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Demonizing the Enemy

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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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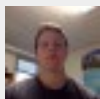
Demonizing the Enemy in Textbook

by [Long Chen](#) – Sunday, May 8, 2016, 1:53 PM

I took my history class in China before, there was a chapter talked about Japan attacked China during World War 2. The text told us all the evil things they have do to innocent Chinese citizens. In the textbook, they compared Japan as an evil because what they did. Also, there were many pictures that illustrated Japanese soldiers like monsters. I think they did this on purpose in order to make students to remember what Japan have done to China. I think demonizing the enemy is very effective.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

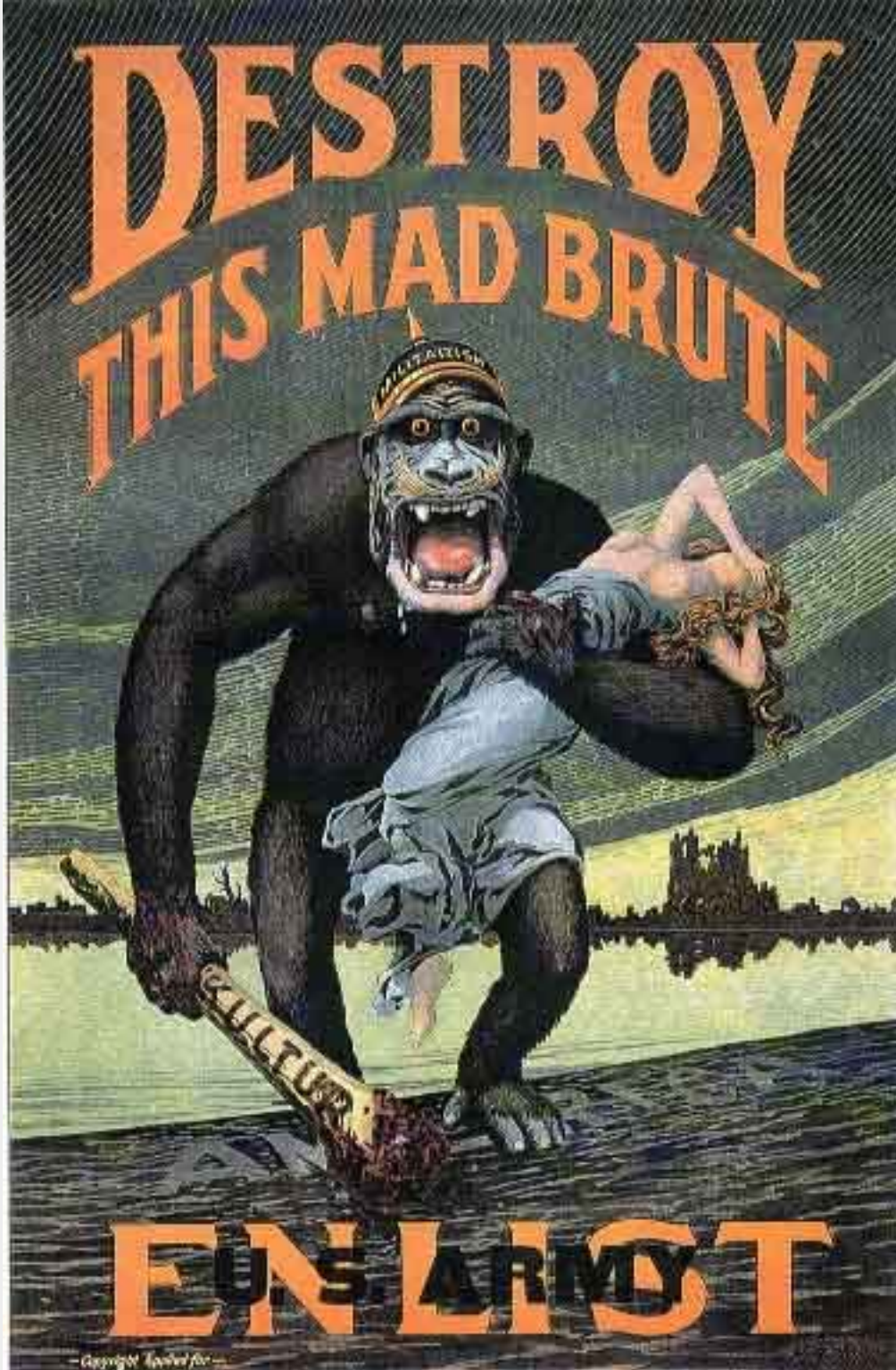
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Re: Demonizing the Enemy in Textbook

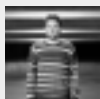
by [Jake Cleary](#) – Friday, May 13, 2016, 9:02 PM

Dehumanizing, definitely during WWII, was effective because of the influential newspapers and limited advertisement. Americans and others portrayed people as evil to get citizens on their side so they didn't feel the guilt of killing their enemies. The propaganda was a world war takeout that especially was strong in the U.S. that explained the evils, whether true or false, to the citizens of America. So many of the citizens were pro peace that didn't appreciate people's negative attitude and recklessness's but the dehumanizing of the Germans and Japanese people during the second world war helped persuade their mind.



Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy in Textbook

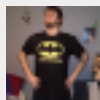
by [Justin Cox](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 10:56 PM

I think this a very interesting perspective, Long Chen. It is impressive that you were able to take the lessons we are learning about American history in our class and transfer the key elements to other historical subjects with which you have familiarity.

I wonder, do Chinese citizens still feel anger towards Japanese people because of the actions of Japan in China during World War 2?

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Barry Peiskee](#) – Sunday, May 8, 2016, 9:26 PM

The intended effects of dehumanization is in the name itself. Removing humanity from a person would to put forward that they're either alien or animal. It allows for an easier time for placing you against "them", whatever you attempt to call the group you're removing humanity from. The unintended consequences are a bit more complex I believe. **If I were to believe** that the Japanese in WW2 were to be literal rats, the actual american born japanese would be viewed similarly. This creates a divide between the people of the nation, which does nothing good. Even further, rats are generally looked to as a "pest", with a strong desire to be removed. For a conflict that won't last forever, it would seem harmful to literally believe they are "rats."

