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Demonizing the Enemy

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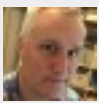
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Demonizing the Enemy

by [Joe Escobar](#) – Friday, May 6, 2016, 9:20 PM

This thread is for discussions on the Demonizing the Enemy topic.
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, something that describes which question(s) you are addressing . Do NOT simply leave it RE: Demonizing the Enemy

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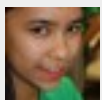
What happens

by [Emily Phan](#) – Saturday, May 7, 2016, 10:15 PM

When someone demonizes an enemy they intend to make people rather afraid so they will agree with or help create an action. This action may be a good and necessary action or a bad unnecessary action or something in-between. There are many unintended consequences. One, we think ourselves very superior to a demonized enemy and may underestimate or not care about them. Two, we are probably reaffirming a stereotype. Three, some will see this image of a demonized enemy and instantly jump to the other extreme. Instead of believing that the dictator or terrorist is a monster they will see him as a misunderstood person who really is just trying to get on in the world. This view is just as damaging as seeing the person as a monster because both are mostly false.

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Re: What happens

by [Emily Phan](#) – Sunday, May 8, 2016, 4:21 PM

One other thing, if someone we don't really know tells us something very extraordinarily horrible, we have a tendency to think that person is probably just ranting or maybe lying and nothing was really terrible happened. Imagine I came up to you and began complaining about how I had been kicked out of some sports event. Say I told you that the judges had been trying to punch me for having my shoe untied. You wouldn't believe me because my story sounds pretty ridiculous. It is sort of like this when we hear about enemies. If the story gets to horrendous we cease to believe in it or brush it off as false. When an enemy is demonized we tend to believe that sense parts of the information about him are exaggerated most of it is probably false as well.

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But what if the story slowly escalates ?

by [Sara Kosydar](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 9:03 PM

Mabey that would be so if it was one story. But what if you heard one not so exaggerated story and then the person, news or propoganda slowly escalates, then it would be more belivable.

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Tanner Mitchell](#) – Saturday, May 7, 2016, 11:43 PM

In propaganda, the enemy can be extremely exaggerated to create a favorable image, to justify war. In reality, the cultural differences may not be so bad. Anthony Pratkanis, in Michael S. James' article makes a good point. He says that to justify killing, you have to make the enemy look as evil as possible. James cites numerous propaganda situations throughout history where this is evident.

I feel that there's times when propaganda can be used effectively and times when it can backfire. A lot of the propaganda used in the times of the World Wars wouldn't work today. I think it would come off as cheesy. Also, in today's day in age, it's nearly impossible to completely unite the country. People are just set in their ways.

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Zachary Sielicky](#) – Thursday, May 12, 2016, 9:46 PM

I agree with your statement that the propaganda from the world wars would be laughed at in todays society, but I feel that we are fed propaganda in new ways. The media depicts all muslims as savage human beings with no regard for human life and pictures of them bearing black Islamic garb and masks, beheading white people. Though these aren't the cartoon photos of the 20th century, we are still fed propaganda. Though itmay not be created by the government and media but is very much controlled by it and they make sure we Americans see these photos and videos so when we think of Muslims we automatically see them in that light





جيمز رايت فولي
James Wright Foley

أطالب أصدقائي وعائلتي وأحبائي أن يقوموا على الحكومة الأمريكية التي قتلتني حقاً

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Meghan Jacinto](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 1:48 PM

I agree with you entirely: propaganda is still fed to us today, but in different ways than before. The main difference is the more media sources we have, which come in various forms (films, news sources, social platforms, etc) and like you said, each of them has a habit of depicting “all muslims as savage human beings with no regard for human life..” since the ‘Attack on Terror” has started. Some may argue that the recent modern film, “American Sniper”, is dangerous propaganda because the movie rewrites the US destruction of Iraq and has racist portrayal of Arabs. Like past propaganda, "American Sniper" incited and reaffirmed a certain hatred for another group of people. This movie is just one example of current propaganda we are encountered with today.

An article that talks about the dangerous propaganda within “American Sniper”:
<https://storify.com/RaniaKhalek/american-sniper-chris-kyle-in-his-own-words>

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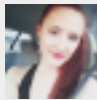
Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Emily Phan](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 2:43 PM

The Muslims that we do see in the media lately are often connected with Isis. Isis is killing innocent people. Isis is a Muslim Jihadist sect, (just Google the word Isis). When they show pictures of these Muslims killing people and doing other sorts of violence they are telling what is happening. They are reporting events. Now yes, other Muslims are surely very nice people, but that means they won't be on national news. The Media shows Isis and Jihadists on the news because that's what people want to hear about. Of course not all Muslims are evil, but like any people group on the planet there are some people in it that do terrible things. Telling about these events isn't propaganda, its reporting events. Just because most Muslims are not terrible does not mean that we can't speak truth about the ones who do evil.

