Totalitarianism: The Reality versus the Myth

Understanding the Nature of Dictatorship and Propaganda

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The Imperial Forces Need You

You're not paid to think

A mindless worker is a happy worker! Shut up and do your job!
The art of propaganda lies in understanding the emotional ideas of the great masses and finding, through a psychologically correct form, the way to the attention and thence to the heart of the broad masses.
Propaganda gives force and direction to the successive movements of popular feeling and desire; but it does not do much to create these movements. The propagandist is a man who canalizes an already existing stream. In a land where there is no water, he digs in vain.
# Key Elements of Totalitarian State

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Key Elements of Totalitarian State

- Single, focusing (if unfocused) Ideology
- One Party, One Leader
- Policing (three types)
- Military/militarism (?)
- Propaganda (Indoctrination)
- Youth Movements (Education)
- Economic Control (varies)(autarky?)
Big Four?
**Big Four Ideologies:**

- **Nazism** (Fascism): Ultra-nationalism
  - Politics = Race

- **Stalinism** – Marxism-Leninism
  - Politics = Class

- **Mao** – Maoism (Peasant Marxism?)

- **Juche** – NK – Marxism-Leninism + autarky
Authoritarian

- The Authoritarian:
  1. De-politize
  2. One Party/Policing
  3. Leave/return individual in traditional context.
  4. Limited change (?)
  5. Not radical
  6. Defender of __________
Or?
Defining “Propaganda”

- The “art of changing attitudes”?
- The reinforcement of existing trends/beliefs – sharpen?
- Propaganda – not just “lies” – often half-truths and the truth out of context.
- It appeals to the irrational AND the rational
- It is “Ethically Neutral” – has a pejorative context.
  - Must see it in the context of its use.
One Ideology, One Leader, One Party

- Cult of Personality for Leader – focus of message
- Inspiration to sacrifice
- Quasi-religious
- Party as monolithic structure, but still local authority
- Driving idea, but often morphs
Slogans!

“Long live the General Line! Long live the Great Leap Forward! Long live the People's Communes!”
For the people's happiness!
(voting)

Glory to the Great Stalin!
A few places named after Stalin

- Stalingrad, from 1925–1961; now known as Volgograd, Russia
  - Petition to rename the city Stalingrad again
- Stalinogorsk, from 1934–1961; now known as Novomoskovsk, Russia
- Stalinogród, from 1953–1956; now known as Katowice, Poland
- Stalinstadt, from 1953–1961; now known as Eisenhüttenstadt, East Germany
- Pik Stalina (Stalin Peak), from 1932–1962; now known as Ismail Samani Peak, Tajikistan
- Stalino, from 1924–1961; now known as Donetsk, Ukraine
- Stalin, from 1949–1956; now known as Varna, Bulgaria
- Raionul Stalin (Stalin city district), in Bucharest, Romania
- Stalin Park, now known as Park Harbin, China
- And many, many more...
毛主席是我们心中的红太阳

打碎旧世界 创立新世界
中国人民解放军是毛泽东思想大学校
毛主席视察广东农村
조선화 《공소 지하작업을 찾으신 위대한 수령 김일성동지》 박정수
朝鲜画 《伟大领袖金日成同志亲自下井》 朴振洙
조선화 《남진의 길에서 병사들의 행군을 돌보아주는 최고서령관 김일성원수님》 김철진, 오광호

朝鲜画 《最高司令官金日成同志体贴南行军的战士》
Military

- Military:
  - Army-State
  - Nazis glorify
  - Communists: arm of state

- Militarism:
  - Uniforms/uniformity
  - Quasi-regimentation
  - Conformity
  - Perpetual war
강박에는 강타로.

유징에 무자비한 징벌로!
Media/Education

- Control/regulate ALL:
  - Print media – papers
  - Radio
  - Movies
  - Television (later)
  - Public Spaces
  - Art/architecture

- Education:
  - Schooling
  - Textbooks
North Korean Arch of Triumph

CHORUS

“So dear to all our hearts is our General's glorious name,
Our own beloved Kim Il-sung of undying fame”
Youth Movements

- Avenue for advancement
- It’s fun! Its physical!
- Uniforms – militarism
- Learn to follow, then learn to lead.
- Remove from parents, remove from past.
- Displace old groups – religious.
Jugend dient dem Führer

ALLE ZEHNJÄHRIGEN IN DIE HJ.
Da здравствуют юные пионеры—
достойная смена
Ленинско-Сталинского комсомола

Молодые строители коммунизма!
Вперед, к новым успехам в труде и учёбе!
Ich bin 10 Jahre
wie unsere Republik!

Sing mit, Pionier!

Die schönsten Lieder der Jungpioniere

Immer lebe die Sonne • Kleine weiße Friedenstaube • Vorwärts junger Pionier • Unsere Heimat • Blaue Wimpel im Sommerwind • Pionier zu sein setzt ein u.v.m.
“Educated Youth Must Go to the Countryside!”
Economic

- Nazis/Fascist:
  - Corporate economy
  - Mixed control
  - Business-state alliance

- Communist
  - Command Economy
  - Complete Control
  - Collectivization
Agriculture and Technology

- “Turn China into a prosperous, rich and powerful industrialized socialist country under the leadership of the Communist Party and Chairman Mao!”
For the Oppressed Against the Exploiters!

"Hofbauerin, heut' hab' ich für dich was Besonderes. Schau diesen Stoff an! Das gibt ein Kleid für dich, Hofbauerin, ein Kleid, du wirst darin aussehen wie eine Bar
ronin, wie eine Fürstin, wie eine Königin..."

"Der Gott des Juden ist das Geld. Und um Geld zu verdienen, begeht er die größten
Verbrechen. Er ruht nicht eher, bis er auf einem großen Geld stapel sitzen kann, bis er
den König des Geldes geworden ist."
“Study the Soviet Union, to advance to the world level of science.”
Juche!
СБЫЛИСЬ МЕЧТЫ НАРОДНЫЕ!
Budowle socjalizmu naszą dumą.

Dla Ciebie Ojczyzna biją nasze młode serca.

II Zjazd ZMP.
大力发展文化交通运输事业

社会主义多资源丰富 便于发展多种经济
Totalitarianism: The Future
Some Ideas for Use

• Presentations
  ○ Students choose a topic: “Cult of Stalin,” “Nazi Race policy,” etc.
  ○ Write 200+ words per slide.

• Papers
  ○ Speak to the elements in different totalitarian systems
  ○ Compare Soviet and Chinese Communism (Soviet v Nazi), etc.

• Common Core: RST #7
  ○ “Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., quantitative data, video, multimedia) in order to address a question or solve a problem.”
Essential Bibliography