The only way I can see dehumanization to be a "positive" would be **for** soldiers during a time of war.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Enemy or not? Demonizing for appeal.

by [Naima Lobby](#) – Sunday, May 8, 2016, 10:35 PM

What are the intended and more importantly, the unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy? 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.) Which aspects are true and based on reality? Which are not? Are any of these items (historically and currently) effective in swaying public opinion?

When people seek to demonize the enemy, it makes it easier for them to make them lesser. Like mentioned in the article attached, it's easier to portray the enemy as an animal. For example, President Obama is often depicted to look like a monkey. His ears are often enlarged and he looks like an under evolved human. This allows people from the opposite side of the spectrum, and Obama haters, to attack him because they no longer see him as a human, but a creature.

People then associate Obama's name with the similarity to Osama. They demonize him by adding a negative connotation and associating him with a much worse person. When you put someone on a poster next to someone who is seen as evil, it is easier to hate him. In the media, you may also find homosexuals demonized. They are no longer seen as people but some unnatural subhuman. This allows people who don't agree with them and their lives to make them seem lesser.

This is easier for people to sway the opinion because it puts things in perspective. It may open someone's eyes to similarities of one and the other and create justification in belittling people. Not that it is right, but to some people it is easier to tear apart someone who is similar to a bad person than someone who possess the qualities of a leader or a hero.



Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Media portrayal

by [Tyler Kabot](#) – Monday, May 9, 2016, 9:35 AM

Demonizing through uses of propaganda happens frequently today. I think one of the major outlets we see Propaganda in is the news. A few months ago if you were to turn on the news it would be impossible to watch for more than an hour and not hear about what evil atrocity ISIS was committing that day. The news made it seem like they were on their way to destroy America everyday. I was in Basic Combat Training in the Army when the ISIS news reports began and I remember being afraid for my family living in large cities. Now once I graduated BCT and realized the strength of our military as well as ISIS capabilities I was much less worried about any threat from ISIS. Still the media portrayed ISIS as our next door neighbors that were an imminent threat. These people definitely deserve to be demonized. I'm glad the media portrayed them as an immediate threat so the American people would support further conflicts against ISIS. Unfortunately our demonizing them has lead to America as a whole demonizing muslim people. ISIS has used the religion of islam as a basis to do incredibly awful things, using only what they want from the religion and disregarding the rest. I believe this could possibly lead to muslim people being treated the same way the Japanese were treated during World War 2. Now obviously the circumstances are not as dire but one of the front runners for the presidency has already said he would put badges on muslim refugees and also said he (possibly) would've supported Japanese internment camps during World War 2. If we were to impose on muslims personal freedoms enough to make them wear badges (that

essentially say "I may be a threat to you"), then where will the line be drawn? Right now we arehaving a problem with muslim people being kicked off of airplanes. This is a tough subject and there really isn't one right answer. On one hand there definitely are evil people that use islam as a platform to commit atrocities and on the other there are people just like us using their 1st amendment right to practice their religion.

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Re: Media portrayal
by [Jonathan Axtell](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 4:52 PM

It's interesting how many Radical groups have used defending a religion as their reason to commit acts of violence on others, when they only follow bits and pieces of it. It's true how many people fear the religion of Islam because of a select few idiots. I like to compare ISIS using bits of Islam to the KKK using Christianity. The KKK often claimed to use Christianity as a platform for calling other "Christians" to action and justifying violence. It seems that ISIS has used the same tactics, but with Islam. Both faith groups have publicly denounced the radical group that have claimed to use their religion. So why don't we fear Christians the same way we do people of the Islam faith? Possibly because we don't understand the Religion? I believe we fear what we don't understand.

It's absolutely sad that a presidential candidate would go as far as putting badges on people of a specific religion. I think that's where people draw the comparison between Trump and Hitler.

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy
by [Long Chen](#) – Monday, May 9, 2016, 10:08 AM



I think this describes demonizing the enemy. For US, Russia is always problem. Someone put Hitler's hair and mustache on Putin's face. I think it metaphors Putin is the same kind of leader as Hitler.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

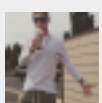
by [Connor Miller](#) - Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 6:53 PM

This is definitely a good example of demonizing the enemy (need an acronym or something for that phrase). People hear about Putin, hear about his stance on different topics, hear about him invading Ukraine and he's suddenly the new Hitler, and photos like that just feed that fear.

A lot of that probably comes from a distrust of the Russian government, since most Americans still see Russia as the enemy because of the Cold War and because of the differing political viewpoints of both countries.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Ignorance is Bliss; without doing proper research

by [Zachery Brown](#) - Friday, May 13, 2016, 3:13 PM

Okay Connor and Miguel. I read the Borge of your posts. And I; before doing any research in the subject; was more inclined to agree with Connor on this. Being as Africa has most definitely without a doubt, been plagued with the struggles of disease, warlords, guerrilla warfare among other horrific subjects. That is

without a doubt the truth. It is not in any way shape or form hollywoods doing. They may portray the negativities more then then positives. But Hollywood didn't just write up a false script and engrave it into the nations head. It started from yhe struggles seen in poor African villages and was carried out for further portrait by Hollywood. Although this may be the case and africa still suffers from these struggles. Africa is actually pulling ahead economically. I've pasted a link showing 10 of the most technological developed cities in Africa. And Africa is presumed to be the next Economic Powerhouse. As hard is it may be to believe that. That can also be due to the over portrail of struggle, facismn, and famin. just a few neat little details and possible facts I thought were interesting. Here's that link; <http://www.africa.com/top-tech-savvy-cities-in-africa/>

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Joseph Collins](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 4:08 PM