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Lauren Collett](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 4:02 PM

I think you are right that reporting these events isn't really propaganda but it certainly does not portray the middle east in the best light which can certainly feed into anti-Muslim sentiments we see all the time. For example some of the posts I see spreading around Facebook. There are hundred of "anti Islam" and " anti Muslim" groups around on Facebook with thousands of likes. There was even a group of people in Texas posting Muslims and Muslim "sympathizers" personal information on there

Facebook page.

You guys are absolutely right we do not see the same kind of propaganda that we were seeing from WW2 and WW1 but we are still fed anti Muslim messages in many different ways. No its not necessarily the media or the government doing it but it is here.

This is an article from January 2016 with one of the Malheur wildlife refuge protesters. He also happens to be strongly anti Muslim even going as far as to organize armed protests to Mosques. This is just one example of some of the extreme hatred people are spreading. Not only hatred but misinformation and lies about Muslims, Middle eastern culture and Islam.

I also included an anti-islam cartoon here as an example of images we see spreading the hatred.

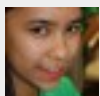
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/islamophobic-group-posts-names-addresses-of-texas-muslims-on-facebook_us_56572f10e4b079b2818a5187

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2016/01/05/why-a-notorious-anti-islam-radical-turned-on-the-federal-government-in-oregon/>



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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

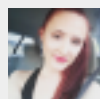
by [Emily Phan](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 4:12 PM

Is this not an anti Radical muslim cartoon? We should be against such people. But I guess this picture does over do it some.

And yes we do have radicals here in America who say and do rude an unnecessarily things. However this doesn't mean that Every aspect of their cause is unfound.

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

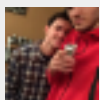
by [Lauren Collett](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 4:26 PM

Yes this cartoon is depicting radicals but the problem is that many people tend to lump all Muslims into the same group as radicals. This cartoon brought up religion and the debate about whether or not Islam promotes violence. I really don't want to get too deep into that question but someone could easily say the Bible promotes violence too if you pick and choose passages. Furthermore most Muslims are not extremists or radicals. I posted it below but I will say it again the Muslim population is 23 percent of the worlds population or 1.6 billion people. The amount of extremists is around 106,000. That is much less than 1 percent of the total population of Muslims worldwide. And I am sorry but people that preach hate, hold armed protests at religious institutions are not "rude" they are racist and hateful. Do people have reasons to fear EXTREMIST Muslims sure, but the fact of the matter is most Muslims are not extremists so most of theses peoples fears are unfounded, racist, bigoted, ignorant and

willfully uninformed.

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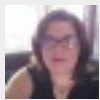
Re: Demonizing the Enemy
by [Zachary Sielicky](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 8:57 PM

It is interesting though that we never hear on national news about a Muslim Terrorist group named Boko Haram. This group has been around longer than isis terrorizing parts of Northern Africa. I find it interesting that this militant group is hardly ever talked about in our Media. They have killed, kidnapped and harmed thousands of African tribes across Africa, it wasn't till this last year that ISIS "took over" as the "world's most deadliest terror organization." Part of the reason I believe we did not hear much about Boko Haram all the time was because they don't look like the kind of Terrorists that the American media has portrayed to us. They are predominantly African and don't look like the typical Arab Muslim that we have been "taught" to think of when we think of terrorists.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/boko-haram-overtakes-isis-as-worlds-deadliest-terror-organisation-a6737761.html>

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Exactly
by [Sara Kosydar](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 9:12 PM

Yes I agree with you ! Alot of what we see on the news is what people do wrong or do harm when it comes to the middle east, but that's beacause it is considered big news. That does not mean that everyone from the middle east is apart of Isis. Just as not every Muslim is apart of isis. Not every Christian is apart of the kkk. You can't classify a group of people just beacause a handful did somthing. You also have to look at more sources that are unbiased.

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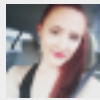


Longer-Term Effects of Demonizing the Enemy
by [David Huard](#) – Sunday, May 8, 2016, 1:14 PM

An unintended consequences of demonizing a race or people is that it can have effects that last longer than those doing the demonization wanted. For instance, in the wake of World War One, France and Britain were unwilling to let Germany recover from the war, or have any sort of peace. While this can obviously also be attributed in part to the brutality of the war and the losses that Britain and France took, their attitude and hate towards Germany also undoubtedly contributed.

