspectives, it's best that we are able to challenge each other with little cartoons like these.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Ä careless word...another cross" "join the army.. vacancies available

S

by Shan Gao - Friday, May 16, 2014, 9:54 AM

After reading the paragraph by Austin McQuaw, I am impressed by the statement as well as the logic behind it. I quite agree with the second of those two is disrespectful. There are really some people who sign up for the army for some causes beyond benefits after serving. Take Chinese communists in World War II for examples, many younger students at that time graduated from abroad, and came back to join in the army, as can be shown in the famous movie by Lust and Caution by Ang Lee. And more than that, what I am concerned is, when people choose to sign up for the army, there are many kinds of reasons, would it so necessary to take into consideration of the reasons instead of the behavior in the army as well as the results the behavior bring? To be honest, I admired those soldiers for their courage instead of their noble quality which is hard to measure!

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Ä careless word...another cross" "join the army.. vacancies available

S

by Daniel Halverson - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 10:27 PM

I agree with you and I also take this personally as well with having family members being in the military. I agree again with the negative messages that the signs give off and they with no doubt should have been worded differently. When telling people to join because lives have been lost, it makes it seem like if someone was to join they would also lose their life as well. If they were to send a message to have people join to help prevent lives being lost it sounds more positive and that someone could be help to saving lives. As far as the other sign about saying something, I see the picture they were trying to get across for people to keep their mouths closed, but that could have been resolved in a more positive way if they were to rearrange to words.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Vacancies and Star Wars...and how they made an impact.

by Kylie Stiglbauer - Monday, May 12, 2014, 1:18 PM

The poster that I felt had the biggest impact on me as simply an observer of the posters would have to be the one of the cross. The first poster that said "A careless word, another cross", was a very powerful message, but one that I believe would have been more beneficial to the war effort of the time period than it is today. I do believe it could still give off a powerful message today, however, the time period that it was shown in carried out a theme of keeping your mouth shut. This theme would have translated more to the individuals of the time and thus caused more of a reaction. The poster to the right of it, stating "Join the army, vacancies available" was one that really caught my attention at first glance. Seeing the cross, clearly a spot of a burial followed by those words, made me upset. I was upset not only because of what was said, but the actual truth behind the statement. I feel as civilians it is easy to forget about the many men and women that fight(and die) for us daily. This poster not only reminded us of the death, but also how quickly that person's spot is filled upon their death. This poster had such an impact on me, because it reminded me of the sad truth of being a soldier and how many people die for this country. I feel as if this particular poster was meant to be a lesson and reminder for us as a nation.

The second poster that I felt the biggest draw to would have to be the Rosie the riveter/Princess Leia pairing. The Rosie poster is one that I have always had a positive outlook on. I think it is one that not only inspires, but encourages women to live up to their fullest potential. Rosie and her flexed muscle was a very powerful message then, and I believe that it is one that has translated to today. This was a time when women had a huge part in the war effort and took on the job market by storm. Rosie and the meaning behind her brought on a sense of encouragement to the women of that day. This type of influence is one that I think the women of today are hoping to replicate. I was drawn to the second poster because of its Star Wars influence. Although Leia is a fictional character, I believe she can be used in the same way that the posters of the past can be. This poster was calling for people to join the rebel alliance, an alliance that exists only because of a movie. That being said, I think this poster could inspire a reaction like Rosie did. Although it would not benefit in the same way, I believe this poster could still be used to empower and inspire women (not in as serious a way of course). All of these posters have a way to impact the people of today just as they did the people of the past.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Media control



by Dalyn Stram - Monday, May 12, 2014, 4:12 PM

There were three posters that really stood out to me. First: "You write what you're told!...Thanks corporate news, we couldn't control the people without you!" Most of America believes in the statement "Separation of Church and state" (fun fact, this actually doesn't appear in the Constitution). But something similar which I believe is just as, if not more, important, would be something along the lines of "Separation of media and state". Much of our mainstream and corporate media has gotten to the point where they are just arms or branches of the White House, or either Democrat or Republican parties. We really can't trust our media anymore to give us the cold hard facts. They've become more or less propaganda in my opinion. The government still partakes in propaganda, but why worry so much about it when the corporate media will do that job for them? But there is a bright light, because I think with technology, the internet, the expansion of cable channels, etc, Americans have more options to choose from when it comes to the news. We don't have to rely on a small selection of media outlets like in the past. New independent news organizations are coming up which I believe provide Americans with an important asset: giving us the news straight up and holding our elected officials, whether Democrat, Republican, Independent, etc, accountable for what they do.