In this instance, I believe things get a little tricky. Primarily, yes, this is without a doubt demonizing the enemy. However, there are some real factual comparisons between Putin's actions and those of Adolph Hitler. Both rose to power during a wave of rising nationalism, both pushed boundaries in territory disputes, both took advantage of appeasement from world organizations, and both have fostered a national hate for minority groups (primarily homosexuals in Putin's case). This is where demonizing the enemy dilutes any actual comparisons to previous evil that might be factually valid.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Political Demonizing

by [Joseph Collins](#) - Monday, May 9, 2016, 10:28 AM

Demonizing propaganda has changed significantly since the days of WWI and WWII, but it's definitely still a part of society today. While the blunt, crude, and racist caricatures and scare tactics of the first half of the 20th century seem completely absurd to us now, we can still see examples of how people will try to dehumanize their enemies. Oddly enough, however, nowadays one sees it more commonly used against political rivals than foreign powers. The primary example I can think of is the fact of how much people love to compare the figurehead of whatever political movement they oppose to Hitler. It's incredible how quickly people will resort to the Hitler comparison, regardless of how absurd the comparison is, simply because Hitler has been established as the de facto face of tyrannical evil. I can remember in protests or political rallies seeing signs with former President George W. Bush, current President Obama, and every candidate for the upcoming 2016 election with crudely photoshopped Hitler mustaches on them. Seriously.



Just remember

**Nazi's were
Socialists**





None of these are actual comparisons of the candidates' policies to those of Hitler, they just use the image of the most hated man in history to try and demonize their political opponents. Not only does this hurt the credibility of those creating these images in the eyes of anyone at all knowledgeable in history, but it also dilutes any discussion or conversation concerning the actual possibility of similarities to fascism in anyone's political agenda.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Political Demonizing

by [Devon Johnson](#) - Thursday, May 12, 2016, 12:16 PM

I have been talking about this since 2008 (when I was old enough to understand a bit of politics/history) that the first thing the left or right dose when they want to smear a candidate or politician in general is take one part of there character or policy overdramatize it and call them Hitler. I understand not being a fan of a politician, but to call them Hitler is a bit dramatic. This is just dehumanizing propaganda. Its only getting worse as the years continue. I feel like candidates and voters spend more time, money, and energy attacking and smearing each other then tryin to do some good.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Demonizing the Enemy

by [Connor Miller](#) - Monday, May 9, 2016, 11:49 AM

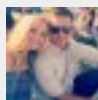
I think the intention on demonizing the enemy is pretty simple. From a publicity standpoint, you want people to be on your side on the battle, to be sympathetic to your cause. Like we've seen, both the Allies and the Axis did it back in WWII.

Today, war propaganda is less prevalent. Political comics take on the role of making cartoonish versions of our enemies. When Osama Bin Laden was still alive, he was the face of terrorism, and he was plastered over many of those comics. Putin could be an more current example of a figure who is often made light of.

I do think that demonizing the enemy works. It works frighteningly well, even in today's modern world. It seems as though all Muslims are painted as radical terrorists, when that's not the case and couldn't be farther from the truth. Creating an image for the enemy also plays into the American exceptionalism, creating the thought process of, "They're just filthy terrorists, I'm an American. I'm better than them."

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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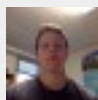
Consequences
by Benjamin Glaeser – Monday, May 9, 2016, 4:49 PM

One of the intended consequences of demonizing the enemy is to make the enemy look as evil as possible to the public in order to gain support. As Michael James said it helps people to justify killing. For most people killing can be made necessary if who you are killing is making the world a better place.

An unintended consequence of demonizing the enemy is the fact that in some cases the enemy is portrayed in a somewhat false way. Also that generalizations and stereotypes are made as the whole group of people vs. the leaders or individuals. For example not every German was someone like Hitler. Or for a current example not every person from the middle east is Bin Laden. But while we are at war and an individual becomes the face of a nation in our American eyes we tend to hate or despise anyone we can relate to that one person.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

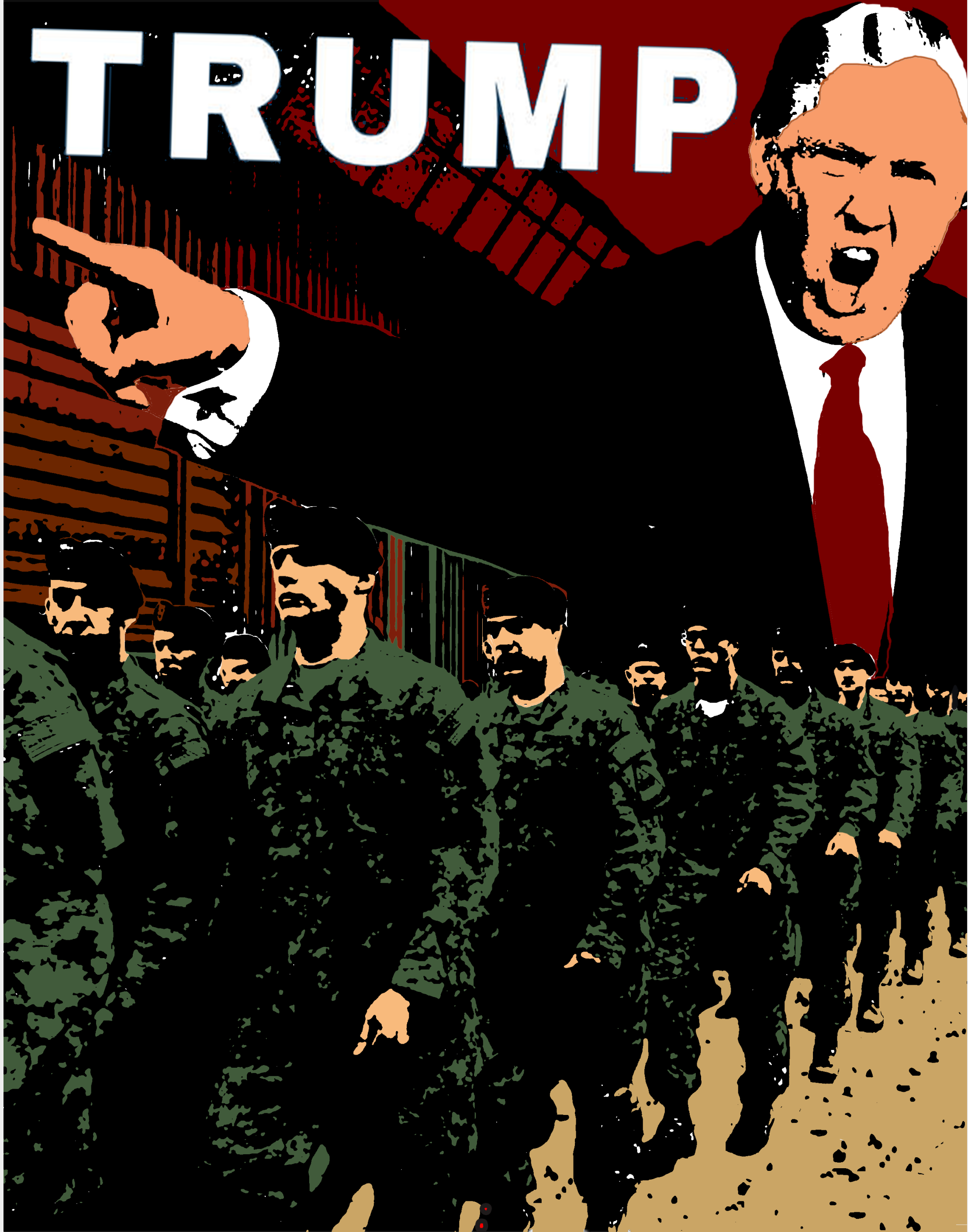
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Re: How Propaganda demonizes
by Jake Cleary – Monday, May 9, 2016, 9:02 PM

