

HST 203: History of the United States Sp17 (Escobar Meta 41054 41053)

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Using & Abusing History

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Using & Abusing History

by Joe Escobar - Saturday, May 13, 2017, 7:27 AM

This thread is for discussions on the Using & Abusing History 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: Using & Abusing History

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Not An Overlydramatic Poster

by Cameron Wray - Saturday, May 13, 2017, 1:20 PM

Personally, the “pair” of WW2 propaganda I find has the biggest impact on me is the one featuring a soldier drinking and says “Do with less – so they’ll have enough!” and “rationing gives you your fair share” because I don’t find its message to be as exaggerated as the others and I’ve always thought people should do what they can to support the troops even if that’s just rationing. Having never had to live through a time period requiring we ration our food I feel like that’s not a deceptive thing to be asked to do with an ulterior motive which a lot of the

other posters come off as having. For instance the poster with the statue of liberty starring angrily at you asking for you to buy war bonds it comes off as hostile and the angry eyes just feel wrong.

The second poster is the more modernized version which I find to be pretty funny, "How about rooting for our side for a change, you liberal moron". While I normally don't like negative advertisements (referring to liberal moron) I find this one to be more tolerable because when it comes to the U.S. soldiers I believe we should always support them regardless if we agree/disagree with why they are wherever they are. With that being said I think the poster has an overall positive message to support the troops! which is something I can always do easily even if it's just a shout and a fist pump.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Not An Overlydramatic Poster

by Desmond Johnson - Wednesday, May 17, 2017, 11:50 AM

I agree with you that this poster didn't seem to have some sort of deceptive ulterior motive to it, but I would also argue that if the older poster on the left were to come up today, it would be met with great opposition and criticism. I think that is sort of the point of the comparison of the two. As the U.S. has engaged in many foreign conflicts through the years, the American people have become seemingly less and less supportive of war and I'm thinking that the current U.S. population would not have an easy time with rationing successfully. The joke here on the new poster is that you can hardly even ask people to support the troops mentally/verbally anymore without being met with some pushback sometimes, often from the left. I think propaganda for building war support worked a lot better in the 1940's, because there wasn't mass internet and television media reporting on what is actually happening, whereas now many people can do independent research and find out whether they do or don't support a military cause. This does make me think about what kind of control propaganda has on us today and how it is employed. Do you think there are any government agencies that are influencing certain media sources towards a specific goal or message??

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Re: Not An Overlydramatic Poster

by Cameron Wray - Wednesday, May 17, 2017, 2:06 PM

Honestly I didn't think about the poster in that way until we had a brief discussion about it in class, specifically who gets to determine what is their "fair share" and now with some great points you are bringing up as well. I think a majority if not all of the posters we can choose from would be met with their fair share of criticism (no pun intended). It's also important to think about perspective of the poster too because it is very difficult for me to look at it and not see it with some humor elements to it. I'm sure that was probably different back when the government was more controlling and there was no internet to tear every image down into a meme. I do believe asking for the people to ration today for the troops would not go over well and may even be looked at as a joke.

In regards to your question about a government agency influencing media for a goal/message? It would not surprise me at all to find out that was the case.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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A careless word, another cross

by Hope Walston - Saturday, May 13, 2017, 8:59 PM

I am choosing to talk about the paired pictures of "A careless word, another cross" and "Join the army, vacancies available." I chose this pair because I think it speaks a lot about the differences in time. The careless word one is talking about how people should not talk about when soldiers are going to ship out because there were spies everywhere and their boat could be sunk by a submarine. The join the army one I believe is about how there aren't that many people enlisting these days. There are so many people who are against the military and war all together. Men used to be so excited to sign up for the army and serve their country with pride. Now people are against their own country and a lot of people don't support the U.S. anymore.