I think this is a pretty clever and accurate presentation of the role our government played in dealing propaganda to us in the WWII era and an appropriate relation to the media of today. I think today the propaganda is a bit more subtle because we aren't in the middle of a war, but with the amounts of money being poured into the media and commercial enterprises and the technology and knowledge we have today, I think the messages are just as strong as they've ever been. More than anything I find this to be a warning: don't believe everything you see on TV. We hear it all the time, but we all (including myself) fall for pure crap sometimes. Watching the news today requires no small amount of cynicism.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Media control



by Kylie Stiglbauer - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 7:02 PM

I really appreciated the points that you brought up in your post. The "fun fact" that you brought up on the use of Separation of Church and State in the constitution. This was a fact that I was unaware of for the longest time. I believe the media and all of the information that they feed society was the reason for this. I heard people speak of this separation with such force and urgency that I believed it was an actual part of the constitution. I completely agree with the saying that you proposed that was separation of media and state. It seems that the media is far more involved in states issues compared to the church in many situations. Government also uses many of the media outlets in order to portray not only an image for the nation while also promoting their agenda. Many people do not realize how great the media's influence is on our society and how much the American population feeds into it. While the church has a big

impact on society, it works with it in a different way. Society can have an emotional draw to the people that can make them consider different approaches to things, such as war efforts and family values. The media however can bring up a different type of emotional pull. The media can get across to the people in a way that the church or members of the church can reach the public. As media grows, like you said, so do the outlets for it as well as how much of an impact it has on society. This impact seems like it will just continue to grow with time.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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"War on global warming"



by Dalyn Stram - Monday, May 12, 2014, 4:25 PM

The second poster that really stood out to me was "How to win the war on global warming". It should stand out to us that the media here wants to correlate war with global warming. With war, there are sides. They want you to buy into the idea that the people who push the global warming ideology on us are the good guys, and anyone who disagrees or is agnostic about the specifics is a bad guy who must be silenced or pushed out of the conversation. For anyone who knows the history behind the Iwo Jima flag raising, the correlation between that war (and specifically the war in the Pacific) and the "war" on global warming is VERY strong and dangerously suggestive. Global warming advocates have already been saying for years that the conversation is over and that global warming is over. But science is NEVER "over". We have probably thousands of examples where we thought we knew a scientific fact only to have it proven wrong years later. Saying a "conversation is over" is dangerous because it implies the time for dialogue is over and the time for action is now. That should scare any American who believes in individual freedoms and liberties.

I find the correlation here to be clever, but disrespectful at the same time. I don't think it's appropriate to tie WWII imagery and the millions of deaths suffered in that era to any sort of "war on global warming" the media wants to push on us. I understand why they did it though, they wanted to provoke strong feelings and support in the public who saw this, but I disagree with doing it.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Global Warming and John Oliver



by Kira Iantorno - Tuesday, May 13, 2014, 4:30 PM

While some might not find the connection, I can definitely see how now and in the future many will be affected by climate change. Hurricanes, tornadoes, and flooding are all increasing, and it is largely related to our presence on this planet. It's not at this time as obvious as a gun in the face but it is a threat to global life. This topic and demonizing the enemy are related, in that that United States is not using education to back up its position but yet feels threatened by the change to sustainable resources.

Taking away fossil fuels from US is much like taking away a pacifier from a child. There will be name calling and tantrums but in the end we will learn that it's for the best.