The intention of demonizing an enemy was to make it easier for people to understand that war and killings were necessary. It gives the citizens a comparison of the many enemies the U.S. has faced throughout the years. I have with Donald Trump as many people use propaganda to show him as a war lord and someone that cares more about himself and going to war rather than keep the real definition of peace. Trump is not the President yet so we can't infer if this would truly be his position if was in office. The propaganda today definitely sways the public because it shows them in a dehumanizing light that gives them a good reason to fight against the so called enemy.

TRUMP



WAR IS PEACE

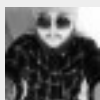


Middle East Propaganda
by [Jonathan Axtell](#) – Monday, May 9, 2016, 10:17 PM

I personally believe that instead of attacking a small group of Middle Eastern radicals, we attacked the entire religion of Islam. The news seems to make out every Muslim person as a shady brute, just like they did to the Germans of World War 1.

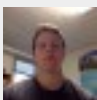
I feel the unintended consequences have trickled down to the current situation with Syrian refugees. It seems that many people now have this fear that every person that comes from that country is either a Terrorist or someone who wants to spread their "Religion of Hate" to the rest of America.

Do you believe that the consequences of Middle Eastern propaganda has affected peoples views on Syrian Refugees??



Re: Middle East Propaganda
by [Devon Johnson](#) – Thursday, May 12, 2016, 12:38 PM

I completely agree with you. The war on terror is actually the war on Islam, and the negative consequences have defiantly taken a toll. My grandmother has a fear and unjustified hatred of muslims. This is directly caused by years of propaganda fuled by the mainstream media. I agree with you that thre is a direct connection between this war on Islam and the Syrian refuge crisis. I feel that anyone shuld be able to come here if they can pass an extensive background check to prove they arnt a threat. If someone can do that, then why not offer someone refuge?



Re: Middle East Propaganda
by [Jake Cleary](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 5:28 PM

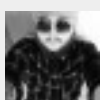
I think with the effects of dehumanization, the media has looked at Syrian’s as potential threats to citizens of America and are scared of bombings similar to the ones in Paris. No matter how extensive a background check is, you can never fully know if someone will do or say during a screening. U.S. has had corruption in the past like Richard Nixon and the Watergate Scandal sabotaging another one campaign. As a President with the citizens trust, one would never think that this would happen, but it did. Now the majority of U.S. Citizens do not want a fluke accident because they let Syrian members, that they believed to be harmless, to hurt American lives.



Re: Demonizing the Enemy
by [Devon Johnson](#) – Monday, May 9, 2016, 11:08 PM

Intended consequences of dehumanization are. To make a physical and mental disconnect between “us” and “them”. To make it easier for people to approve of acts of hate or violence towards someone and or a group of people.

However an unintended consequences are. What happens after the conflict between the people who you dehumanized ends? An example of that is after slavery and segregation. There was still so much mentally ingrained racism that has caused conflict to this day.



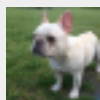
Gaza
by [Devon Johnson](#) – Tuesday, May 10, 2016, 3:09 PM

This political cartoon is depicting the Israeli flag with a swastika in the flag keeping a ship heading towards Gaza hostage. this cartoon is trying to dehumanize the Israelites by making them an evil Octopus as well as calling them Nazis. This cartoon is comparing the Israeli people to the Nazi party.



Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Demonizing the U.S Enemy

by [Ankstina Qi](#) - Monday, May 9, 2016, 11:25 PM

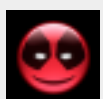
The intended and more importantly purpose of demonize the enemy is distorting the image of their enemy that they were fighting with and gain people's support. For example, D.W. Griffith's *Hearts of the World*, which showed Germans throwing babies out windows, Forsher said. (James, M. 2003) If people who see the image of Germans throwing babies out windows, most of them will be mad at the Germans and think they are the devil incarnates. The unintended consequences of demonizing an enemy is to let people who get involved with it get less guilt. Michael S. James (2003) said you can kill a monkey a lot more easily than you can kill a neighbor. Obviously, if you killed an animal instead of a human being, you will find the inner peace more easily. On the contrary, you probably will be proud of yourself because you slaughtered a fierce animal for the society's good instead of killing a good person that others will judge and blame on you.

