

666 SINGULARITY

From Visa/MasterCard to UPC Bar Codes, Microchips and Beyond
The True and Concealed Purpose of the Mark of the Beast

PARADIGM SHIFT (Part 1)



He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number *is* 666.

Revelation 13: 16-18

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666 SINGULARITY PART 1: PARADIGM SHIFT

Historically, the understanding of the Mark of the Beast has been shaped by cultural and religious connotations. During the days of the apostle John many would have believed that the Mark of the Beast was related to the emperors of the Roman Empire. During this time some had used a mathematical numerical system known as Gematria to try and prove that emperor Nero was the fulfilment of 666. When pagan Rome eventually declined to be replaced by papal Rome many of the reformers who broke away from Catholicism viewed the seat of the Vatican as the manifestation of the beast with some then claiming that Sunday worship was the actual fulfilment of the Mark of the Beast a view held today by Seventh Day Adventist. Yet the landscape of understanding significantly shifted with 1 event which took place which has clearly put the focus on the key areas that we can look at in confidence.

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1. REVELATION 13: SEEKING ORDER FROM CONFUSION

The Bible does not use the phrase “one-world government” or “one-world currency” in referring to the end times. It does, however, provide ample evidence to enable us to draw the conclusion that both will exist under the rule of the Antichrist in the last days.

In his apocalyptic vision in the Book of Revelation, the Apostle John sees the “beast,” also called the Antichrist, rising out of the sea having seven heads and ten horns (Revelation 13:1). Combining this vision with Daniel’s similar one (Daniel 7:16-24), we can conclude that some sort of world system will be inaugurated by the beast. The ten-nation confederacy is also seen in Daniel’s image of the statue in Daniel 2:41-42, where he pictures the final world government consisting of ten entities represented by the ten toes of the statue. Whoever the ten are and however they come to power, Scripture is clear that they will be nothing more than figureheads. In the end, they will do his bidding.

John goes on to describe the ruler of this vast empire as having power and great authority, given to him by Satan himself (Revelation 13:2), being followed by and receiving worship from “all the world” (13:3-4), and having authority over “every tribe, people, language and nation” (13:7). From this description, it is logical to assume that this person is the leader of a one-world government which is recognized as sovereign over all other governments. It’s hard to imagine how such diverse systems of government as are in power today would willingly subjugate themselves to a single ruler, and there are many theories on the subject. A logical conclusion is that there will be a coming monumental global crisis so devastating that people will embrace anything and anyone who promises to give them relief.

Once entrenched in power, the beast (Antichrist) and the power behind him (Satan) will move to establish absolute control over all peoples of the earth to accomplish their true end, the worship Satan has been seeking ever since being thrown out of heaven (Isaiah 14:12-14). One way they will accomplish this is by controlling all commerce through the arrival of a second individual known as the False Prophet and this is where the idea of a one world currency comes in. Revelation 13:16-17 describes some sort of satanic mark which will be required in order to buy and sell. This means anyone who refuses the mark will be unable to buy food, clothing or other necessities of life. No doubt the vast majority of people in the world will succumb to the mark simply to survive. Again, verse 16 makes it clear that this will be a universal system of control where everyone, rich and poor, great and small, will bear the mark on their hand or forehead. There is a great deal of speculation as to how exactly this mark will be affixed, but the technologies that are available right now could accomplish it very easily.

The main passage in the Bible that mentions the “mark of the beast” is Revelation 13:15-18. Other references can be found in Revelation 14:9, 11, 15:2, 16:2, 19:20, and 20:4. This mark acts as a seal for the followers of Antichrist and the false prophet (the spokesperson for the Antichrist). The false prophet (the second beast) is the one who causes people to take this mark. The mark is literally placed in the hand or forehead.

The recent breakthroughs in medical implant chip and RFID technologies have increased interest in the mark of the beast spoken of in Revelation chapter 13. It is possible that the technology we are seeing today represents the beginning stages of what may eventually be used as the mark of the beast. The mark of the beast will be an end-times identification required by the Antichrist in order to buy or sell, and it will be given only to those who worship the Antichrist.

Many good expositors of Revelation differ widely as to the exact nature of the mark of the beast. Besides the implanted chip view, other speculations include an ID card, a microchip, a barcode that is tattooed into the skin, or simply a mark that identifies someone as being faithful to the Antichrist's kingdom. This last view requires the least speculation, since it does not add any more information to what the Bible gives us. In other words, any of these things are possible, but at the same time they are all speculations.

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Of the numerous pre-Reformation sects which dissented from the Roman Catholic Church in Europe during the Middle Ages, the most famous, and the only sect to survive until modern times, is that of the Waldenses, who were also known as Vaudois and by various other names. Their homeland was in the valleys of the Alps in north-western Italy and adjacent portions of south-eastern France, but from these valleys they spread into most if not all the countries of Europe.

The Waldenses represent a strain of evangelical belief that can be traced back to the time of Constantine and in 1350 AD they published a historical document proving that the papacy was the Antichrist. The Waldensians, so brutally tormented under Pope Innocent III and many other popes through their own struggle for freedom, became aware of an alarming similarity between their persecution and that prophesied in the bible of an antichrist system that would wage war against the people of God.

Baptist Historian Thomas Armitage opens for us a window into the frightful persecutions initiated by Pope Innocent against the Bible-loving Waldensians:

"Many of them were frozen to death, others were cast from high precipices and dashed to pieces. Some were driven into caverns, and by filling the mouths of their caves with fagots were suffocated. Others were hanged in cold blood, ripped open and disemboweled, pierced with prongs, drowned, racked limb from limb till death relieved them; were stabbed, worried by dogs, burned, or crucified with their heads downward. Fox relates one case in which four hundred mothers who had taken refuge in the Cave of Castelluzzo, some 2,000 feet above the valley, entered by a projecting crag, were smothered with their infants in their arms. And all the time that this gentle blood was flowing, that sanctified beauty known as Innocent III, drank it in like nectar of Paradise. Of the Waldensians and other murdered sheep of Christ, he said: 'They are like Samson's foxes. They appear to be different, but their tails are tied together.' The blood-thirst of the Dominicans earned for them the stigma of 'Domini Canes,' or the 'Lord's Dogs'"

This view known as historicism became the dominant end time view of the reformation period and the protestant movement and became one of the key components within what became known as post millennial theology.