"They want you to buy into the idea that the people who push the global warming ideology on us are the good guys, and anyone who disagrees or is agnostic about the specifics is a bad guy who must be silenced or pushed out of the conversation"

They are not saying conversation over, they are saying bring something constructive to the table of a debate besides "Despite all the data and research I still don't buy it". Bring more research, new policies, anything constructive for the betterment of a debate. What liberties will we lose by listening to these go green activists?

Overall the image is a bit over the top, but I am not offended. I am an adult and can see what doesn't fit and what does. Below are two videos.

This is what abusing history looks like:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/05/08/gop-christians-birth-control_n_5287835.html

This is John Oliver:

Safari Power Saver
Click to Start Flash Plug-in



Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Global Warming and John Oliver  

by Zachary Ogborn - Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 8:42 PM

Hahahahahaha! "Are there Hats?"

A Wonderful Video clip you've posted. I got my good laughs in for the afternoon.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Re: Global Warming and John Oliver  

by Dalyn Stram - Thursday, May 15, 2014, 12:29 AM

Actually, "they" are indeed saying the conversation is over, being led by people such as Al Gore (whose "Inconvenient Truth" didn't really contain much truth). My point though is that any time you have one side saying "the conversation is over", you have a serious problem. Suddenly one side has completely closed their mind to logic, reason, or data. You could put all the evidence in the world in front of those people and they won't believe because in their minds they're already right and the "conversation" is over. That's the scary part which should strike any American as potentially dangerous. I believe the poster was disrespectful because it correlated a true war filled with human tragedy and death with a phony war propagated and created by those who more or less wish to take our freedoms and control us. Secondly, it creates an atmosphere of "us" versus "them". It creates any enemy of anybody who disagrees with the core tenants or the global warming advocates.

Without getting too deep into global warming (because it isn't the main forum topic here), I'll just say I'm more or less a global warming agnostic. Pumping gases into the atmosphere probably isn't the greatest thing to do in the long run, but anybody who thinks they know exactly where such actions lead are simply blowing smoke. The climate has been changing for billions of years and will continue to change for probably just as long. The "reports" you see in the newspaper or on TV are always coming from the IPCC and are almost always false and manipulated. The IPCC has already been involved in the infamous ClimateGate so nothing coming from them is worth 2 cents in my opinion. They have a long history of manipulating the data to suit their political goals. If you really want to talk about abusing history, nobody's worse in my opinion than the IPCC and those who follow suit.

How would taking away fossil fuels possibly be good? Do you want to see the population of the world drop by 90%? That's really the only way humanity would survive without fossil fuels? Are you ok without a phone? Internet? Vehicles? You gonna be cool hunting or gathering your dinner on a nightly basis? There probably won't be many grocery stores once you take fossil fuels out of the picture. Humanity would pretty much be thrown back into the dark ages.

What liberties will we lose by listening to the green activists? Problem is, the green activists by themselves aren't the problem. It's the politicians who are the problem, and our country is already being changed when the "green" mentality goes too far. Our politicians and govt is currently forcing themselves into the economy and picking industrial winners and losers based on how "green" they are. How many millions of taxpayer dollars have been lost by the govt giving money to the solar panel companies? How many jobs have been lost by closing mills, mines, by refusing to allow similar plants to open (like nuclear power plants)? What about all the jobs and potential stability the Keystone pipeline would have brought if not for pushes by the "green" activists and certain politicians? Global warming policies advocates want you to believe that government control and loss of freedom are necessary to prevent global warming catastrophe. Open fires are being banned in places, wood stoves in many places are being banned, plastic bags (Eugene!) are being banned, certain light bulbs are being banned, carbon taxes, the list goes on. You may think these examples are somewhat minor, and some of them indeed are. However, anyone who think the "green" activists want to stop at minor policies are fooling themselves.