From the poster that I found online, the image did tell that it is a US propaganda poster from World War 1 and it is a fact that there was a fight between the U.S and Russia, but it is not a truth that Russian soldiers reaching out their evil hands to eat the new born babies. Based on the saying of "The American public had to firmly acknowledge that Germans were evil," the narrator says (as cited in Amber, 2014), we can clearly tell that U.S is trying to demonize its enemy. By gaining people's attention to those innocent babies, joining the team demon is the real purpose. Due to the reason of people's sympathy and inherent kind heart, the purpose will be achieved quickly. Even the poster have been proved it is Team Fortress 2 propaganda contest, when people in nowadays first look at it without getting any history background, they would felt abhorrent to their enemies.



Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Demonize Equals Dehumanize

by [Long Chen](#) - Monday, May 9, 2016, 11:31 PM

The interned and more importantly about demo ozone enemies is to make them look as evil as possible. For example, some governments dehumanize enemies as a gorilla or a monkey.(James, M. 2003). The unintended consequence is to make citizens want to kill the enemies without guilty feelings, and support their own countries as much as they can. I think dehumanize enemies is a smart action because it makes people feel good and proud to kill an outrageous animal in order to save other people's lives. But sometimes propaganda is very biased, such as movies that add many events that are not existed before.

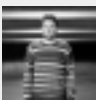
In this picture, it shows the Japanese leader is dragging Hitler who is sitting on a seated car. I

think it represents truly during world war 2. Hitler is the leader of fascism, Japan is not powerful as Germany but listens to Hitler. Also this painting dehumanize both of them. You can see both of them have monkey's arms and legs. I think it is very interesting.



Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Demonizing begets more demonizing
by [Justin Cox](#) – Monday, May 9, 2016, 11:54 PM

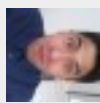
The intended consequence of demonizing an enemy is to rally supporters to a cause. However, the unintended consequence of demonizing an enemy is that the opinion your enemy holds of you will decline severely. This will have the effect of reducing the likely of cooperation between you and your enemy in the future.

Many civilizations have responded to this unintended consequence of demonizing enemies by further demonizing of that enemy. By demonizing an enemy, you can further rally your supporters to the cause and, if the hostility felt towards you by your enemy is unacceptably severe, oppression them into submission without losing too much sleep. The white supremacist government in South Africa, the Nation Party, which ruled from 1948 to 1994 is an example of one such civilization.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Ignorance is Bliss



by [Miguel Perez](#) - Tuesday, May 10, 2016, 6:54 PM

Demonizing the enemy, what a slippery slope. It is ignorant, to draw up a caricature of a group of people deemed the enemy. But it is oh so useful. See, you once you turn to ignorance you no longer need logic, you are free to think what you want, and act as you please without any real reasoning behind it.

While I don't believe it is as acceptable today as it once was to be so blatant about it, this demonizing still sneaks through. How many major Hollywood movies portray African Nations as developed countries as War-torn nations? They may not be enemies, but that what is more diabolical than Warlords?

During wartime, it is only natural human nature to see the citizens of the nation we are at worth with as animals. But that does not take away ignorance of it.

Miguel

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

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Re: Ignorance is Bliss

by [Connor Miller](#) - Friday, May 13, 2016, 1:52 PM

I'm not quite sure what you mean when you bring Hollywoods portrayal of Africa into the equation. How is that demonizing the enemy? Technically speaking, the a good portion of African countries are under developed economically, and many of those countries have experienced civil unrest and the rule of violent warlords...so it's not entirely false.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

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Re: Ignorance is Bliss

by [Miguel Perez](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 10:21 PM

If you reread I explained my point. Though African Nations are not necessarily our enemies, our ignorance of the outside world paints them as these violent human beings. It is this same ignorance that leads us to "demonize the enemy" Americans are the civilized ones after all right?

Miguel

Sum of ratings: [\(1\)](#)

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Re: Ignorance is Bliss

by [Connor Miller](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 11:45 PM

I really don't want to argue with you on this, but you didn't explain that point at all. You say that ignorance is bliss, and then throw Africa into the mix, stating that Hollywood demonizes them...without even giving an example of a specific film, which doesn't help the argument you're trying to make. You never said in the original post that people were painted as violent human beings, but that entire nations were portrayed as war torn countries...which isn't the case and if it was wouldn't be based on lies or ignorance. Sudan, for example, has been split into several parts due to armed conflicts between rebel groups and the government of Sudan. I'd have to do more research, but I'm sure it isn't the only country in the last 100 years to experience something like that.

Also, why even bring Africa into the discussion? They aren't our enemies (like you said) and I don't think I've ever heard someone paint the entire continent of Africa as "a bunch of violent human beings," and I've never seen a movie do that either. You should have been more specific rather than present a general stereotype and say that all Americans think like that.

Sum of ratings: [2 \(1\)](#)

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Re: Ignorance is Bliss

by [Naima Lobby](#) – Friday, May 13, 2016, 10:04 PM

Blissful ignorance is to me the absolute root of demonizing. It goes hand-in-hand. People may dislike the person or thing being demonized because of their ignorance or people may dislike the ignorance because they appreciate the demonizing.

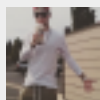
I once saw a bumper sticker that clearly stated "Somewhere in Africa, a village is missing their idiot"

Though this does not depict a poor image, it brings to light a stereotype against Obama. One that is not a true fact but just a speculation. It was a low-blow. The fact of the matter was this person demonized using ignorance as an attack method.