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Easier done then undone
by [Lauren Collett](#) – Sunday, May 8, 2016, 9:30 PM

The demonizing of the enemy is obviously intended to make it easier on the consciences of the soldiers and even the American public. Like the article said "it takes a lot to kill another human being" it makes it less difficult on people when they think these people are evil and inhumane. The problem with the demonizing of the enemy is the enemy in WW2 wasn't ALL German people or ALL Japanese people. When the propaganda comes out it makes people dislike a large group of people based on the actions of just a few. I even remember hearing old men talking about hating Japanese people and this was over 50 years after the war was over!

The effect of this propaganda is long lasting in the minds of the American people. Sure it is effective at dehumanizing the enemy and rallying people together but its not at all easy to undo the effect this has. As we know in WW2 we had to tell our soldiers that the Russians were our allies after telling them for years that they were bad communists.I'm sure a lot of anti Russian sentiment still remained even though they were on our side. We know shortly after the war the anti Russian and anti communist propaganda continued and would continue

for a long time.

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Recent Propaganda

by [Christopher Burton](#) - Monday, May 9, 2016, 10:12 AM

The most recent propaganda I've seen is about our new enemy ISIS. It is a video depicting how the author sees ISIS combatants. The video can be **EXTREMELY** offensive to some people and does contain strong language.



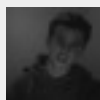
I haven't seen much of this type a video on TV, but from personal experience I can say that the spread like wild fire through active duty, reservist, and veterans communities.

As intended this video absolutely dehumanizes ISIS, and if you truly believe how this video portrays ISIS, killing them would be no different than squashing and any trying to get in your cereal bowl.

The video shows an adult male, but I think and unintended consequence of videos like these is that they group ISIS together and not military aged males. In this case as ISIS is not a standing professional military women and children get grouped into the dehumanized view as well as anyone who may be, or seems to be, Middle Eastern or Muslim decent.

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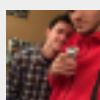
Demonization and Dehumanization

by [Shane Cooney](#) - Monday, May 9, 2016, 3:13 PM

I think that when we demonize our "enemies," we also dehumanize them. It's a psychological process that we use to make them seem less than human and hence not worthy of humane treatment. It's similar to scapegoating in some respects. But the consequences of demonizing any group of people are serious. It becomes an "us vs. them" issue. We can look back to right after 9/11 when there were attacks on Sikhs all across America because their articles of faith happened to look similar to the images of terrorists that were constantly flashing across all major news networks at that time. And the repercussions are still being felt today. Once an enemy has been demonized and dehumanized, it becomes extremely difficult to "re-humanize" them. There is still so much hate directed towards members of Islam in this country, and it doesn't just include Muslims, but anyone who looks even remotely like they may be from the Middle East. And I don't think that demonizing our enemies is limited to imagery-- discourse is probably an even more effective way of demonizing our "enemies." You can hear certain political candidates spewing nothing but hate, and that's what they build their policies around. Us versus them. And this kind of mindset is detrimental to any society. It poisons humanity.

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Zachary Sielicky](#) - Monday, May 9, 2016, 8:44 PM

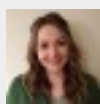
The outcomes of demonizing our "enemy" has been used for over 100 years for easing moral and ethical

problems amongst those doing the killing, but it also is used for gaining public support for the killing of these people. Though these things are both very obvious and also discussed in the material provided for us, the use of demonizing people goes far beyond just for killing people and it is also does not always come in forms of pictures but also phrases. The consequences for the use of demonizing people can come at a great toll. When the government builds the image of our enemy we can only ever picture them in that light which builds a hatred towards certain races. This is extremely detrimental to the advancement of society towards an equal and accepting community. Anytime the government uses race, religion or ethnicity as a way to single out people and classify them with heinous characteristics it can only result in hatred and resentment.

For the people of my generation, we have seen the demonizing of Muslims. The stereotypes of terrorist, woman hating, savage, rapist people who have no regard for human life has brought hardships to millions of Muslims who have tried to make a life in America. People all around America have classified all Muslims as terrorists and murders due to the constant demonizing of their religion and ethnicity. Though the motive for these stereotypes can be argued, the result of these given characteristics by American society has lowered the opposition to the war in the Middle East.

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What are the intended and more importantly, the unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy?

by [Chloe Duryea](#) - Monday, May 9, 2016, 9:33 PM

When one demonizes the enemy, one dehumanizes the enemy. Therefore, it allows one to kill their enemy easier, and they will feel less guilty about doing so. James Forsher gives the example of caricatures becoming animals on propaganda pictures/posters. Killing an animal is obviously easier than killing a human being. However, there are many other unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy. Demonizing the enemy causes relations with other countries to become even worse. Negotiating alliances, agreements, and treaties become ultimately impossible when we demonize the enemy. Also, when we demonize a group or leader, we end up treating the whole population of such people as equally demonic.