Crichton's "State of Fear" is a great read if you want to see what happens when the "green" mentality is taken too far.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Global Warming and John Oliver P S

by Sherri Patterson - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 5:55 PM

This hit me hard I grew up in Alaska. When I was a child I got to see ice burgs up close and watch them drop into the water. Those ice burgs are no longer there. So for people to say that global warming is not happening, I know that is a lie. We have options and that is we can sit back and not care and leave it for future generations. I know some feel its there problem they will not be alive and will not have to deal with the consequences of their actions. But we can act now and make our planet better for the future. I was in the military and I do not find it offensive with them using that picture. The message is important to get across. And if you have using a strong picture to make you point is what it takes then do it.



Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Global Warming and John Oliver



by Dalyn Stram - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 11:23 PM

I don't for sure about the ice in Alaska, but I would assume it follows the pattern of the Arctic and Antarctic; which is that they grow during cold periods (winter) and melt during warm periods). In fact, the Antarctic is growing by records numbers. For as long as humans have had the technology to record and track the ice in the Arctic and Antarctic, we've seen consistent growth. Remember almost 8 years ago when Al Gore said the Earth had 10 years left? Well, we're down to 2 years left until doomsday, and do you notice the ice caps melting and people in Florida and NYC being forced to move out due to rising sea levels? Nope. It's because the ice caps simply aren't melting away like the GW alarmists want you to believe. I don't doubt that you've seen icebergs fall into the ocean before, but that's been happening for literally millions of years. They melt, they grow, they melt, they grow, and how quickly this happens varies in different parts of the world. An iceberg falling into the ocean does not inherently equate to global warming. A glacier or iceberg could be melting in one part of the world (Alaska for example), while a glacier or iceberg is growing in another part of the world. A number of those "Most used myths" in that picture actually are accurate, and the IPCC is doing all it can to convince you otherwise.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Global Warming and John Oliver

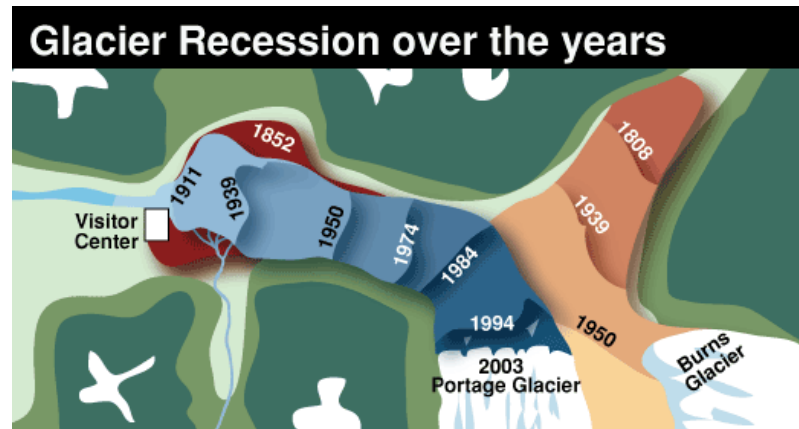


by Sherri Patterson - Sunday, May 18, 2014, 1:14 PM

Well these glaciers and many others are disappearing not melting and growing. They are not growing back. And this is not the only one doing it. And it should raise some concern. But then hey you know we can just keep raping our lands of its natural resources and think there is no repercussions for it. Just like the farmers in the dust bowl during the great depression. Don't think there will not be a price for all the pollution and taking of all the resources.



Left: Courtesy H. Stupetzky / University of Salzburg; Right: Copyright © 2004 Gary Braasch, reproduced by permission.
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Sum of ratings: -

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Re: Global Warming and John Oliver

by Kylie Stiglbauer - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 10:21 PM

I found this post very relevant to the topic of discussion. Although it may not be talking about exactly what we were looking at, you brought up some great points about media and how it interacts with society. Global Warming is an issue that has gotten large amounts of media attention due to its influence in politics. The fact that Al Gore is such a large supporter of this has also brought the issue into the public view (even if in not the way he intended). Media and its coverage on things like environmental issues and politics just goes to show how great of an impact it has on the people today.