Following from this document it was not long before other protestant groups that were being significantly persecuted by the Roman Catholic Church in the middle ages also empathized and integrated this view into their theological interpretation of the end times. Other protestant factions such as the Hussites, Wycliffies and the Lollards quickly joined the view that the pope was the antichrist and the Roman Catholic Church was the beast of Revelation 13.

During the 1960s and the exponential increase in the evolution of science and technology a dominant belief was that the meaning of 666 was related to the world's financial system. The appearance of Visa and MasterCard and UPC bar codes gave rise to various theories that the Antichrist system was more of a monetary system rather than a religious system. This then fuelled the creation of movies during the 1970s such as the Omen which played on the belief that the Antichrist bearing the number 666 would arise onto the world stage as a political and economic savior. From Visa, MasterCard and UPC bar codes the belief then evolved further, triggered by developments in regards to microchip technology and the aspirations of implanting such devices in human beings. Still further on, the rise of nanotechnology and transhumanism has taken the possibilities to a whole new level.

In recent times a further view has surfaced believing that the mark of the beast refers to Islam. This view which has largely been popularized by Walid Shoebat and courted by the likes of Chuck Missler, states that the Greek text for "666" closely resembles the Arabic text for "Bismillah" which translates to "In the name of Allah". This coupled with other arguments has resulted in a growing movement of people now believing that Revelation 13 is specifically referring to the day when Islam will seize control of world domination which will result in significant persecution for those who refuse to bow down and pay homage to Allah.



Revelation 13:18 tells us, *“This calls for wisdom. If anyone has insight, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is man's number. His number is 666.”* Somehow, the number 666 will identify the Antichrist. For centuries Bible interpreters have been trying to identify certain individuals with 666. Nothing is conclusive. That is why Revelation 13:18 says the number requires wisdom. When the Antichrist is revealed (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4), it will be clear who he is and how the number 666 identifies him.

With such a wide variation of beliefs and interpretations about the meaning of Revelation 13 and 666 it would be easy for one to forsake any understanding of the text yet the one undisputable assumption we could make from Revelation 13 is that based on the text it refers to a stage in world history where a system will become effective which will contribute to the complete loss of privacy and personal freedoms. This belief system was dramatically enhanced by the events which shocked the world in 2001.

2. 9/11 – THE PARADIGM SHIFT

When radical Muslims hijacked four commercial airliners on September 11, 2001, and commandeered them on suicide missions to attack the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, we all realized the world had changed in a way that was hard to accept. What we didn't see coming was the way this attack on American soil would introduce a profound shift in power in Western nations. In response to the now-visible threat of Islamist movements against democratic countries, governments took drastic action, making unprecedented changes in national security measures. This went far beyond tighter security at airports and military action in Afghanistan and Iraq. Ostensibly to protect the free citizens of their nations, governments intensified their surveillance of *all* of us.



USA
PATRIOT
ACT

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

A troubling feature of modern society is that the security measures taken by governments have become increasingly secretive. Governments can spy on anyone without due cause or due process. They no longer have to obtain judicial approval, undergo legislative review, or be held accountable to any elected body, such as a senate or parliamentary subcommittee. The real political power is now hidden so that no one but insiders and intelligence agencies knows who wields power at the top levels of national governments. Increasingly, anonymous military, intelligence, and security officials have taken control of Western societies in the name of national security.

If you wonder how this could happen, consider two things. First, there is the constant threat of attack from rogue nations, radical Muslim terrorists, and antidemocratic forces in possession of weapons of mass destruction. And second, there are the rapid and extensive advancements in invasive technology, a critical tool in the hands of those who make the calls for the shadow government. These two developments have converged to shift the power away from elected governments and into the hands of hidden decision makers.

All of this has prophetic significance. It is no accident that the necessary technology exists to enable a world dictator, for the first time in history, to control the earth's population. As intellectual and political elites take over the levers of power, consolidating their control over scientific, economic, and military technologies, the shadow government can secretly manipulate the entire world. And not just the world as a whole, but the lives of individual citizens. No one is protected from their invasive surveillance.

The religious intellectual Pierre Teilhard de Chardin pointed out the overwhelming power that would be wielded by a group of brilliant thinkers dedicated to the cause of unrivaled world government. He wrote,

“Nothing in the universe can resist the cumulative ardor of a sufficiently large number of enlightened minds working together in organized groups.”¹

Almost a century ago, John Buchan, an important figure in post–World War I British politics, wrote an intriguing novel titled *The Power-House*. In it he explored a fictional group of extremely wealthy and powerful individuals who moved behind the scenes of politics, international finance, and business to subvert the national sovereignty of Western governments. The goal of this group was to create and control a system of global government. A self-appointed group of wealthy individuals allied with Western politicians and former key political leaders would hold the *real* power over democratic nations.²

Until the last century, political power was concentrated in very public and widely venerated leaders such as kings, governors, and even dictators who were not shy about making known their power to rule their nations. Some went out of their way to remind citizens exactly who was in control, such as the public displays and massive monuments used by Adolf Hitler in Germany and Joseph Stalin in the Soviet Union.

However, in the last half of the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first, a new political power paradigm came into being. In place of highly visible leaders, we now have elected representatives who exert only limited control, while the real power resides with a separate group. The most powerful individuals who control our nations and our lives do their work behind the scenes. They are joined by current and retired political leaders who, along with certain wealthy and influential figures, form an open conspiracy to produce a new global government. Their goal is to replace all existing independent democratic governments.