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Re: A careless word, another cross

by Nick Lynch - Thursday, May 18, 2017, 2:15 PM

I like what you've said about the "modern" photo and how it relates to how there aren't a large amount of people jumping at the idea of enlisting in the army. However, I disagree with your reason as to why. I think there are still lots of people who are prideful of our country and lots of people support the United States of America, but I think a large reason there aren't as many people enlisting is because there are better opportunities available to them. In a lot of families, it has become expected that their kids go to college after graduating from high school. Tons of people choose to go to school over enlisting in the army. There are also tons of opportunities for jobs out of high school without a college degree. Real Estate Agents, business entrepreneurs, stock market investors, YouTube vloggers/Video Game Streamers are all prime examples of opportunities that one can take that don't require a degree and would be a more "ideal" job than enlisting. However, another reason for a large amount of people not enlisting might not be that they simply "don't want to" or they see better opportunities somewhere else, but instead the idea that we are not fighting a war right now compared to 2003 when we invaded Iraq and the government of Saddam Hussein. In 2001, tons of people felt the need to enlist to fight because we had just been attacked and they wanted to do what they could to help. After 9/11, there was a surge of patriotism in the United States. I'd be willing to bet that if the United States was attacked tomorrow and we were going to war, there would be a significant amount of people who would get in their car and drive to the recruitment offices to enlist.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: A careless word, another cross

by Hope Walston - Friday, May 19, 2017, 1:53 PM

I agree with you. I hadn't even thought about how back then being in the military was sometimes the only job available and some families only means for income. Today most people enlist because they want to not because they need the money for their family. I

also agree with you about when 9/11 happened. When big events like that occur there is usually and immense amount of patriotism throughout the country.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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Re: A careless word, another cross

by Jeff Johnson - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 12:06 AM

I believe u are forgetting a couple of things one the draft. Secondly i believe we had huge anti war sentiment in this country and stayed out of WW2 until Pearl Harbor. I would have to look it up to make sure but i think most of our troops still come from poorer neighborhoods

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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Re: A careless word, another cross

by Kiet Bui - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 3:23 PM

The two reasons you pointed out definitely explain why many Americans are not considering enlisting for the army, especially the second one "the idea that we are not fighting a war right now", and that Americans would sign up for the army every time the country is at risks. Do you think that was American inherited isolationism? Back in WWI, WWII, the majority of Americans were against U.S. interference in the war, until a menacing event occurred.

I would also say that the modern version of the cartoon implies the relation between the military and death to discourage people from join the army, instead of describing the current situation that there are not many people enlisting.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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War on Global Warming

by Jeff Johnson - Sunday, May 14, 2017, 11:20 PM

I'm am responding to the Time magazine cover about global warming and not because I am against doing anything about climate change but because I am sick and tired of the need to declare war. In studying WW2 and all the atrocities that took place it becomes more than clear that war is not something we should take lightly. Using the picture like that is disrespectful to all the soldiers who fought and died in WW2. I read the article attached to the magazine cover and here are a few quotes from it.

How to Win the War on Global Warming

By Bryan Walsh Thursday, Apr. 17, 2008

Forget precedents like the Manhattan Project, which developed the atom bomb, or the Apollo program that put men on the moon—single-focus programs both, however hard they were to pull off. Think instead of the overnight conversion of the World War II-era industrial sector into a vast machine capable of churning out 60,000 tanks and 300,000 planes, an effort that not only didn't bankrupt the nation but instead made it rich and powerful beyond its imagining and—oh, yes—won the war in the process.