Sum of ratings: (1) 0

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Root for America!

by Dalyn Stram - Monday, May 12, 2014, 4:45 PM

The third poster which impacted me was the "How about rooting for our side for a change, you liberal moron?" I'll admit I have a conservative/libertarian bias, so I thought this was hilarious. However, I do think it has some basis in historicity. From my understanding and knowledge, whenever our soldiers or a war or America in general is spoken out against or taken out to the wood shed, it's largely been a liberal phenomenon. Then and now, you

typically don't see conservatives or Republicans trashing American or our troops. For example, how certain groups and people treated and viewed our soldiers during Vietnam was despicable. In my opinion, it's one of the worst scars on our nation's history. This also ties in with the other slogan on the poster: "If you love freedom, try rooting for some REAL freedom fighters!" I think we're kind of spoiled in America. We enjoy some of the greatest freedoms and individual liberties of any nation in the history of the planet, including the freedom to speak out against our own country/soldiers/etc. But it's important to remember that billions of people in countries around the world live in squalor and oppression and terrible conditions in general. Is America really all that bad? It's important to keep fighting and trying to make America as great and free as possible, but maybe when you realize how great of a country you live in, a little gratefulness and appreciation for America is deserved. I don't see enough of that on certain sides of the political spectrum here in America as I think is deserved. I think this poster is meant to be a funny jab at liberals and their tendency (stereotyped to an extent) to be outspoken when it comes to war or our soldiers or support for America in general. It does seem to me that America and Americans get less support from the left than some other ideals or items which don't support freedom or American ideas. For example, Christianity vs Islam/Sharia law.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Pawns on a Chessboard

by Roy Fernandez - Tuesday, May 13, 2014, 1:17 AM

The poster that impacts me the most would have to be the soldier's grave and its request to join the army because there are "vacancies available." Its left side, anti-war message questions the government's intentions and its view on its troops. It implies that the government views the lives of soldiers as expendable, that they are merely assets that must be utilized for its own purposes. Whether soldiers are aware of these purposes does not matter. Its message is comparable to American soldiers being the pawns on a chessboard, low in value, easy to come by, and easily replaceable. Clearly this message is negative, and even disrespectful. Although lives are lost in war and losses may be so great that it may appear that each soldier isn't acknowledged as a human being, at the end of the day one would like to think that each life lost is accounted for, mourned, and given a proper burial. The message that this poster conveys is overly negative and is offensive to those that are on the right side of the spectrum, those that support our government and the U.S. troops.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Pawns on a Chessboard

by Zachary Ogborn - Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 9:37 PM

I can see where you're coming from with your analysis. Very spot on in determining what side of the spectrum it falls upon also. Truth be told, I interpreted the 'Vacancies Available' message in a similar light. It has a very potent disposition to reflect negatively on Military sacrifices. Although, at first glance I mistakenly read this image as "**VACCINES** Available". Also a good topic considering the issue of "*a Poor man's war for a Rich man's benefit*" which had its roots in WW1 and even more so in the later half of our 20th century and

ABSOLUTELY in the 21'st century conflicts.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Pawns on a Chessboard

by Roy Fernandez - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 6:52 PM

Interesting that you bring up vaccines. I agree that they are certainly relevant to this topic. It goes along with the argument of whether or not certain vaccines are necessary for us to take. And those that question what is actually in these "vaccines." You also mentioned the possibility of vaccines being required in order for the rich to make a profit from it. There are also those that blame the government for exploiting the people and their ignorance towards these vaccines. That we're essentially being brainwashed and made to think that we need something when we really don't. Which includes pharmaceutical companies, aka "Big Pharma," selling drugs that don't really do anything for you, yet still make them a huge profit.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Pawns on a Chessboard

by Ren Rasmussen - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 9:53 PM

I am really glad you pointed this out and I totally agree that the government sees our troops and many other things as expendable. This brings to mind when Obama announce the "he" had killed Bin Laden. That somehow he deserves all this credit for what our troops are laying down their lives for. What I also got from this was that someone died therefor a job is open. When every male turns 18 you have to apply to the draft with your social security number. Although I'm not worried about being drafted and if a draft every comes again I will gladly join but like you said we are all "pawns" and to the government you are just a number.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Pawns on a Chessboard

by Kylie Stiglbauer - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 10:28 PM