This is the sort of thing we tend to associate with nations that do not have a long history of democracy. However, the hidden leaders of shadow governments operate in both totalitarian and democratic governments throughout the world. Since the end of World War II, the secret globalist elites have been bolstered by political, financial, military, and governmental leaders from North America and Western Europe.

Just as our generation was transformed by the attacks of 9/11, the world was changed almost a century earlier by the terrible devastation of World War I. For the first time, Western nations saw that a massive war could annihilate humanity. The First World War introduced chemical weapons, poison gas, machine guns, and artillery that killed more than forty million soldiers and civilians. (Included in these figures are the casualties of the 1918–22 Russian civil war.)

Many of the leaders of Western nations concluded that the most pressing global need was to eliminate the possibility of a future genocidal world war. That concern gave birth to the formulation of a New World Order, which in theory would eliminate the possibility of a future world war. The stated goal of this globalist agenda was to protect humanity from the devastating technology of war. To protect us from another world war, they reasoned, it would be necessary to eliminate every one of the sovereign, independent nations that could wage war against any other state.

In the protracted negotiations of the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, a number of key Western leaders came to believe that the only way to preserve humanity was to form a partnership involving the real, secret leadership of numerous Western nations. In the name of protecting the world's population from future war, this secret group subverted the historic system of sovereign governments.

Initially, they created the League of Nations, which proved to be ineffective. Despite good intentions, the League of Nations failed to prevent the outbreak of a second world war. German, Italian, and Japanese aggression bathed the world in the blood of more than sixty million dead before the Allied victory in 1945.

During and following World War II, those who had hoped but failed to create a global government renewed their efforts. In light of possible unrestricted nuclear war between the Soviet Union and the United States (and later, China), they formulated a new international body that came to be known as the United Nations (UN). What wasn't announced publicly is that the UN was the global elitists' next step in launching in embryonic form the coming world government.



Members of the Council on Foreign Relations (created after WWI and still a powerful influence toward global government) virtually wrote the UN charter. This group was dedicated to the proposition that the sovereign states of the West must be secretly joined in a global compact that would make future war impossible. While the goal of world peace was laudable, the unfortunate result was that the foundation for a global government was laid without the knowledge of or approval from the citizens of the Western nations that were affected.

It will be difficult for many readers to accept the argument that widely respected political and business leaders would support plans to eliminate western democracies and their constitutions in favor of the tyranny of a secret global elite. However, as we will see later, a series of international crises changed the thinking of these leaders, spurring the consolidation of power in the shadow government. Two world wars, the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, and the constant threat of attack

from radical Muslim forces fuel the move toward globalism. And what we have seen so far is only a hint of what is to come.

We are rapidly approaching the greatest crisis in history. Jesus Christ warned that humanity would experience an unprecedented crisis just before He returned to establish His eternal Kingdom on earth. Jesus prophesied a “great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be” (Matthew 24:21). The prophet Daniel foretold that the terrible time of tribulation will last seven years and will conclude with the battle of Armageddon and the Messiah’s triumphant return to earth (see Daniel 9:24–27). The biblical prophets also warned that the most evil man in history would arise during the final generation of this age. This man will be empowered by Satan to seize political, economic, military, and religious control first in Europe (as the revived Roman Empire) and then over the entire world population. This mysterious individual is identified by several names throughout Scripture, including the “lawless one” (2 Thessalonians 2:8–9, NIV), the “man of sin” (2 Thessalonians 2:3), “that Wicked” (2 Thessalonians 2:8; 1 John 3:12; 5:18), and even “the mystery of iniquity” (2 Thessalonians 2:7). Yet most people know him by the name used by the prophet John, who called him the “antichrist” (see 2 John 7). This completely evil man will embody Satan’s ages-long passion to set himself up as god to be worshiped by all of humanity.

In the past it was difficult to understand how any individual could exert complete control over humanity, as is foretold in the Bible. The book of Revelation, for example, describes devastating military attacks from the air, the deliberate poisoning of one-third of the planet’s land and water, and the destruction of two-thirds of the earth’s population. Serious students of the Bible naturally wondered how these predictions could be fulfilled. Did the prophecies speak of actual future events, or were they only allegorical symbols referring to a spiritual war between the forces of good and evil? In our generation we know enough about warfare, technology, and shifting political allegiances that we can begin to see how one man could exercise such power throughout the world. For the first time in history, it is possible to contemplate the potential for humanity’s complete destruction in a global war.

In the sections that follow, we will look at prophecies that describe the Antichrist’s rise to power and the nature of the global government that he will control. The Antichrist will become the dominant political, military, and religious figure in the world. God revealed these truths to awaken Christians to the signs of Christ’s return to earth, when He will take His followers home to heaven.

The rise of the shadow government has significant prophetic implications. The rush to global government, paired with astonishing developments in surveillance technology, will enable the totalitarian regime of the Antichrist to introduce his dreaded Mark of the Beast system. If you know what to look for, you will see all around you measures that could make this system of global control transform into true world government.