This follow your statement regarding the lack of need for logic.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

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Self Dehumanization

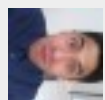
by [Zachery Brown](#) – Thursday, May 12, 2016, 6:26 PM

I definitely do think that there are consequences from many of the propaganda cartoons and posters etc, throughout history as well as up to this day. Many being racist, derogatory, stereotypical, and untrue. Which without a doubt at times can end up having long term effects. Almost as if the propaganda posters, cartoons, movies and stories etc seem to stick with that particular group of people. Not all of course! And not for all people. But I personally over the years have more then a few times heard people of all races, talk in ways that the propaganda portrayed that group of people. For example, calling all people with blonde hair and blue eyes, "Nazi's". Or calling anyone that wears a turban a terrorist. These long term effects from propaganda can be seen or heard almost everywhere you go in America. Although, with the demonizing and dehumanization of different groups that America has gone to war or had affairs with, what I see in political cartoons and movies, is America, or the artists, writers and directors and so on. Is them using these forms of propaganda to talk down on their own country, America. The political cartoon that I have attached to my post is quite a recent cartoon. And it shows a man starting from the left, that represents the drug cartels, the man in the middle representing ISIS, and the last man representing an American Citizen. The first two men are holding guns saying, "I got an Obama gun." And the American Citizen saying, "I got a phone" while looking down at his cell phone. I personally got a few interpretations from this. The first, I feel like the cartoon is saying that Obama is selling guns to Americas enemies, while attempting to outlaw guns in America. This raised a few questions in my head. Why is America arming enemies and stripping away our rights to bear arms, why would our country do this? It raised alert. And made me feel as though our country is beginning to become weak, too materialistic, and in danger. Also, another interpretation that I got from this cartoon, is that it is saying that we as Americans are dumb, fat, and materialistic. While the first two men are dressed in a suit and military uniform, they made them also look more thin, fit and in better hygiene. The American is depicted as a fat, and scrubby man with his belly hanging out of his shirt and his pants below his waist. Makes you feel as though Americans are really slacking. These are just two of the interpretations that I personally got out of this cartoon. I know that there are more. This is just one of the many many examples of the degrading cartoons that American artists and such are attempting to talk down on its own country, there are sooo many of these cartoons around. I can find 10X more propaganda cartoons that dehumanize its own citizens now, than I can find toward other countries America has issues with. Even the movies that Hollywood releases lately. More of them bring down the American people and make them look horrible rather then making Americans look great or heroic. There are always conspiracies about Bad American forces committing horrible crimes, or killing people, or working against their own people. etc. This is a trend that hasn't always been around. And if it has, it hasn't been nearly as bad or constantly degrading as it has been the last 20 years.



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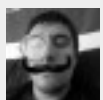
Re: Self Dehumanization

by [Miguel Perez](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 10:29 PM

Propaganda has always been, and now thanks to the internet will always be there. Especially with the extreme popularity of "memes" how many of them are ; biased, ignorant, arrogant, and just plain stupid, when they try and "intelligently" tackle tough issues of like politics? It is ridiculous how powerful images can be.

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Anyone can become the enemy

by [Joe Paredes](#) - Friday, May 13, 2016, 11:01 AM

Demonizing the enemy in any way comes to us very easily due to the public's view on the variations of wars, battles, events, etc.....

Demonizing Germany during the World War II was as easy as making a cartoon. Knowing that even Walt Disney was able to come and assist in the propaganda was truly incredible. The picture I post below was made by Disney and additional captions have since been added to it for further reasoning behind the making of it. Japanese soldiers are continued to be demonized to this day for the stereotypical things they dealt with like the bombs that were dropped, the way the pilots "kamikazed" into our ships on Pearl Harbor, and even down to how they prepare their meals, but nothing is as bad as today with the war we entered in the beginning of the new millennium.

Today's society is much more accepting of what has happened in the past, but today's enemy is not what it was fought in WWII. The OIF/OEF has slowly started to come down, but recent activities in Iraq show that we may be sending additional troops to assist in it.

Ever since September 11th, 2001 the Muslims have taken the blame for almost every single mass killing around the world.

<https://www.thereligionofpeace.com/attacks/american-attacks.aspx>

This link shows the places and people injured and killed in attacks just by the Muslims.

Being a veteran, I have had the pleasure to speak and talk with people around the world and they are all just like us, just with different views and beliefs, but that does not make them any less human than you or I.

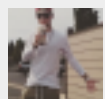
Reason and Emotion

- Made during the war by Walt Disney.
- Purpose to remind people not to let their emotions overtake their common sense.
- Hitler used as an example of someone who controls people with emotions.



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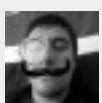
agreeing; to a certain extent.

by [Zachery Brown](#) - Friday, May 13, 2016, 2:11 PM

Great post here Joe, I see some valid points that I find to be true. For example, your statement that reads, "today's society is more accepting of what has happened in the past, but today's enemy is not what we fought in WW2. The OIF/OEF has slowly started to come down, but recent activities in Iraq show that we may be sending in additional troops to assist." I totally agree with you that the enemy is two polar opposites from one we caught in WW2. The Japanese Empire, Italians, and the Nazi Germans were all in Uniform, fought as allies with one another and so on. in the war against Terror, there is no telling civilian from the actual enemy. and the list of differences goes on. One thing I may have to disagree with you on though. Is the statement you made when you said; "but nothing is as bad as today with the war we entered at the beginning of the new millennium." I'm not sure if you meant, the war we are waging today is much worse than any other war, or that the propaganda has never been this bad in any other War. Which both interpretations I would have to disagree to the fullest extent. I just personally think that WW1, WW2, and Vietnam were all worse Wars. Including, and especially the Propaganda. I mean 2 of them, were WORLD WARS. THE OTHER BEING Vietnam, was more similar, but to me worse being the fact that chemical weapons were used. Like agent orange. Burning and melting entire villages, women and children. And to be quite honest. The worse piece of propaganda I have seen for this war so far, that was aimed at the enemy and not towards American leaders or the people. Was the one presented to us, "what would Mohamed Drive." That's the most racist and most stereotypical propaganda cartoon I've seen out of this war. And I'm not at all saying that these are facts haha. Simply just my personal opinion. To me WW2 was the most worse point in Americas history for Propaganda. Of any kind. I mean, the Rape Scenarios, the Japanese Buck tooth, invasion of American Soil etc. I enjoyed reading through your post and your cartoon Joe. Enough for me to choose to reply to yours over everyone else's. I also saw that you stated that you are a Veteran as well. thank you for your service Joe! I salute you and appreciate you very much.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: agreeing; to a certain extent.

by [Joe Paredes](#) - Friday, May 13, 2016, 3:17 PM

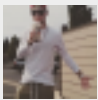
Thank you and I agree with you totally that many wars are above the war we are in today and I am think I was going at with the comment

" but nothing like the war in the new millennium"

I meant more towards continually demonizing them. I fully belive the Muslims will not be able to bounce back like the Japanese and the Germans. The slander we (Americans) have given their race,religion, literally everything they do is downsized or demonized by nearly everyone around the world.