If we took all the steps outlined here—a national cap-and-trade system with teeth, coupled with tougher energy-efficiency mandates and significant new public and private investment in green technologies—where would that get us? We'd be a little poorer—a sustained battle against climate change will hit our wallets hard, absorbing perhaps 2% to 3% of GDP a year for some time, according to energy expert Henry Lee at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government,

The article wants us to declare war but then talks about how if countries especially as big as India and China continue to use more fossil fuels it won't even matter what anyone else does. If other countries keep polluting are we going to go to actual war? It also compares what we need to do to the massive military build-up during WW2 and claims we can do that with only a 2-3% loss of GDP. I also believe after the war we were left with a massive military industrial complex that we still haven't gotten rid of today. They would have been much better off not using the word war but then the picture couldn't be used either.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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Re: Using & Abusing History

by Desmond Johnson - Monday, May 15, 2017, 12:31 PM

The pair of altered propaganda posters which had the biggest impact on me was the one with the soldier holding a tin cup saying "Do with less- so they'll have enough. Rationing gives you your fair share", which was changed in recent times to fit modern sentiments saying "How about rooting for our side for a change you liberal moron!" This alteration gives great insight into the changing public opinion and attitude towards war from before WWII to after WWII. During WWII our country rationed the food supply, but with the sentiments of the time and much propaganda in place, the public generally supported being at war so the poster just had to aim to quell any concerns of not getting enough rations. After seeing the history altering atrocities of World War Two, adopting a role as a "national security" enforcer, stockpiling military arms, and using them in countless other conflicts through many other countries, I think the American people today are tired of war, and many have lost faith in militant realpolitik

strategies. This sentiment is more common amongst the political left, with a tendency of the right to be more pro war. This has led to an interesting social and culture dichotomy in which some right wing proponents consider the left to be weak and appeasing, unwilling to step on anyone's toes to get things done, whereas the left may see the right as pushy and overbearing, often acting immorally to attain personal gain.

I think their manipulation of the historical propaganda was tastefully done, because to me it seems like a clever satirical commentary on how history has changed and molded our modern views of war and military. If you know a little bit about the history of the times, think about how this poster characterizes the shifting and even reversal of roles in the democratic and republican parties, and how strains of radicalism and nativism have reflectively shifted over time as well. I think the specific one was chosen to show how far public support of military action has dropped off in recent times. In the first one they are already in the war and just trying to get the people to be a terms with rationing food. In the second one they are just asking people to simply support our troops, something that would have been blasphemous not to do during WWII, but seems more common today.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3



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a careless word... another cross

by Logan Hawkins - Monday, May 15, 2017, 4:06 PM

One of my favorite parts of this class has been looking at and analyzing the political cartoons from the 1900's. These play a huge role in history. As we know, advertisements heavily influence citizens. But looking at this document, there are many spin offs of these cartoons that attempt to tackle different issues.

Of the 11 cartoons and their spoofs, the 6th one stood out to me the most. This is the cartoon we looked at in class on Thursday (5/11). This cartoon was sparked from the rise of German spies in the U.S. "a careless word... another cross" was the motto, advising people and soldiers to keep their mouths shut about details of the war by implying that their careless conversation could lead to the death of our soldiers. Yet another example of how 1st Amendment rights are disregarded during wartime (5/11 class notes).

The spinoff of this cartoon reads "Join the Army Vacancies Available" with the same cross and military uniform hanging from a white cross. This spinoff is clearly anti-war. It is suggesting that joining the Army means death. I relate this to our country's decline in war involvement. During the Spanish War, fighting was something positive and patriotic (4/11 notes). Now, as the spoof cartoon demonstrates, we associate war with the death of our own troops

I don't think this spin off poster is a negative one. This is simply one person voicing their opinion using a picture that fits it well. However by taking a historical image and putting your own twist on it, you are distorting the historical meaning in one way or another, which should always be avoided.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3



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Re: a careless word... another cross



by Hope Walston - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 1:38 PM

I feel like back then there were two opinions had about their sons joining the military. The first being "Oh I'm so proud of my son, serving his country," And the second being "Oh now my boy is going off to die." I think there will always be people who think both ways about the military. My friends family is against the military in all aspects but in my family, almost almost every male has been in the military at one point or another. I don't quite get why the person who altered the cartoon chose this one. "A careless word, another cross" and "Join the army, vacancies available" don't go together. One is talking about keeping your mouth shut and the other is talking about how there is always space in the army because people constantly dying. In my mind if your going to use a historic photo/cartoon, use a similar situation.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Iwo Jima Vs. Global Warming