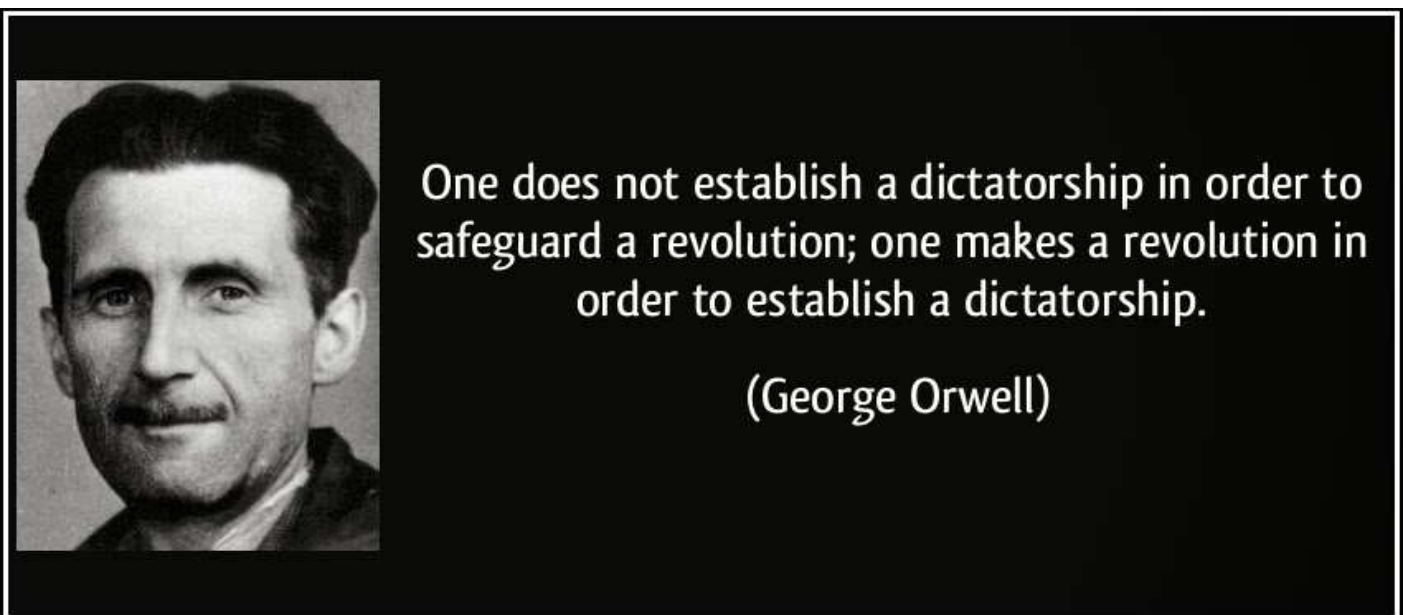
America’s national sovereignty has been progressively eroded. One obvious example, seen almost daily in the news, is the fallout from the threat of global warming. To address this environmental issue, various UN treaties demand that American laws be harmonized with those of other nations in the name of globalization. The issue is much larger than responding to global warming. With the loss of national sovereignty, we will also lose rights and freedoms we now take for granted. Over time, we will no longer enjoy the benefits of free enterprise, and we will lose the guarantees of political, economic, and religious freedom. The leaders that operate behind the scenes have adopted a philosophy of globalism, sharing the desire to become global citizens of the New World Order.

You don't have to look far to see early indications of our loss of freedom. Following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in 2001, national governments around the world broadened and accelerated spying activities against their own citizens. The creation of a total surveillance society has set the stage for the totalitarian police state described two thousand years ago by the prophet John in the book of Revelation. In later sections we will examine the growing use of radio frequency identification (RFID) technology, which is only one step removed from implanting computer chips beneath the skin of every person. This technology could easily be laying the groundwork for the fulfillment of John's prophecy about the totalitarian police state that will rule the world during the last three and a half years of this age, before Christ returns at Armageddon. The development of computerized information warfare can neutralize an enemy's economy, defenses, and infrastructure. Weapons using powerful electromagnetic forces can influence a country's weather, destroy a nation's computer systems, and even influence the mental processes of individuals. These technological advances give us a more detailed idea of the prophesied Mark of the Beast system and show how the Antichrist would be able to establish unrivaled global domination (see Revelation 13:16–18).

The great scientist Sir Isaac Newton was fascinated with Bible prophecy. The discovery of thousands of his unpublished manuscripts in an attic at Cambridge University revealed that he wrote many more research notes and manuscripts about prophecy than he did on scientific matters. In his book *Observations upon the Prophecies of Daniel, and the Apocalypse of St. John*, Newton wrote,

“And the giving ear to the Prophets is a fundamental character of the true Church. For God has so ordered the Prophecies, that in the latter days ‘the wise may understand, but the wicked shall do wickedly, and none of the wicked shall understand’ (Daniel 12:9–10).”³

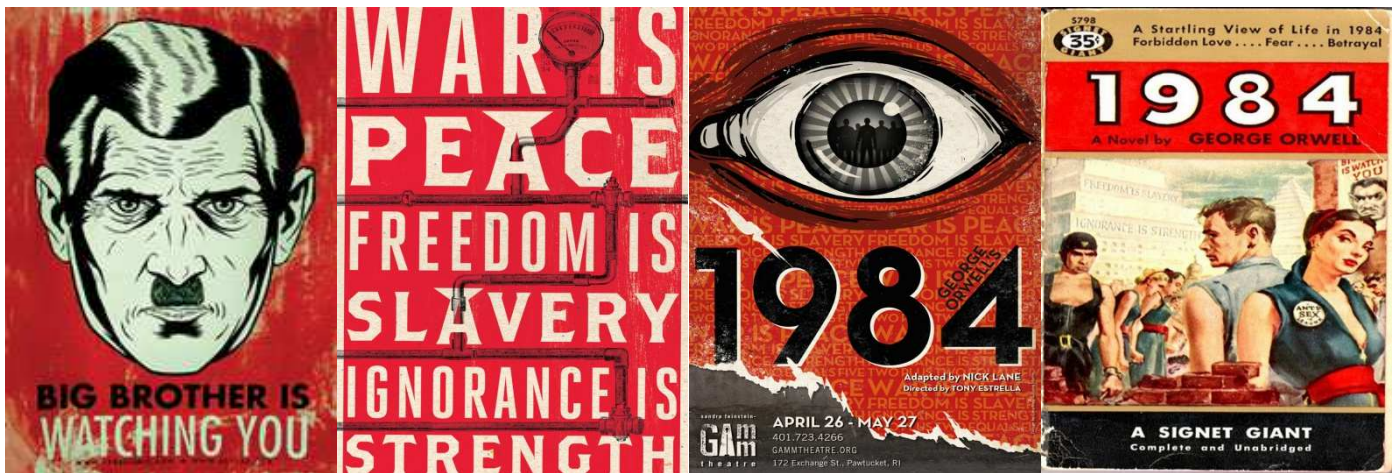
At the center of Satan's attempt to use the Antichrist to take over the world—before his ultimate defeat at the hands of the Messiah—are the work, strategies, and agenda of the shadow government. At the top of that agenda is the destruction of your privacy.