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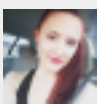
Re: What are the intended and more importantly, the unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy?

by [Christopher Burton](#) - Thursday, May 12, 2016, 10:17 AM

What you said, I believe is mostly true, however my experience and they experience of most of my friend is different. I joined the Marine Corps infantry when I was seventeen and have been deployed to the Middle East twice. The peoples of Iraq and Afghanistan were most definitely not demonized before my deployments because our war was hearts and minds as is for most of the war on terror. Were the members of the Taliban demonized? Absolutely. I may have needed that demonization before I got there, but after I arrived it was no longer necessary. I saw what the Taliban had and was doing to the people in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. After talking with and living in the villages of the area for seven months I have a lot of respect for the people trying to live there. The most prominent memory of my time there was when I was handing out my food to the kids running around the streets and one of them ran up and stole all the food from the rest of the kids and ran off. I was pretty pissed because I was giving it away anyway, but this child felt the need to come and steel all of it. Later that night however, the child's father brought his kid back and forced him to apologize for what he had done. I was touched by this gesture and all I could say was "don't worry about it" I thanked the father and son and then gave the food back and shook their hands. They wandered back out into the night and went home.

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Re: What are the intended and more importantly, the unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy?

by [Lauren Collett](#) - Thursday, May 12, 2016, 10:16 PM

Thank you for sharing your story with us it's very touching to hear that. I think since most of us come

without a military background its really helpful to see your point of view. Although it is great to hear that you did not believe the people as a whole were demonized before you got there, I'm wondering if you think that is still true today? With all the hate towards Muslims and middle eastern people in general that I see I think that a lot of American people are unable to differentiate like you were. I'm specifically thinking of all the racial profiling I see happening and general Islamophobia. I know that a lot of the fear people have is very real because they want to be protected from terrorists and attacks in America, it just seems to me that it recently has gotten out of control. Would love to hear you opinion and everyone else's.

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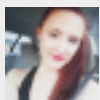
Re: What are the intended and more importantly, the unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy?

by [Christopher Burton](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 11:59 AM

This war on terrorism definitely has been getting s little sticky. It seem like we're playing wack-a-mole with different Islamic extremist groups. That a lone makes it hard to pin point "the bad guy". I believe that's a big reason we seem to demonize (bare minimum profile) some people that appear to be of Middle Eastern decent. The fact that these groups keep popping up every few years seems to imply that they're all bad when in reality "the bad guys" are a pretty small portion of the people. Which is of coarse unfortunate. If only more people could see for themselves, and not through the news, that the vast majority of the people just want to be left a lone to live their lives. I think that would curb the paranoia toward Muslims probably not the wariness though.

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Re: What are the intended and more importantly, the unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy?

by [Lauren Collett](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 4:16 PM

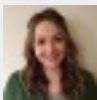
I agree there are a lot of different extremist groups so it can get very difficult to know who is "bad" or "good." I also agree that its not always "demonizing" them but simply profiling them. I mean I just read an article about an American tearing off a Muslim woman's hijab on an airplane and yelling "this is America!!" That is a good example of profiling and just plain ignorance. Especially when we consider that Muslims make up 23% of the worlds population, around 1.6 billion people, where extremists are only around 106,000 people(though the number is always changing). That would make up around .00006625% of the total Muslim population. Now I know these numbers can be misleading because it doesn't take into account the extremist supporters or sympathizers which are much higher numbers.It is important that people take the time to actually see, like you said, most of the people just want to be left alone and live there lives. They are not all violent extremists.

<https://www.quora.com/How-many-extremist-Muslims-are-there-when-compared-with-the-wider-and-world-wide-Muslim-population>

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/man-rips-off-muslim-woman-hijab_us_5736214fe4b060aa781a48b9

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Re: What are the intended and more importantly, the unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy?

by [Chloe Duryea](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 9:14 PM

First and foremost, thank you for your service. Your post is a prime example of how we should not demonize an entire country based on the horrific acts of certain people of the population. It is too bad that some people cannot grasp the fact that not the whole population of a country is dangerous and that there are many innocent people. Many people often think that an entire country is bad due to the actions of the select extremists. Stories like yours help bring an understanding to what really happened in history. It proves that regular civilians are trying to live a life just like we are here in the Unites States, and it is not fair for us to jump to the conclusion that all of the people in the Middle East are bad.