by Isaac Anderson - Monday, May 15, 2017, 9:45 PM

The pair of images that stands out for me is the set featuring the photo of the American soldiers planting the flag at Iwo Jima and the Time Magazine cover "How to Win The War on Global Warming". The photo from Iwo Jima was used as propaganda to sell war bonds and draw support for the war. It looks like the Time Magazine cover is trying to depict the conservative idea that global warming is a "hoax" and a "conspiracy" and is being used as liberal propaganda to promote a global government (1). In a speech given to the US Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works on July 28, 2003, entitled "The Science of Climate Change", Republican Senator James Inhofe said "With all of the hysteria, all of the fear, all of the phony science, could it be that man-made global warming is the greatest hoax ever perpetrated on the American people (1)?" It's hard for me to say if this is appropriate manipulation of history or not as the global warming issue is back and forth for me. Not because I don't care about the world or the environment but because history shows us the use of propaganda and how easy it is to manipulate a population to support an agenda.

1: https://infogalactic.com/info/Global_warming_conspiracy_theory

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Iwo Jima Vs. Global Warming

by Kiet Bui - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 9:35 PM

The original picture was undoubtedly in efforts to sell war bond, however, I disagree that the modern version of it is trying to imply what the U.S. current president said about climate change. Before I went in and read the article "How to Win the War on Global Warming", I interpreted the picture as to fight the war on climate change, we have to increase planting trees. Having read it, the article said that in the this war, "by any measure the U.S. is on the

losing side" , and "if we're fighting at all, we are fighting for the wrong side". This idea rings a bell immediately to me. I recalled that the flag Iwo Jima--the very first Japanese territory to be captured by America, signals the upcoming defeat of Japan in WWII; and similarly enough, I think that the Time magazine's cover was trying to say the very first step for the U.S. to win this war is to start doing something seriously, which is illustrated by the action of raising the tree. In fact, the article pointed out the U.S. contributed a fourth of the world's green gases emission, and "has stubbornly made it clear that it doesn't intend to do a whole lot about it."

Sum of ratings:2 (1) 2

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Re: Iwo Jima Vs. Global Warming

by Isaac Anderson - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 11:03 PM

Yeah you have a good point there. I have definitely been more caught up in the propaganda aspect of it all, so in seeing the two pictures side by side I figured it was a stab at the conservative view that global warming is a hoax and is being used to sway public opinion for a bigger agenda. I think we have done great harm to the environment and greatly disrespected our earth, but can we really say that our weather patterns are caused by man or are any different than the historical weather patterns of the past.

Sum of ratings:0 (1) 0

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Same Love

by Nick Lynch - Monday, May 15, 2017, 9:45 PM

The image of the woman and man kissing in Time Square vs the edited image of the two men kissing in Time Square is a very powerful one. In a day and age where the LGBTQ community is still criticized and are still fighting for some rights, it's hard to imagine a time where the only love that was considered "morally correct" was the love between one man and one woman. I believe that this image is so powerful because it reminds you just how much things have changed in the course of 70 years. Remember, during this time period, Lesbians and Gays were considered to be security risks and communist sympathizers, which lead to mass firings of the LGBTQ community. This is also referred to as the Lavender Scare. President Eisenhower actually passed an executive order, Executive Order 10450 to be exact, that prevented homosexuals from working for the federal government. Imagine the outrage from the Left if an executive order like that was passed today. Because of this powerful message, I believe that this photo was chosen to be altered because it shows just how much has changed in such little time. In a time period where people were getting fired for being a homosexual, now it's encouraged that people express their sexuality. Diversity has become a good thing in a generation of younger people, and while some people might feel we are going backwards instead of forward in today's age, I think these two photos show just how much we have gone forward, and continue to go forward as those in the LGBTQ continue to get more and more rights every year.