It is for this reason that George Orwell's classic “1984” has such a cult following in regards to what we are now witnessing today because it is almost incredible how a work of fiction could be so accurate in predicting what we are witnessing today.

3. THE 1984 PROPHECY

Let's now take a closer look at the story elements of Nineteen Eighty-Four and see how the novel reflects our current society in many ways, not just in terms of privacy-invading technology and the watchful eyes of Big Brother. The story of Winston Smith, the lead character, and the world in Nineteen Eighty-Four also involves very insightful elements describing the socioeconomic structure and the drastic differences in lifestyles between different segments of society. Orwell also highlighted a perpetual state of war and the propaganda that kept society supporting it. As you read through the novel, it is impossible not to notice numerous other parallels between the storyline and our actual reality. The book is one of the scariest instances of life imitating art, and critics of Big Brother will sometimes say that Nineteen Eighty-Four was not meant to be used as an instruction manual.



SOCIAL STRUCTURE

In the novel, the government consists of “the Party” which itself is made up of Inner members and Outer members, each with dramatically different privileges. The Inner members have access to luxuries such as real food and refreshments, and live in spacious and well-furnished homes, while the Outer members are given small food rations and live in dilapidated housing projects. A step below the Outer members on the socioeconomic scale are the Proles (or proletariats) who live in deplorable conditions like a third world country and are seen as immoral and out of control animals who are not given any of the “luxuries” of Party members.

Orwell explains, “Heavy physical work, the care of home and children, petty quarrels with neighbors, films, football, beer, and above all, gambling filled up the horizon of their minds. To keep them in control was not difficult...All that was required of them was a primitive patriotism which could be appealed to whenever it was necessary to make them accept longer working hours or shorter rations. And when they become discontented, as they sometimes did, their discontentment led nowhere, because being without general ideas, they could only focus it on petty specific grievances.”

A steady supply of “Victory Gin” provided by the government kept people mildly intoxicated, and contributed to their apathetic attitude. In the story, the political ideology is described as Ingsoc, which stands for English Socialism, and is the justification for the severe government control and regulation of goods and services. Even having children is regulated by the government and a couple must be approved before they start a family.

Life wasn't always so controlled and joyless. After what is called the Revolution, the Party gained power and created a society where each individual is reduced to nothing more than a worker, working for the sake of the Party, and under the constant supervision of Big Brother.

The population of the Proles was massive compared to Party members, and Orwell notes that if they would only realize the strength that they had in numbers, they could rise up and overthrow the Party and Big Brother in an instant.

“Why was it that they could never shout like that about anything that mattered?” Winston lamented after hearing a group of people yelling in the streets over a petty quarrel. The reason for their poor living condition was their lack of education and their own ignorance. The Party did everything they could to prevent them from becoming enlightened.

“For if leisure and security were enjoyed by all alike, the great mass of human beings who are normally stupefied by poverty would become literate and would learn to think for themselves; and when once they had done this, they would sooner or later realize that the privileged minority had no function, and they would sweep it away. In the long run, a hierarchical society was only possible on a basis of poverty and ignorance.”

THE CONTROL OF INFORMATION

George Orwell knew the power of propaganda, thus the Party controlled all information such as the newsreels shown on the telescreens, and the publishing of all newspapers and books. They even wrote the songs people would sing, created the games children played, and produced the entertainment people enjoyed.

“They [the citizens] could be made to accept the most flagrant violations of reality, because they never fully grasped the enormity of what was demanded of them, and were not sufficiently interested in public events to notice what was happening.”

In our society we have Operation Mockingbird which has manipulated the mainstream media since the 1950s and functions as a propaganda arm of the establishment, and a gate-keeper to contain important information, preventing it from reaching the public. Most people are also distracted by entertainment news such as celebrity gossip and sports, which divert people's attention away from important issues and allows government corruption to run rampant.

A memory hole is another term coined by Orwell, and means the alteration or disappearance of inconvenient or embarrassing documents, photographs, transcripts, or other records, in a way that attempts to make it seem as though something never happened and the information never even existed. For example, if an embarrassing story is posted online after slipping past the editors but is later brought to their attention, sometimes they may change a headline, remove parts of the story, or just delete the entire story altogether in an attempt to contain certain information and prevent it from being known or spread around. When this happens, the information is said to have disappeared down the memory hole.

In Nineteen Eighty-Four there is a scene where Winston Smith had to edit newspapers from the past (which was part of his job) and change the amount of chocolate rations that were allowed to each person per week. In reality, the amount decreased from 30 grams to 20 grams, but Smith had to make it seem like the

ration had actually increased from 15 to 20. A visibly happy friend of Winston later passes him in a hallway and cheerfully says, “*Did you hear they’re going to increase the chocolate rations from 15 grams to 20 grams per week,*” and is so brainwashed by Big Brother that he doesn’t realize the number had actually been reduced and not increased. All past documentation showing anything different had been removed from existence.

All information about a person who betrays Big Brother or the Party is also completely removed from all records, and that person becomes an “unperson” and is executed. It is made to seem as if they never even existed. Near the end of the novel, the main antagonist, O’Brien, tells Winston, “*Who controls the past controls the future. Who controls the present controls the past.*” Any information the Party didn’t want people to have access to anymore simply disappeared into a memory hole (meaning it was destroyed) and was quickly forgotten about by everyone. With no physical evidence or record of a piece of information, there was no longer any way to verify whether a fact was true or not. The truth was what the Party said it was.