The point that you brought up about the cross showing how the government views the troops as expendables was one that I agree with. This images was hard to look at, it made me uncomfortable because of how harsh it was. I felt as if the message that it was intending to portray is one that is not talked about often, but is thought of by many. Although the troops have recognition by our government, it can seem at times that they are not appreciated. It makes images like these that much harder to look at since it hits so much closer to home.

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Sum of ratings: (1)



Is that necessary?



by Morgan Reid - Tuesday, May 13, 2014, 12:27 PM

The 6th poster down sort of took me off guard for a second. Is it just me or does that new poster seem disrespectful to say the least? Making the military seem like a hotel, really? Sure, it's clever but when countless soldiers have lost their lives and the illustration is of a cross representing the death of a soldier, the maker of the poster comes off as arrogant and disrespectful. Makes me wonder how people in that time reacted to this.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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You! Stop Asking Questions!



by Zachary Ogborn - Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 9:11 PM

This particular image or rather, pair of images, is the first one I saw that really grabs my attention. It honestly does so because it mentions '*Terrorists*' in the bottom portion of its texts, trying to use the bold text to trigger the association of Terror within the viewers mind.

I also feel emotionally drawn to this image because of what it implies. The message I get from the modern version of this cartoon assumes that any Anti-War/Anti-American Government position taken associates you immediately as the **Enemy** (*Which we all heard way to much of from President Bush and Obama during the height of our engagements with the Taliban, Iraqi Army, and Radical Jihadist over the past 14 years*). I feel that the Cartoon is implying a warning message for the viewer both in its original and modern representation.

In the Original setting of the Cartoon, our dearest Lady Liberty is warning us (*the citizens*) to purchase a War Bond or else she will fall victim and cease to represent our nations ideals. This particular issues was brought up in multiple contexts during our Chapter readings in our Textbook (*Chapter 23, page 782 briefly, and Chapter 26 page 893*).

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: You! Stop Asking Questions!



by Matt Hauge - Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 10:12 PM

That is interesting the way you interpreted the second cartoon. I see both cartoons invoking the same type of thought in the average U.S. citizen. They both are kind of pushing the agenda of fear to persuade the viewer to abide by its message. Both the Homeland Security Act and Patriot Act gave the U.S. government powers that Americans have experienced back when Woodrow Wilson signed the Espionage, Sabotage, and Sedition Acts in 1917, and the Alien and Sedition Acts signed by John Adams in 1798. Most recently, Obama signed the National Defensive Authorization Acts of 2012 in which sections 1021 and 1022 authorizes the U.S. government to be able to arrest suspected U.S. citizens of terrorism indefinitely with no provisions of trial by jury. I think the message "You! Stop Asking Questions!" is a theme that our great grandparents, and great great great grandparents have experienced before. Being imprisoned for our supposed "free speech" is a theme the U.S. seems to keep

repeating. So, You! Stop thinking!

Even though the first image of "Lady Liberty" is a just cause i.e. Hitler, genocide, and fear of world domination, it still uses fear tactics to sway the viewer into purchasing war bonds.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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Re: You! Stop Asking Questions!