I appreciate you taking the time to respond and call me out on something that didn't make sense 😊

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Re: agreeing; to a certain extent.
by [Zachery Brown](#) – Friday, May 13, 2016, 9:21 PM

Absolutely Joe! I really did enjoy reading through the post. It was interesting to think about the points that you were making. And especially now that you have cleared that little tid bit of information up, and I understand what you mean now. I definitely have to agree with that but I also wish that I didn't haha. I just wish that within time and the healing and rebuilding of not only just a Religion, but a Nation could be successful with effort, time and work. But I know that's not always true unfortunately. Propaganda, and Propaganda during war time can really devastate a people. And thank you as well, for you taking the time to carry on a post!

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Re: Anyone can become the enemy
by [Naima Lobby](#) – Friday, May 13, 2016, 10:17 PM

This post is important because I believe it brings light to some generalizations. When demonizing an entire group, you are alienating everyone and all who identify with that group. In propaganda posters that demonize, they will often represent a certain group in a negative way which will create a negative connotation to that said group, and this is how many people who we may see as racists who were alive during WWII may think.

I worked in a retirement home for some years during high school. I remember a specific resident who would not associate himself with Japanese people following Pearl Harbor. He would not speak to them, he wouldn't allow himself near them or anything. He had adopted this sense of bigotry because he felt every Japanese was involved or associated with the attack on Pearl Harbor. I imagine, in his time when he saw propaganda posters, they spoke poorly of all Japanese. They did not single out the group that physically attacked.

Forgive me if I misinterpreted your text, but regarding your mention of major killing done by muslims, it is easy to pin point based on the propaganda and the demonizing that is done towards that entire group. But it is safe to assume that everyone who practices that religion does not practice in the same manner, as could be true with any religion.

This is a major flaw I find when demonizing the enemy because it creates a generalized stereotype rather than pin point a specific event, time, place, or person.

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Donald Trump and Dehumanizing Muslims
by [Balkhy Balkhy](#) – Friday, May 13, 2016, 12:24 PM

A very interesting demonization of "the enemy" is the U.S. dehumanization of Muslims and Muslim Americans. Since the attacks of September 11th in NYC and beforehand, mass media has portrayed all Muslims as enemies of the State. Even if certain media outlets did not say so, they still, and continue to, cover media that speaks against Muslims.

The demonizing of the enemy leads to things like the Japanese Internment Camps during WWII and the Alien and Sedition Acts of WWI. When a certain population is portrayed as an enemy of "freedom" and "democracy," they

are often no longer seen as humans.

This is the way that the government and individuals are able to violate the civil rights of others with the endorsement and support of the legal institutions in the United States.

Donald Trump has made disparaging and dehumanizing comments about every race under the sun that is not white and anglo-saxon. While many people his entire campaign to be a conspiracy, the scary fact is that he is still garnering votes. He has demonized Mexicans as rapists, he has demonized Muslims as terrorists--preaching things that are not the truth. Donald Trump is walking propaganda for the dehumanization of folks of color.

I attached an image of one of Trump's wonderful expressions, defending his statement that he would like to "ban" all Muslims from the U.S. It is interesting language to use to talk about humans. We see the word "ban" usually in terms of material goods--a "ban" on Cuban cigars (in the past), a "ban" on selfie sticks in Disneyland. To call for a ban of entire population of folks based on religious affiliation is unconstitutional, even by the standards of the racist forefathers of the States.

You can even connect this dehumanization and propaganda with the murders of young black men by white cops. They use images of black youth looking "thuggish" rather than images of black men in their graduation cap and gown, or at family events. The news media in the states purposely portrays folks of color not as victims, but as perpetrators, and deserving of the violence that was inflicted on them.

See below image of Trayvon Martin circulated by news media, as well as a photo possibly taken by family or at school. Just this week, his killer, George Zimmerman put up the gun he used to kill Trayvon on a bidding website, trying to "sell a piece of American history."

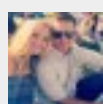
Demonizing the "enemy" is what creates the enemy, in hindsight. Propaganda, media, and bigots on huge platforms (Trump) are the things that dehumanize populations and make it easier to to detach from reality. We hear of so many deaths in the U.S. that are unjust, but the popular media chooses how to report it, making it easier to swallow.





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Re: Donald Trump and Dehumanizing Muslims

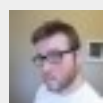
by [Benjamin Glaeser](#) - Friday, May 13, 2016, 9:06 PM

Banning muslims wouldn't be the first time in American history where the United States has restricted or denied an entire group from entering the country. For example the United States banned the immigration of Chinese immigrants with the Chinese Exclusion Act in the 1880's. The Chinese were here legally and were banned due to the fact they were taking American jobs and straight up racial bias. Illegal aliens are entering the country ILLEGALLY and taking American jobs yet we condemn a presidential candidate for suggesting that we make them come here legally, and build a wall to keep them from entering illegally.

During the Red Scare many people believed that just one communist spy was one communist spy to many. So is it not safe to say that just one Muslim terrorist is also one too many? Why let tens of thousands of Syrian refugees in when there's a possibility we let in even one terrorist? Not every Muslim is a terrorist true. But not every communist was a spy either. In my opinion when American lives are at stake drastic measures should be taken.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Re: Donald Trump and Dehumanizing Muslims

by [Joseph Collins](#) - Saturday, May 14, 2016, 4:09 PM

To say that Muslims should be banned from the United States because some might be terrorists is absolutely ignorant of the actual issues at play.