In a very ironic situation in 2009, Amazon.com deleted a large number of copies of Nineteen Eighty-Four from their Kindle electronic book readers. Customers had purchased e-book copies of Nineteen Eighty-Four which were then sent wirelessly to their Kindle reader, but after it was discovered that the publisher who listed that particular Kindle version for sale did not actually have the rights to the novel, the copies were deleted by Amazon from customer’s own Kindle e-book readers, and disappeared into a memory hole. Customers were not told what had happened, and the copy of the book simply vanished from their e-book reader because they are all wirelessly connected to Amazon.com and the company controls which files are stored on the Kindle unit.

Another one of countless incidences where important information disappears down a memory hole as a result of government intervention was with the case of the pulling of an episode of Jesse Ventura’s television show, *Conspiracy Theory*. After the *Police State* episode first aired on Friday November 26th 2010, it was scheduled to be replayed the following week as a lead-in for the new episode, but it mysteriously never aired again. The episode’s description was also pulled from TruTV’s website, the cable channel airing program. It covered secretive FEMA prison camps and terrorist fusion centers which collect and data mine information to look for terrorists or anyone who may be a threat to the government’s tyranny. The episode was pretty disturbing.

After websites and blogs started to buzz with speculation, it was then revealed by the show’s producers that the U.S. government put pressure on the network to kill the episode from airing again, so they did. The information in episodes of *Conspiracy Theory* is so powerful that the government doesn’t want people watching it so they put pressure on the network to make one of the most damaging episodes disappear. People who recorded that episode on their DVRs at home then started reporting that the episode was missing from their DVR unit. Apparently the cable company had even removed the recorded episodes in an attempt to dump them down a memory hole.

PERPETUAL STATE OF WAR

Society is stuck in a lengthy war with another superpower and the ongoing battle is used as an explanation for various food and supply shortages that people must endure. The telescreens announce victories on the

battlefield that always bring the war “within measurable distance of its end,” but it continues on, and on and society continues to support it.

While this war continues, the enemy superpower they are supposedly fighting keeps changing, and nobody seems to notice. First they are fighting Eastasia (and allies with Eurasia), but later they are said to be battling Eurasia, and allies with Eastasia, but nobody notices. It’s kind of like the switch from fighting the “War on Terror” in Afghanistan starting in 2001, shortly after the 9/11 attacks, and later shifting to the War in Iraq in 2003 which then continued for many years.

Winston finds a girlfriend named Julia who feels the same way he does about the Party, society, and Big Brother, and the two discuss finding the Brotherhood, an underground and secret Resistance movement that is plotting to overthrow the Party and restore freedom. As they discuss finding the Brotherhood (called The Resistance in the film version) they begin unraveling the extent of the lies coming from the Party. When discussing the perpetual war, Julia remarks, *“The rocket bombs which fell daily on London were probably fired by the government itself, just to keep people frightened.”* It’s stunning that Orwell included this reference to false flag terrorism in the storyline, a very real and ruthless strategy used by governments around the world throughout history. A false flag attack means a country (or group) attacks themselves and blames it on some other country or group in order to justify a massive military response that is seen as a retaliation for the (fraudulent) attack against them.

In the novel, Orwell also explains that the war Oceania is fighting isn’t a real war, but that it is a fabrication that the ruling Party needs to continuously go on in order to destroy the fruits of society’s labor, thus ensuring a continuous shortage of goods which maintains the social structure that the ruling elite has constructed. The Party would print up “atrocities pamphlets” outlining the crimes allegedly committed by the enemy, and distribute them to the citizens of Oceania so they could see how evil the enemy was that they were fighting and the horrors of war were constantly in their minds to reinforce the reason they had to work so hard for so little.

Winston comes to discover, *“The essential act of war is destruction, not necessarily of human lives, but of the products of human labor. War is a way of shattering to pieces, or pouring into the stratosphere or sinking in the depths of the sea, materials which might otherwise be used to make the masses too comfortable, and hence, in the long run, too intelligent.”*

“In the past, the ruling groups of all countries, although they might recognize their common interest and therefore limit the destructiveness of war, did fight against one another, and the victor always plundered the vanquished. In our own day they are not fighting against one another at all. The war is waged by each ruling group against its own subjects, and the object of the war is not to make or prevent conquests of territory, but to keep the structure of society intact.”

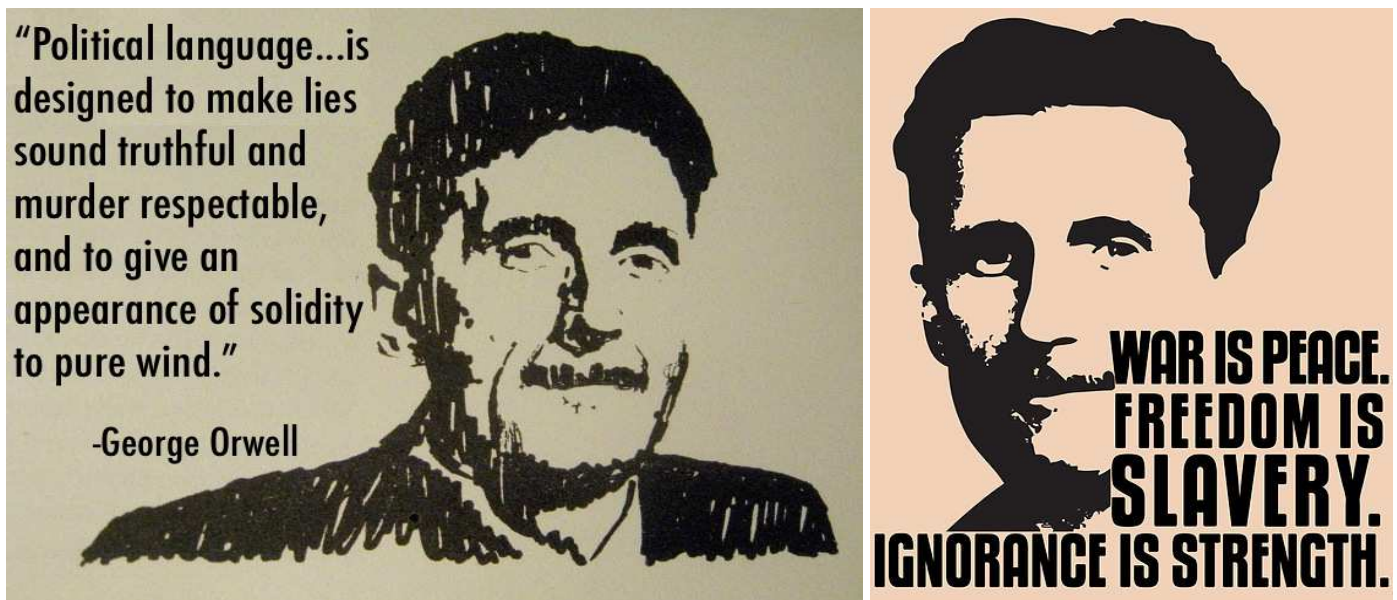
According to the novel, if society was not at war, and the goods they manufactured were put to use to improve the living conditions of everyone, then the ruling elite would lose their power because the wealth would be more evenly distributed. It is for this reason that the Inner Party continues their manufactured and fraudulent war, which then keeps them in control of the infrastructure and assets, and prevents everyone else from rising out of poverty.