by Matt Hauge - Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 10:45 PM

One of my favorite quotes by Woodrow Wilson, "Forget there was ever such a thing as tolerance. To fight you must be brutal and ruthless, and the spirit of ruthless brutality will enter the very fiber of our national life, infecting Congress, the courts, the police man on the beat, the man on the street."
(www.firstworldwar.com/features/propaganda.htm) It seems that in time of war "patriotism" or "non-patriotism" leads to the jailing of ethnicities, cultural groups, dissenters, and practitioners of free speech. Would it be wrong to say that patriotism is invoking the right of free speech? Is that not what our four fathers were jailed, and killed for speaking out against the British? Ironically, one of our "four fathers" John Adams part of the federalist party practiced the same thing the tyrannical British imposed. The Alien and Sedition acts signed into law in 1798 during the "Quasi War" in which I quote, "the naturalization act increased the residency requirement for American citizenship from 5 to 14 years, and allowed the president to imprison or deport aliens who are considered dangerous to the peace and safety to the united states". (Wikipedia, Alien and Sedition Acts) and "They also restricted speech which was critical of the federal government." (Wikipedia, Alien and Sedition Acts) Sound familiar?

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2

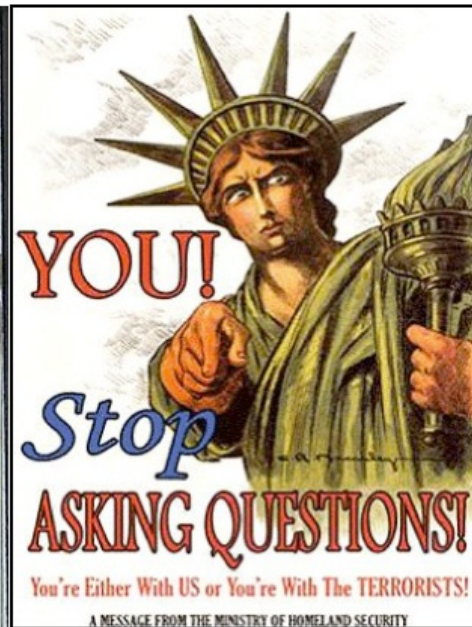
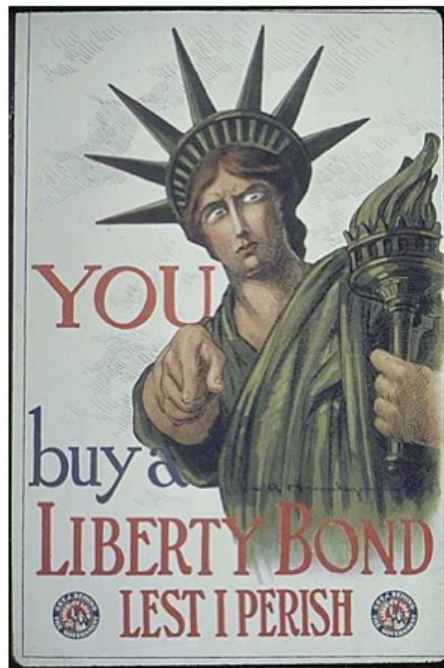
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Re: Using & Abusing History



by Matt Hauge - Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 9:40 PM



These two images effected me in a deep way. Concerning the original image, "Buy a liberty perish." We learned in the text that, "Although war bonds provided a relatively insignificant c to overall defense spending. . ." (893) The propaganda makes it seem so dreadfully importa purchase "Liberty Bonds" but in reality the government funded the war by spending more m According to the text, "To finance the war effort, government spending rose from \$9 billion in \$22 billion in 1914, by 1918 the national debt stood at \$12 billion, by U.S. Debt rose to \$222 b"

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Using & Abusing History P S

by Zachary Ogborn - Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 9:46 PM

Your last paragraph 'hits the nail on the head' for *soooooo* many individuals. I absolutely agree with the fact that Saddam was **without a doubt** a dictator along with everyone who knows anything about U.S/Middle-Eastern relations of the Post WW2 era. The fact that certain things turned out to not be true is what gets to me the most..... Another reason why the "*You! Stop Asking Questions!*" text resonates with me.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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The Power of Fear P S

by Matt Hauge - Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 10:54 PM

I meant for the original post's title to be "The Power of Fear" I forgot to name it, and was to late to edit it.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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"Stenographers Needed"



by Paige Nibley - Friday, May 16, 2014, 3:39 PM

"You write what you're told! Thanks, corporate news! We couldn't control the people without you."