First of all, using the Red Scare justification of "one communist spy was one communist spy to many. So is it not safe to say that just one Muslim terrorist is also one too many?" is A: a terrifyingly blatant disregard of the fact that the Red Scare and the persecution of those affected were a notably massive violation of U.S. citizen's civil rights, and B: ignoring the fact that terrorists are not just Muslims, or immigrants, or minorities at all. According to this FBI report (https://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/terrorism-2002-2005/terror02_05#terror_05sum) only 6% (6!!!) of terrorist attacks in the United States between the years 1980-2005 were perpetrated by Islamic extremists.

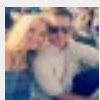
In addition, according to the sources linked in this article (<http://www.loonwatch.com/2011/11/updated-europol-data-less-than-1-of-terrorist-attacks-by-muslims/>) **LESS THAN 1%** of terrorist attacks in Europe from 2006 to 2010 were carried out in the name of Islam.

So, if you claim that there are too many terrorists amongst Muslim populations for them to be allowed in the United States, not only are you going against the 14th amendment of the U.S. Constitution, you also

have to exclude all other groups with similar or higher levels of terrorist activities, namely, ***everybody***.

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Re: Donald Trump and Dehumanizing Muslims

by [Benjamin Glaeser](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 4:55 PM

So in your opinion we should let in all Syrian refugees?

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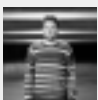
Re: Donald Trump and Dehumanizing Muslims

by [Joseph Collins](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 5:37 PM

There is a massive and fundamental difference between the admission of a foreign population as refugees in a crisis and the ban of an entire religion, of which many members are already law abiding United States citizens. And while I do think there should be precautionary measures when taking in the refugees (as we do with ALL groups who come into our country) to flat out deny them entry due to their religious beliefs goes against everything we should stand for as Americans.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Re: Donald Trump and Dehumanizing Muslims

by [Justin Cox](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 10:46 PM

Benjamin,

Your arguments rely on what is commonly called the "1% doctrine." This logical process is also referred to as the "Cheney Doctrine," named after former Vice President Dick Cheney. Cheney famously argued that if there is a 1% chance of a potential terrorist threat, there is justification to use the full force of the United States government to intervene. This is the kind of mentality that President George W. Bush's administration used to justify "enhanced interrogation techniques," commonly known as torture, of suspected jihadist militants in U.S. custody, the invasion of Iraq in 2003 and the rollback of civil liberties of American citizens following the attacks of September 11, 2001.

I considered forcefully responding to the content of your arguments but instead I'll just ask you to reconsider them based on the fact that you are using this "1% doctrine" to justify them. The world is not black and white. Yet, your "1% doctrine" mentality paints it as such. That alone is reason to discredit your logical conclusions.

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Re: Donald Trump and Dehumanizing Muslims

by [Jonathan Axtell](#) – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 11:49 PM

I see your point on some things. Yes, it wouldn't be the first time we've banned a group. Does that make it right? I wouldn't say so, and I don't think many people would. I also think we as a people need to not focus on ones religion as much when we talk about banning a group. We want to ban Syrian refugees, not people of the Islamic faith. Americans talks about freedom of religion, yet we fear a religion because we don't understand it. Fox News and CNN don't help the cause either. Personally, I think people see these ISIS fighters wearing turbans and other masks, which are commonly worn by people of the Islamic faith and that general region, and mentally put two & two together and label someone dangerous off their clothing choices.

What jobs are we considering American jobs? All Jobs? Or just those lower paying, minimum wage jobs? It seems people talk about these "American Jobs" and instantly think of agricultural jobs.(At least back home) Most Legal Americans won't even take these jobs if there were openings. It's hard work, and extremely crappy hours. I know because I worked it, and was one of the few Legal Citizens.

I do agree that we should make them come here legally, but first we need to make the process of becoming a citizen easier and faster.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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The similarity in demoninzing the enemy and rascism

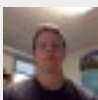
by *Christopher Cockman* – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 1:26 PM

In any case, demonizing the enemy is purely intended to make them out to be terrible, unjust characters. More often than not, the way to do this involves overemphasizing the racial qualities of enemy. I think a prime example is the Donald Duck cartoon that was shown in class on how these racial, and even homosexual, stereotypes come into play. For the Japanese man, his skin was clearly yellow and eyes stretched. The classic "Hitlerstache" pointed out the German man. There was a depiction of a homosexual man, which at the time, was a negative view on a human's stance in America. All of these soldiers were clearly depicted by their stereotypes for the audience to easily pick out that they were the enemy. Furthermore, they treated good ol' soldier Donald Duck very badly with oppression. What astounds me, is that inherently by being a Disney cartoon, it was centered at children. Children during wartime were taught that anybody who looked or acted like these different stereotypes are bad. That takes a very strong psychological impression on children who most likely did not forget to dislike Japanese or German people even in America.

However intentional these stereotypes are to point out the enemy, they are falsely hyperbolized to the threshold of characterization in order to sell the enemy out. Stereotypes exist as an amplification of one aspect of a person's impression. Sadly, because this is true and propaganda of wartime chose to display these characteristics in a negative fashion, there was wrongful prosecution of American citizens of one of these races. This is a direct example of how racial propaganda swayed the American public's view of Japanese, German, and Italian Americans.

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Re: The similarity in demoninzing the enemy and rascism

by *Jake Cleary* – Saturday, May 14, 2016, 5:55 PM

The Dehumanization during the time helped the U.S. citizens get on the side of attack. Yes, it hurt some of the ethnic citizens of America, but Germany and Japan needed to be stop and it was an influential way to get the backing to stop Germany and Japan from taking over the world and slaughtering thousands of people. The U.S., during the time of WWII, didn't want to take any risk with the German and Japanese citizens. They were afraid of spies that could have potentially deviated America even more. Yes they were extreme measures, but for good reason to protect the majority of the citizens.

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