THE PERSONIFICATION OF THE PARTY

A man named Big Brother is supposedly the head of the Party, and his picture is plastered on walls in every building and on every street to constantly remind everyone that “Big Brother is watching you.” There is actually no one named Big Brother, or at least not anymore, but the people didn’t know this, or even consider it. He is a face attached to personify the Party and give it the appearance and feeling of being human. Orwell explains, “Big Brother is the guise in which the Party chooses to exhibit itself to the world. His function is to act as a focusing point for love, fear, and reverence, emotions which are more easily felt toward an individual than toward an organization.”

In reality, a similar method is used with the President of the United States (and the leaders of other countries as well). The president is believed by many to be the man in charge, and the most powerful man in the world, but he is simply a spokesman and puppet for the ones who are really running the show. When people are mad at the policies they must obey or conditions they find themselves and their country in, they point to the president and blame him, believing it’s all his fault. This makes them feel better by having an individual to blame and focus their anger on. The president is a personification of the party, and even the entire country.

A similar personification was used with Osama bin Laden in the War on Terror. For nearly a decade the American government blamed this one man for all of the problems in the world, even though bin Laden had barely been heard from after 9/11, leading many to believe that he had died shortly after of natural causes. The American establishment purposefully perpetuated a mythological Bin Laden and an occasional video tape or audio message was released to the public, supposedly of the man, but such video taped messages were always from old videos and contained typical “death to America” and “death to Israel” messages, and nothing new was ever discovered.



For years experts highly doubted that “new” audio messages claimed to be from bin Laden were actually even him. In 2006, Bruce Lawrence, a professor at Duke University and an expert on Osama bin Laden, said he believed bin Laden was dead and that audio messages purported to be from him were in fact not, but for political reasons were claimed otherwise.

The myth that an all-powerful Osama bin Laden remained alive and was directing his global terrorist organization, Al Qaeda, was a monumental lie that was continuously spread to the public to keep them in a state of fear, and was used as the reason for the War on Terror to continue. The raid by U.S. Navy Seals on his purported compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan on May 1st 2011 where it was reported that he had been living for five years only raised more questions about his actual power and influence on Al Qaeda.

Most of the ignorant public had been led to believe that this one man was responsible for every terrorist attack in the world, as if he was some untouchable mafia kingpin out of a comic book who personally ordered every incident. For over a decade he was the boogie man and the face of terrorism that had been wildly exaggerated to justify the ongoing “War on Terror.” He should have been called Osama Bin Elvis because of the countless reports of sightings over the years. Many questions remain surrounding his purported death on May 1st 2011. Many wonder if he was alive for nearly a decade following the 9/11 attacks, and if he was living in the compound in Pakistan for five years, then why hadn’t we heard from him for so long? He was allegedly still leading Al Qaeda from his residence, yet he hadn’t released any new video tapes or audio messages for at least five years.

If you find the claims about the wildly exaggerated power of Osama bin Laden and the fraudulent War on Terror absurd, then you have a long way to go in your awakening process to undo the years of brainwashing and social conditioning you have been a victim of. As Orwell said, *“It might very well be that literally ever word in the history books, even the things that one accepted without question, was pure fantasy.”*

For over a decade Osama bin Laden was used to fulfill the same role that Emmanuel Goldstein plays in Nineteen Eighty-Four. Goldstein is the bad guy, and the ultimate evil. *“All subsequent crimes against the Party, all treacheries, acts of sabotage, heresies, deviations, sprang directly out of his teaching. Somewhere or other he was still alive and hatching his conspiracies,”* Orwell wrote.

Winston starts to see through the myth of Goldstein and at one point when a “new message” from Goldstein was aired on the telescreens attacking Big Brother and the Party, Smith called it, “an attack so exaggerated and perverse that a child should have been able to see through it.”

Julia also saw through the propaganda, saying, *“The tales about Goldstein and his underground army, were simply a lot of rubbish which the Party had invented for its own purposes.”*

TELESCREENS

A major component of Big Brother in Nineteen Eighty-Four are telescreens, which are television screens that can also see and hear what is in their immediate surroundings and are monitored by the Thought Police who make sure no one is saying anything bad about Big Brother or the Party. Telescreens are mounted in every home and also continuously communicate Party propaganda to society and cannot be turned off (except by Inner Party members, for a brief period of time). These telescreens watched and listened to every member of the Party, and nobody dares question their authority. Such an act would amount to Thought Crime and would cause one to be imprisoned and killed. The telescreens and microphones are continuously monitored and even facial expressions and body language can be understood by the Big Brother system. No one dares even whisper a word of disagreement or doubt about the Party or Big Brother.

