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## **Propaganda**

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- What is Propaganda?
  - Propaganda is a message
  - Attempt to alter perceptions
  - Attempt to control opinions
  - Attempt to produce action
- Propaganda in History
  - Ancient world
  - Crusades
  - $\circ$  WWI
  - $\circ$  WWII
  - Example: Mohawk Valley strike
- Why Study Propaganda?
  - Understand its use historically
  - Learn to recognize it
  - Avoid being influenced by it

1 of 4

- General Types of Propaganda
  - White not disguised
  - Gray obvious propaganda but source concealed
  - Black nature and source concealed
- Principles of Propaganda
  - There are no moral codes; the aim is to succeed
  - Propaganda usually involves some fakery
  - Appeal to emotions; avoid abstract ideas
  - Repeat, repeat, repeat a few ideas.
  - Present only one side (the one favorable to you)
  - Constantly attack the opposition
  - Point out a "villain"
  - Utilize Goebbels' principles
- Properties of Propaganda
  - Appeal to emotions
  - Simplicity

- Features slogans
- Constant repetition
- Stereotyped phrasing
- Very one-sided
- Points to a "villain"
- Criticizes opposition
- Labeling
- Not important whether true or false
- Works on targets' backgrounds
- Works on cultural symbols
- Uses devices identified by IPA

## Dissecting Propaganda

- Ideology
- Who is presenting the message?
- Who is paying for it?
- Is the source credible?
- ontext?
- Who is the target audience?
- Who benefits?
- Why these options?
- What happens if you don't go along?
- Are the arguments valid?
- Are the "facts" really correct?

3 of 4 09/10/2012 10:28 AM

- Is it clear?
- Are there any deceptive devices?
- Can you find any other tricks?
- What do symbols mean?
- Who is the "villain" if any?
- Are there any slogans?
- Last Thoughts
  - The subject is very large.
  - You will need to read to get any understanding
  - Propaganda is everywhere
  - How to respond?

4 of 4