Sum of ratings:2 (1) 2

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Lest I Perish



by Jaclyn Bahn - Monday, May 15, 2017, 9:47 PM

The image alteration that I picked is the statue of liberty pointing and its original reads, "You buy a Liberty Bond, Lest I Perish" and the alteration reads, "You! Stop asking questions" (10th photo pair given). I think it is a more negative display of the picture but I do see it as accurately exclaiming the idea the original was trying to get across. The original was being used as a way to guilt or scare people into buying war bonds, that if you didn't the Statue of Liberty (aka America or Americans) will perish. The altered picture says, "You're Either With US or You're With The TERRORISTS!" which is the fear tactic that the original was subtly going for. That if you didn't buy war bonds you're on "their" side and you'll be the reason we perish. I think the reason it stood out to me the most was its accurate attack at the propogandas manipulation and fear mongering and I believe that was why this picture was chosen to be altered.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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One image can serve different goals

by Kiet Bui - Monday, May 15, 2017, 10:09 PM

The "pair" of posters that impresses me the most was the "pair" about a innocent looking young american behind a typewriter.

As I understand, the original poster was designed in WWII in a series of posters that encouraged women, especially those who had not held a job before, to go out and find one. The wartime labor shortages required women to enter the industries, and even armed forces. This poster glorified the image of working women without damaging "femininity" (curly long hair with a bow), and the hand gesture clearly suggested that women could even join the military, which used to be predominated by men.

On the other hand, the second poster was used sarcastically to assert that the government is working with media to control the masses. Instead of encouraging, this poster serves to disgrace and to accuse modern day medias of being a tool to shape the public opinion. The smiling and saluting woman makes this poster feel even more inciting, because she is clearly doing it with pride and joy. I must say that was a very clever manipulation. In the end, it worked so well because it triggers the feeling that the medias are willingly and happily helping to "control the people".

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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Propaganda at it's finest

by Morgan Steinmetz - Monday, May 15, 2017, 10:11 PM

The pair of images that impacted me the most is the set with the Iwo Jima flag raising compared to the *Time* magazine with the same picture depicted but it's referring to global warming. The reason it impacted me the most is because it is extremely frustrating to me. In my opinion, it seems to me that whoever designed this cover of the magazine thinks it's ok to compare war to global warming. Yes they both are negative aspects of life but they don't even begin to compare. Three of the men in the photograph from Iwo Jima died over the following days after that photo was taken and to use their picture to campaign about how to end global warming is disrespectful in my opinion. Those men didn't sacrifice their lives so they could be used as a tool to advertise global warming. Most of the pairs struck a nerve with me in some way or another, but I definitely think this pair impacted me the most.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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Re: Propaganda at it's finest

by Hope Walston - Friday, May 19, 2017, 2:08 PM

I completely agree with you that this is disrespectful. When I first saw the global warming version is upset me. As you said the comparison of war to global warming is ridiculous. I don't like how historic photos like this one are changed and used to fit modern problems one bit.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

0

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Corporate News Control

by Kate Weiss - Monday, May 15, 2017, 10:36 PM

I chose the poster portraying the "All-American girl" saluting and typing to help do her part in bringing an end to WWII, and victory to the USA. This poster was used to encourage women to start working as typists during wartimes since a lot of the men left their jobs to enlist. The remixed poster shows the same typist working for a corporate news company, and she is only able to write what is told to her, in order to control the people. The small blurb at the bottom stating the message was "from the Ministry of Homeland Security" dates this piece in the 21st century, since the Department of Homeland Security was created in 2002. The dark meaning the poster depicts is the sense that during wartimes, the government's influence over major news corporations increases. The parody poster seems like a backlash to the military embedding journalists to report on the Iraq War in what Lt. Col. Rick Long of the U.S. Marine Corps says was "an attempt to dominate the information environment (Wiki 2003 invasion of Iraq/US Media Coverage).