Re: Demonization and Native American Propaganda

by [Delbert Borden](#) – Monday, May 9, 2016, 10:00 PM

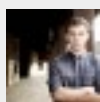
In my opinion the intended purpose of demonizing the enemy is so that institutions of power can rationalize and facilitate agendas where by which certain demographics (country, religious, cultural, sexual, racial, etc.) are vilified and dehumanized using media platforms laden with coercive messages that creates public opinion. Most importantly the tactics used; pray on basic human emotion targeting fear and empathy, goading people to react. Often times these notions are justified, and cultivated amongst the targeted social group. These tactics have been used time and time again in different interpretations through not only our countries recorded time, but most likely as long as people in power used fear to sway public opinion. One instance of course is during the time of western expansion, where “Americas Master Narrative” told a compelling tale that the frontier lands were occupied by soulless savages, and it was the duty of the male WASP’s to free the occupied lands; bringing civility, and religious superiority with them. Unfortunately, the methods used to carry out this attack on Native Americans and the and any other once demonized group is a general stereotype that first manifests during their perspective propaganda campaign and continues to an extent today. Often times making these groups to be seen as lifelong enemies to some extent.



Yak, captured by Indians in “Devil Horse”.

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Dehumanizing Humans
by [Jade Sotelo](#) – Monday, May 9, 2016, 10:29 PM

Honestly the fact that we as humans and living organisms in this world, the fact that we believe that just by dehumanizing another human being makes it okay to kill/treat them any different is showing how not human we all are.

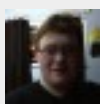
This quote says it all....

"When you dehumanize, it allows you to kill your enemy and no longer feel guilty about it," he said. "That is why during World War II, a lot of caricatures became animals. & You can kill a monkey a lot more easily than you can kill a neighbor."

How could anyone be even semi okay with this. The act of turning other people into demon like/not humans is just as wrong as the acts we carry out after we have allowed ourselves to accept the fact that they aren't humans and they are pure evil.

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Re: Dehumanizing Humans
by [Tanner Mitchell](#) – Tuesday, May 10, 2016, 12:03 AM

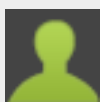
In today's society, it's pretty much a "norm" to demonize something if we don't agree with it. It's easier to do that than to accept it. Stereotyping large groups based on the actions of a few people can also play into demonizing the enemy. We take a base idea and exaggerate it. This was the thinking during wartime.

The government was trying their best to stir up patriotism. Now, whether or not entering the wars was the right thing to do is up for debate. Between 50–60 million people died just in World War II. The exact number is still unknown, but there's just no word in the English language to describe just how horrible that is. Forgiveness only goes so far, however.

That extremely high casualty toll is troublesome. Some view it as unnecessary. Most conflicts can be resolved through the right words and the right delivery. Society is easily offended these days, which makes peaceful resolutions difficult to obtain. People just need to be more open to new ideas.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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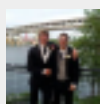


Re: Dehumanizing Humans
by [Christopher Burton](#) – Thursday, May 12, 2016, 10:35 AM

I can agree with what you're trying to get at, but I honestly believe there is a time to kill. When you look at what the axis powers were doing during the second world war something needed to happen. After watching the videos and reading the articles on raping nanking, my stomach actual hurt. I couldn't believe that soldiers sitting there seemingly unmoved when they said, yeah we raped and killed the women and children of the area. To me that makes you an animal and you need to be removed from the planet. By no means am I saying demonizing all enemies is a good or necessary thing in all cases, but if you take a boy from the United States who has never seen a Japanese person before let alone fought one, and he needs to kill that soldier, if demonizing him makes the kid sleep at night and not hate him self for potentially being forced to do a necessary evil then that seems to make sense to me. I agree with you on the western expansion part just not the general statement applied to all situations.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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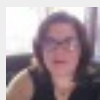
Depiction of Enemies During Wartime
by [Michael Ehrenfelt](#) – Tuesday, May 10, 2016, 10:30 PM