This message from the Ministry of Homeland Security is a negative exaggeration comparing modern corporate media with the propaganda of the 20th Century. During the 20th Century time period when the government was trying to recruit people for the war effort, they would put out messages to the media that aimed to manipulate America rather than inform. In the modern re-creation of the first picture, the message is in reference to the many faces of today's media. I think the message of this image is a disrespectful manipulation of history because it compares events that are different by criticizing them as the same. During the Spanish War of the 20th Century, journalists such as Pulitzer and Hearst went as far as to fabricate news with the purpose of manipulating public opinion so that Americans would support a war. Today the issue is the multiple faces of the media. It seems hard to know who is giving the public the straight story when many news and media outlets are either right or left wing. Both sides are convincing, so how do we know who's telling the truth? It seems that media has become corrupt in a way that handicaps Americans' ability to be informed. This photo had an impact on me over the others because I have gained interest in politics and world affairs during the past couple years and the conflicting sides of the media are apparent. Growing up I have followed the publications and news channels that my parents follow and have, as a result, established the same views as them. I stick to my opinions but wonder if I would have had the same view had I not learned from a one sided media. Is it possible to stay open minded in a world where politics are double sided and, often times, reports are short of the truth?

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Statue of the Liberty and Propaganda



by Hao Nguyen - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 6:20 PM

To me, the last one definitely makes the biggest impact on me as it awakes my right as a citizen to question what the government have done or are doing to my country and its people. In this case, the history is being manipulated disrespectfully and send to the people a negative message as "You can't question what we are doing because WE ARE THE GOVERNMENT, and we obtain the highest power".

The original poster was used to encourage people contribute together with the nation in order to support the war effort by buying bonds. And the second one is used to prevent people from questioning the actions of the government. As you look at those two posters, the similarity is forcefulness. Both of them are used to force people buy the bonds or side with the government when it comes to war or terrorists. The posters are built with the image of the statue of Liberty that represents for freedom and righteousness with the evil action as pointing straight-forward to the audiences with those angry eyes. Whatever The Statue of Liberty says is perfectly right since its image is always paired with the righteousness. So no questioning and trying to be supportive to whatever the government are right?

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Sum of ratings:2 (1)



the anti flag

by Mitchell West - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 8:32 PM

there were 2 that stood out to me, the big one was the anti flag: a new kind of army, i took this one several ways the longer i looked it at, the first was that we became upside down in our politics but the more i saw it the more i "see" it, the punk/anarchists who want to change our nation upside down. i have to wonder are we so far gone that by turning ourselves upside down we can reach what we once were? this image brings to mind the ukrain rebellion that recently happened and is still going on. those rebelling were the anti army and they are trying to get to what they think is better which happens to be upside down from what they are currently. i see hope and change in the image.

the second image that i saw that hit home was the you stop asking questions, your either with us or the terrorists. this one honestly scares me. this is lady liberty tell you to shut up in peace time in addition to war time, this is saying by simply typing this im with the terrorists, this is screaming WE HAVE NO FREEDOM. this embodies tyranny. ill say it once again, this scares me, because it is so true.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Men at Arms

by Ren Rasmussen - Saturday, May 17, 2014, 9:30 PM

The one that has the biggest impact on me is the soldiers raising the flag. The significance of that event, even though it was staged to get that picture, was a mark of great victory for our nation but at a great cost. I believe if you were to show that picture to the majority of the U.S. population they would know what it was all about. I don't want to get started on global warming but really Time Magazine. Comparing that day with global warming is ridicules. But I get why they did it to grab the attention of the public to read their magazine and it probably worked. If I say this on a magazine stand it would totally get my attention. The main message Time Magazine is trying to get a crossed is both a warning and a lesson. The warning is if something isn't done global warming may or may not get worse and the lesson is that throughout history when we raised arms to get something done we were successful. Although I don't like them using this picture for personal gain it really comes down to how much money they will be getting for manipulating a historical event.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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(Demonizing the Enemy) Next >

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