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2

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Re: Using & Abusing History

by Nadav Klappholz - Compton - Monday, May 15, 2017, 10:37 PM

There was a moment in class-- I can't remember exactly what Joe said--but the gist is that we all believe that we're living in the most interesting and important and crazy and difficult time in history, because there's no one that's ever lived that's nearly as interesting or important as us.

That's a totally understandable and natural bias--if things were any different, we would be a lot different--we'd barely be able to recognize ourselves, I think.

History as a discipline is practiced by a tiny number of people--most of them, like our professor, passionate and well-educated in their specialization--and yet, most Historians would say, I believe, and in very strong terms, that the idea of "historical fact" is, at best, tough to define. There are some events, world-changing events that were big enough and well-documented enough that there's enough of a historical record that we can pretty much know what happened--at least the outline--but the best we can ever do is a rough sketch. The nature of history makes it extremely vulnerable to abuse and misappropriation, which is often the fate "history" suffers. We like to tailor historical narratives to fit conveniently with our own experiences and agendas, because, after all, there's no time like the present.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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Re: Using & Abusing History

by Hope Walston - Friday, May 19, 2017, 2:57 PM

And that because we can't say what happened for sure in a lot of cases, there has been a lot of Historical Revisionism throughout all of history. You get historians who are looking at history, trying to piece together what happened, and they will just make something up, write it in, and call it fact. Not only with history but it happens in religion too. When it comes to Christianity, sadly I forget what offshoot it is, the many branches of it have taken the four main gospels of the bible, and taken out the "bad" parts that they don't want. Revisionism, I believe, is a big problem and it happens all the time, a lot of it in the news.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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"You Buy a Liberty Bond"

by Marco Leon-Cobian - Monday, May 15, 2017, 11:03 PM

The image pairs that make the biggest impact on me personally is the "Buy a Liberty Bond" propaganda posters. When first looking at these posters, I was surprised on how the Statue of Liberty is being portrayed to look evil and forceful. I always thought that the Statue of Liberty was something that was supposed to represent freedom. When talking about the audience of the posters, it is being directed to American Citizens to buy war bonds and help finance World War 2 that was being fought in 1942. The strategy used for these posters is quite clever in my opinion. The first one they used is for Statue of Liberty, which is the symbol of righteous and freedom in our country, to promote the buying of war bonds to pay for the war. The phrasing in these posters was another strategy that was being used. The word "Perish" has a negative connotation and stands for what will happen if you don't buy a war bond. I would say that it was more like a threat. Also, using the word "You" was strategic to point out the American people and make them feel that the poster is directed to them personally. After Analyzing the modern poster or the poster of today, I realized that the same symbolic and diction strategy is being used but with different wording and totally different objective which is for the American people to stop asking questions about the war. Making it feel like they are hiding something. In my opinion, I think history is being manipulated cleverly due to the strategies they used on the posters.

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Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2



Re: "You Buy a Liberty Bond"

by Kate Weiss - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 9:20 AM

I agree with you about the forceful and clearly manipulative tactics the first poster is conveying, where Lady Liberty is threatening Americans to buy war bonds to help pay for the \$321 billion war (5/16 class notes). The poster on the left had a clear purpose and meaning, even if the delivery was a bit harsh and forceful. On the flip side, the repurposed poster with the same image has a very different message. And yes, they are probably hiding something! The War on Terror met with massive opposition, where American's questioned the involvement every step of the way. The mockery poster represents a big switch in a lot of American's attitudes toward war, especially if we're fed a lie about "weapons of mass destruction". Nonetheless, the satirical message from Lady Liberty has a deeper, darker meaning since she's basically saying, "You're a terrorist if you're questioning the war."

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2



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The abuse of political cartoons from WW2

by Justin Onusko - Monday, May 15, 2017, 11:16 PM

This cartoon's original purpose was to highlight the importance of rationing inside the United States during World War Two.