Propaganda used to “demonize the enemy” was intended to create a common enemy to blame for struggles faced at home and overseas. It was also intended to make it easier to kill the enemy during war. As the article “Demonizing the Enemy a Hallmark of War Vicious Depictions Long Used to Whip Up Support” by Michael S. James explains, most people are not eager to kill another person so in order to make it easier they had to depict the enemy as animalistic in order to dehumanize them. It is easier for people to kill someone they believe is less than human rather than a fellow human. Unfortunately this tactic worked almost too well because it fueled intense racism throughout generations. During World War II the Japanese were depicted as gorillas in propaganda as well as racist caricatures that featured large glasses and bucked teeth in order to demonize them. The author speculates whether these depictions of the Japanese people played into why Americans were able to justify sending Japanese Americans to internment camps. In addition to the internment camps, the process of dehumanizing the Japanese people more than likely influenced the decision, and wide–spread support of, dropping the Atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The author talks about his fears for the Middle Eastern Americans in the future who have been demonized by both politicians and the media due to the September 11th terrorist attack in 2001. It is unnerving how accurately he predicted the racism towards Middle Eastern people from his article that was written in 2003. His speculations had been confirmed because more than ten years later people of Middle Eastern decent in the United States are still being harassed for supposedly being terrorists or oppressors of women and simply bloodthirsty monsters. In the recent presidential campaign there have been many fingers pointed to Muslims (in addition to a number of other minority groups) saying that they are ruining America. This tactic, as we’ve seen in the past, is successful in uniting people by creating a common enemy to blame for our struggles as a nation.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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The bloody knife shows itself again.....
by [Sara Kosydar](#) – Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 4:19 PM

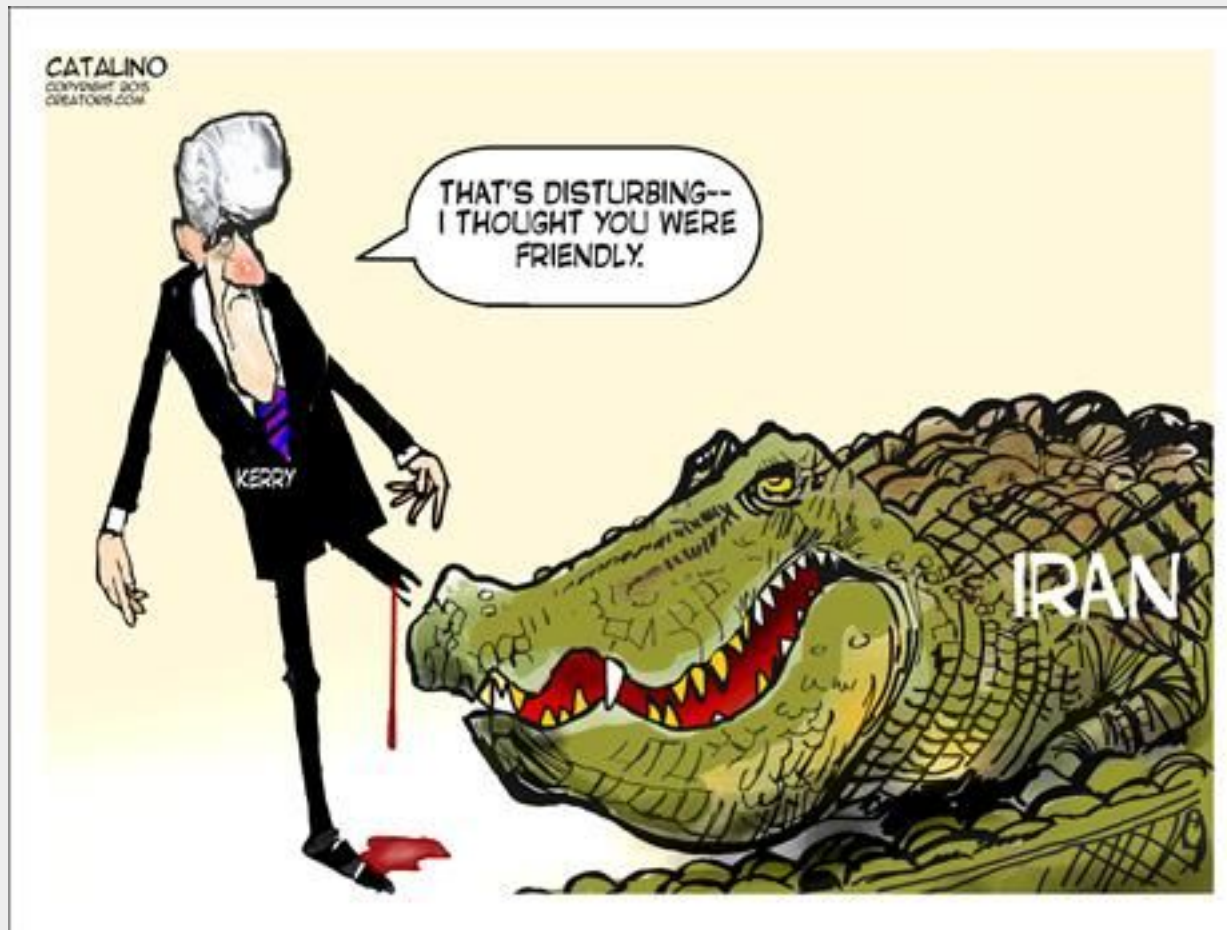
What are the intended and more importantly, the unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy?