In 1940 the national debt was just \$9 billion. When the U.S. got involved in the war in 1941 national debt had increased to \$48 billion, and by 1945 it had gone up to \$280 billion. (Textbook pg 869). There was also a shift in the workforce during this time period with women taking over traditionally male dominated jobs. Rationing was a way to help overcome the decreased production and to reduce some stress on the workforce. During class we saw a photo of car in the U.S. without a bumper, instead it was replaced by a piece of wood that read "Please drive carefully my bumpers are on the scrap heap". It was also a way for americans to feel like they were directly helping the war effort.

Rationing was seen as a "shared sacrifice" for U.S. troops in Europe. (Textbook pg 869) Resources such as metals, rubber, sugar, certain medications and gasoline were closely monitored in their usage. The government even went as far as using stamps to enforce the rations.

The cartoon on the right is dealing with the modern day issue of United States involvement following the 9-11 attacks. An interesting statistic from Gallup poll was that in March 2003, 73% of americans supported the war. The person who made the cartoon comes from the right side of the spectrum as he is insulting the left side of the spectrum by calling them "liberal morons".

There are more differences than similarities in these two cartoons. The one similarity between them is that both were made in a time period where the U.S. was involved in a war. The differences between the two are more substantial. The cartoon on the left is trying to support an actual cause. The cartoon on the right is simply making fun of a side on the spectrum and

is not conveying a useful message to anyone. In my opinion, this qualifies as abuse of the original cartoon in an attempt to use its popularity for a message that it wasn't originally intended for.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: The abuse of political cartoons from WW2

by Kiet Bui - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 9:05 PM

I totally agree that these two posters have more differences than similarities. Both were made when the U.S. was at war, but the nature of each war differs. One was a total war; the other one is relatively less domestically influential. Joe mentioned many times in class that this country will go to the right most of the time in the past, but that seems to be changing now. Back in the past Americans could be rationing to support war efforts, but now just to get supports for the war is hard enough, and yes the right wing blame that on "liberal morons". However, I think another significant element could be that the freedom of speech then and now are not the same. America once had agencies and laws that prevent speeches against the war cause, but now a similar practice is not likely to be possible with the aid of social medias and other communication methods.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Rationing

by Nick Coleman - Monday, May 15, 2017, 11:33 PM

The propaganda poster that appeals to me most is the one that reads, "When you ride alone, you ride with Hitler." I believe this is referring to the fact the government wanted the public to be frugal and not waste. This came down to even carpooling to reduce fuel consumption. This seems a little bit extreme to me. But I wasn't around during war times and can't relate to that level of patriotism. The poster that follows it is the same but it reads, "When you ride ALONE, you ride with bin Laden." It says at the bottom, "What the government should be telling us to help fight the war on terror. "I think this statement relates to the War on Terror and how there are a lot of other reasons the United States went into Iran and Iraq besides terrorist attacks. Most likely there was Oil Industry incentives to entering the War during the Bush administration. Bill Maher is also known for discussing controversial issues like these. I found these two poster. They both use gasoline consumption as a common thread, but i don't think they there was a negative message.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Iwo Jima flag raising/ Times article

by Trevor Remington - Thursday, May 18, 2017, 3:44 PM

The raising of the flag on Iwo Jima next to the Times article on global warming stood out most to me. The battle for Iwo Jima was a huge win for the US forces on the pacific campaign. The picture captured of the Marines raising the flag gives me a sense of Freedom, and a testament to what US forces had gone through during the pacific campaign. It was a boost for troops seeing that. A sense of victory to a foe that would not give up easily. Being a Marine myself I

may be a bit biased towards the Times picture created, I can see where the article is competing from about global warming. Sure it is an issue. But inevitable in that cause. No matter what we do it is going to happen sooner or later. Global warming is not a war. Sure it's a crisis but don't put it next to a picture of one of the hardest fought battles in the pacific.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Iwo Jima flag raising/ Times article

by Morgan Steinmetz - Friday, May 19, 2017, 11:11 AM

I chose to talk about the same images as you and completely agree with what you said. It frustrated me so much that the creator of the Time photo even thought it was remotely ok to compare global warming to that picture of the flag being raised by soldiers in Iwo Jima. Especially when some of those somdiers in the photo died over the following days. Like you said, global warming is a crisis, but definitely has no room to be compared to war in general. I personally thought when looking at those pictures side by side, seeing the global warming version almost took the importance and meaning out of the real photo from Iwo Jima. But Im glad I am not the only one who saw an issue with those images.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Iwo Jima flag raising/ Times article

by Trevor Remington - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 5:29 PM