The intended reason for us to be demonizing the enemy is to help cope with having to kill another person like the article for this forum said, because if we recognize the enemy as one of us it makes it hard to keep on fighting. The unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy would be racism lingering after the war because during the war they did want people to hate another race so that our soldiers could handle killing them. Like all of the propaganda posters we have been seeing in class has been using stereotypes to draw the enemy. We have been demonizing them by putting bloody knives in their hands and showing them drag off and kill women and children. So that when our soldiers see that race in uniform they know to kill.

Have you seen related cartoons/images that appear in the media today? (Remember, you can, and should share these images in the posts with your group members.)

As you can see in these cartoons the bloody knife shows up again. In two of the cartoons they show the middle east as a dangerous animal or as a brute, in the third one they show Saudi Arabia hanging someone because they renounced Islam. It is purposefully showing the middle east as non humans or people who would kill peace without a blink of the eye. I think that these cartoons are somewhat effective. The most effective ones to me were the first and third images because it shows people or animals about the be killed. The third one I don't think is Historically accurate because I don't remember hearing that we made allies of Saudi Arabia.

BIRD ON THE WIRE...





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Media, Movies, and the creation of enemies.

by [Delbert Borden](#) - Thursday, May 12, 2016, 9:14 PM

It's interesting how the government intentionally uses our major means of communication and consumable media to shape history, and of course our current public opinion in regards to foreign and domestic policy. The usage of the Orwellian template of controlled hysteria and the prevention of free thinking so that the lone sheep I always meant to follow the heard. Because of this mentality most Americans don't deviate from questioning the gospel of political banter especially when the evening news, or their favorite show or movie to reiterate national sentiment towards a specific enemy or public nuisance. Unfortunately, most people never question what sort of information their ingesting, nor do they question who is the culprit behind these conveniently created messages, and why? <http://www.globalresearch.ca/screen-propaganda-hollywood-and-the-cia/5324589>

These interpretations incite fear preying on the utter ignorance and the inability for most people to differentiate between informational subterfuge and actual fact. With the rise of social media, and the convenience of smart phones we've amassed a new culture by which people can stay connected to the propaganda machine twenty-four hours a day making it much easier for the takers to amass and spread persuasive materials. This information is meant to irritate inspiring those individuals to tag and share this information to like-minded individuals causing a continuous festering of opinions based off a single share.

“C☺♀♂✠i\$†”

**said no Muslim,
EVER!**

Veterans For Capitalism and The Constitution

VS

US

THEM

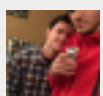
THE ESSENCE OF PROPAGANDA

Stereotypes are at the heart of all propaganda efforts.
Their purpose is to create the perception that our actions are always ethical and honorable, while those of our opponents are always unethical and dishonorable.

bewareofimages.com  bewareofimages

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Today's demonization

by [Zachary Sielicky](#) - Thursday, May 12, 2016, 10:16 PM

One of the biggest consequences that derive from using demonizing propaganda is the loss of diplomatic

possibilities which could ultimately result back into war if now is not already being fought. In addition we start to associate anything and everything that is connected with any ethnicity, person or figure that we are trying to demonize. We as American's have labeled every Muslim as 1. Arab and 2. a terrorist. We have painted a picture of what Muslims look like and his they all act. One fallacy to this madness is that in fact, the highest population of Muslims are not in the middle east or part of the Arab League, making this stereotype wrong on its face. In fact the highest populated Muslim country that is part of the Arab League is Egypt. Making our American idea of what a Muslim looks like extremely wrong, yet we think that every Muslim is an Arab because that is what our media has led us to believe. Though being depicted as an Arab does not mean that we are associating Muslims as devils but it's the fact that we have let ourselves believe that all Muslims are Arab and we have also let ourselves believe that all Muslims are savage human beings who want to rape, kill and bomb America which is also very very untrue. Our media has only let us see one "type" of Muslim, the masked Arab terrorist that makes us believe that all Muslims are that way. So when people say we are not faced with any form of demonization in today's world, think again we absolutely are. We need to look deeper into any group of people that is characterized as bad in our media today.

http://www.pewforum.org/2015/04/02/muslims/pf_15-04-02_projectionstables74/

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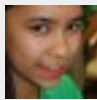
Intended and the Unintended Consequences of Demonizing an Enemy

by [Meghan Jacinto](#) – Thursday, May 12, 2016, 11:37 PM

The main intended consequence of demonizing an enemy is to depict the enemy as particularly evil that would inspire feelings in order to make the killing that much easier. For example, during World War II, one American propaganda poster depicted a German as “a crazed gorilla wearing a German spiked war helmet, holding a bloody club in one hand and a half-ravished woman in the other, and stepping onto the shores of America” (Source: “Demonizing the Enemy a Hallmark of War”). When someone is depicted as an animal, it’s often connected to being savage like, or less than human (it’s also a common theme in literature since many writers often use animal references to describe certain characters as being a lower type of being – *Lord of the Flies* is one of many examples). As James Forsher puts it, "When you dehumanize, it allows you to kill your enemy and no longer feel guilty about it." This is entirely the sole purpose of certain propaganda, because the creators are sending the message that killing someone is justifiable if they are supposedly less than human. Furthermore, there is also one major unintended consequence that comes with demonizing an enemy: racial stereotypes. During World War II, the Japanese were racially stereotyped in propaganda posters by being portrayed “with thick glasses, buck teeth, and sometimes animal-like features” (Source “Demonizing the Enemy a Hallmark of War”). This doesn’t help racial conflicts and only encourages them. It also allows the public to grossly generalize a whole population into thinking they are all demonic and thus further worsens relations in general.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Intended and the Unintended Consequences of Demonizing an Enemy

by [Emily Phan](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 3:13 PM

Are you saying that killing is never justifiable? I believe that in many circumstances taking a life could be perfectly justifiable. When it is justifiable I should not feel overly guilty about said action. If someone kills a person who is shooting people in a school, their actions are perfectly justifiable. World War Two was justifiable.

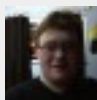
Also we often have to look down on an enemy. We do not have to dehumanize, but we must find our opinions more right than his. If we don’t, what exactly are we fighting for? If we don’t look down upon their actions, then we shouldn’t have a disagreement. We have to look down upon evil actions. So looking upon wrong, wicked actions as only a matter of upbringing or culture then excusing them because of this, is foolishness. We need to be mad at evil and call it what it is. We can’t say “the enemy is just the same as us” and “we shouldn’t judge”, if they support monstrously horrible behavior with joy.



Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Kristin Castillo](#) - Friday, May 13, 2016, 9:54 AM

The intended consequences I believe are to get everyone to believe a certain way or stereotype about what is coming across on the image. The unintended consequence is if people realize the image you are trying to use is not the correct statement can cause them to turn against you.



Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Tanner Mitchell](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 8:11 AM

There are definitely new ways we're fed propaganda. Political cartoons depict Muslims as nothing more than backstabbers and liars. Due to stereotyping, one group can perceive something as being only what another group wants to see, and not the whole truth. The first group takes offense, maybe reacting violently against the second group. Then the second group is left wondering why.

I can see that an incomplete understanding of another culture can play into the way it is perceived. Maybe as a potential evil. But how can make that call when you don't understand the culture? The truth is, you can't. Propaganda discourages understanding the demonized culture.

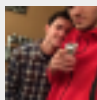


Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Mariah Marelli](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 7:33 PM

What are the intended and more importantly, the unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy?

The intended consequences of demonizing the enemy is making them easier to kill. It is easier to kill someone when you believe that you are doing the right thing. The media manipulates images and makes cartoons dehumanizing the enemy to gain public support for a war. For instance, during WW1 the media depicted the germans as gorillas coming toward America with a bloody club. They used this to make Americans afraid that if the allies won the war that Germany would then come after them. I think that unintended consequences is that the propaganda dehumanizes the enemy and lowers America's opinion of them for not only the war but long after.



Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Zachary Sielicky](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 11:18 PM

I think it is important to realize that one of the biggest consequences America faces when they dehumanize a certain race, religion or ethnicity is the slowing down of equality and separation of racism. Dehumanizing an enemy only allows people to have a reason to be racist towards other people. This stops the progress of fairness, tolerance and equality in America. This is something that people have been trying to progress for hundreds of years and we have deemed land mark points in American history. From the abolishment of slavery and the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments that has brought equality to minority groups for over one hundred years. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 to the legalization of gay marriage, these have all been parts in American history that we as American's can be proud of because we have allowed people of all races, ethnicities, sexualities and religions advance in the greatest country in the world. We as American's should pride ourselves on helping people who can't help themselves and help advance those who face oppression in the process. These feats are important to America's identity and once we allow the demonizing of others based on their skin color, religion or sexuality, we stop that progress of what makes America great.

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