I'm glad i was not the only person. I mean 27 people were awarded the Medal of Honor for actions taken on Iwo Jima, 22 of them being Marines(wikipedia, M.O.H. iwo jima honors). Like i sad earlier being a Marine myself i may be a bit bias, it just jerked me the wrong way. Maybe i just don't see global warming as big of a crisis as its made out to be. Feels good to know that other people see the same disrespect in that sense.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Rosie the Riveter, Princess Leia

by Hope Walston - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 2:37 PM

I have mixed feeling about these two pictures. The original Rosie the Riveter pictures purpose was to encourage women to take up a job that a man left behind. It showed that a woman could be strong enough to take up an industrial job. The Princess Leia version is just fanart. I can see why people make the connection, Leia is a strong woman who fights for what she believes in. I don't think the Princess Leia version has much of an effect that the original has. At the same time I think it's cool because I like Star Wars but that's not the point. I don't think people should use historic photos/cartoons because it could been seen as disrespectful. This one however doesn't reach that point, it's just for fun.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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A careless word.. another cross



by Marco Leon-Cobian - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 5:05 PM

Another pair images that made an impact on me personally are the “A careless word... another cross” along with “Join the army, vacancies available”. For the first image, the meaning behind it is that military soldiers were being killed someone was careless and was giving out classified information about the next move the military was going to make. The image on the right is urging Americans to enlist in the army assuring them a position. In my opinion I think history is being manipulated disrespectfully with these two posters due to the fact that they use the same cross that represents the fallen soldiers to try and get people to join the army.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

0

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Statue of liberty is watching

by Evan Young - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 10:54 PM

The images of the statue of liberty, the first image on the left is pro-america asking citizens to buy war bonds. This besides demonizing the enemy asking for bonds can be seen as the largest focus of us advertising during WWII, asking citizens to buy war bonds was in every from of entertainment, from hollywood stars touring the country to girl scouts. The other statue of liberty is anti-america, it is centered around being on americans side in every fight, even if you see flaws the conflict. For example, the war on terrorism, no matter what the US was on the right side.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

0

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Re: Using & Abusing History

by Tanner Bull - Saturday, May 20, 2017, 10:55 PM

After looking through the images the two-representing world war two ideology (left side) vs. today's (right side) that impacted me the most was the two where the left image reads, “a careless word... another cross” and the right reads, “Join the Army Vacancies Available”. Both images are the same with a white cross holding a helmet and a soldier packs just with altered text. The reason these two particularly stood out to me was the making fun of true purpose behind military advertisement. The left image persuades the American populace to be quiet about the war and showing that men are dying so we will be needing more. The right image in today's standards with the new text gives truth behind the reason the military gives heart wrenching or emotional advertisements. Ensuring the American people get behind their efforts through misguided advertisements and giving the truth on why they advertise. Reason being many men will die in war times and will be needed to be replaced with more men. I believe that history is being manipulated cleverly because for several decades the United States has made sure that their image is shown through their lenses and try to get rid of anything that could tarnish their image. Obviously, this isn't completely true as we tend to find some things out just either in a much longer time or simply all details are not given, therefore not giving the full truth. The message from many educated eyes are negative as we see the true agenda of the government to try and blind us from some things or enforce others upon us though simply the history books, making us think one thing happen when it happened in another way. I believe

this specific historical image was chosen for alteration because is showcased a true meaning of an important aspect of the military that is often not connected with one another; advertisement and war.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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