“It was terribly dangerous to let your thoughts wander when you were in any public place or within range of a telescreen. The smallest thing could give you away. A nervous tic, an unconscious look of anxiety, a habit of muttering to yourself—anything that carried with it the suggestion of abnormality, of having something to hide.”

As you’ve learned in *Big Brother: The Orwellian Nightmare Come True*, real life telescreens now exist, along with pre-crime cameras, facial recognition systems, store cameras that alert customer service if you loiter in an aisle too long; cameras that allow bosses to watch, listen, and talk to their employees, and more. It’s getting to the point that no matter where you are (even in a school bathroom) you may be within reach of the watchful eyes and ears of Big Brother.

Orwell wrote, *“the telescreen received and transmitted simultaneously. Any sound that Winston made, above the level of a very low whisper, would be picked up by it, moreover, so long as he remained within the field of vision which the metal plaque commanded, he could be seen as well as heard... You had to live—did live, from habit that became instinct—in the assumption that every sound you made was overheard, and, except in darkness, every movement scrutinized.”*

When George Orwell wrote his book, computer technology was nonexistent. Color TV had not been invented yet, there were no microwave ovens, answering machines, VCRs, cassette players, or even eight-track players. In 1949, the most advanced technology was black and white television. Systems like Echelon, Carnivore, facial recognition cameras and other Big Brother technology are becoming common knowledge in the twenty-first century, but at the time *Nineteen Eighty-Four* was first published, this technology was limited to the creative imaginations of science fiction writers, or dismissed as insanity.

Modern surveillance systems are even much more powerful than what Orwell imagined. As the cliché goes, the truth is stranger than fiction. In a move that would have caused a national outcry just a decade earlier when people weren’t so desensitized to Orwellian measures, in December 2010, the retail giant Wal-Mart began using video screens at the checkout stands at around 600 hundred different locations in the United States to repeatedly play a brief message from the head of the Department of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano, informing shoppers that the Department of Homeland Security has “teamed up” with Wal-Mart in order to help keep your community safe from terrorists.

It is very odd and disturbing to have one of the world’s largest corporations teaming up with a federal police force to encourage shoppers to be informants and to spy on their family, friends, and neighbors; because they want you to believe that people everywhere may be plotting a terrorist attack against the government. Everyone already knows they can dial 911 to reach the police for any reason, and people frequently abuse it and call to report that a cashier at McDonald’s wouldn’t refund their money, or for a variety of other stupid reasons.

With 911 operators already overloaded with unimportant calls, and police resources being wasted when they could actually be legitimately used to stop or solve crime, just imagine the mess after the population tips off authorities over every little suspicion as a result of their minds being filled with paranoia from the mainstream media for years, telling everyone that there’s a boogey man around every corner who may be secretly plotting some kind of terrorist attack in your neighborhood.

A SNITCH CULTURE

The few people living in the dystopian world described in *Nineteen Eighty-Four* who were still able to think critically and independently were afraid to speak their mind out of fear that others would report them as traitors to the Party and enemies of Big Brother. The Thought Police are a secret police force that use telescreens, snitches, and entrapment in order to intimidate the population in attempts to prevent Thought Crime, and to also discover Thought Criminals, and arrest and punish them. A Thought Criminal is anyone who dares think anything bad about Big Brother or the Party.

People, and particularly children, have all been turned into spies and are encouraged to report Thought Crime to the authorities. “Nearly all children nowadays were horrible,” Orwell wrote. *“They adored the Party and everything connected with it. The songs, the processions, the banners, the hiking, the drilling with dummy rifles, the yelling of slogans, the worship of Big Brother—it was all a sort of glorious game to them.”* That was in Nineteen Eighty-Four, but unfortunately we also find parallels within our own society.



The Department of Homeland Security launched a program where they decided to “partner” with the Boy Scouts to “prepare youths for more traditional jobs as police officers and firefighters.” The New York Times ran an article in 2009 discussing a drill the children were involved in where they used fake rifles and had to confront a “disgruntled Iraq War veteran” who became a domestic terrorist. The article showed a photo of some kids holding fake rifles and dressed up in SWAT gear.

A British website called ClimateCops.com designed for children ages 7 to 11 features cartoons and downloadable materials urging children to become “climate cops” who keep a watchful eye on their parents to see if they are wasting electricity. Children download a “Climate Crime Case File” to write up “tickets” for

their parents to make sure they “don’t commit those crimes again (or else)!” The site also tells children that they “need to keep a watchful eye” on their parents to prevent future energy violations.

In the nightmarish world of *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, children were, “systematically turned against their parents and taught to spy on them and report their deviations. The family had become in effect an extension of the Thought Police. It was a device by means of which everyone could be surrounded night and day by informers who knew him intimately.”

In an interview with ABC News, President Obama’s top legal advisor, Attorney General Eric Holder, announced that the most dangerous terrorist threat to America wasn’t radical Islamic terrorists from the Middle East who travel to the United States with the sole intention of blowing something up. No. He said the new number 1 threat to America is American citizens who have been born and raised in the United States, but for whatever reason, have come to identify with Osama Bin Laden, the immortal boogey man. This announcement came close to ten years after the September 11th 2001 terrorist attacks when the world was getting tired of the prolonged wars in the Middle East so the establishment needed to ensure Americans’ minds were still continuously filled with fear.

“What I am trying to do in this interview is to make people aware of the fact that the threat is real, the threat is different, the threat is constant,” Holder said. *“It is one of the things that keeps me up at night. You didn’t worry about this even two years ago—about individuals, about Americans, to the extent that we now do. And—that is of—of great concern.”*

He continued, *“The threat has changed from simply worrying about foreigners coming here, to worrying about people in the United States, American citizens—raised here, born here, and who for whatever reason, have decided that they are going to become radicalized and take up arms against the nation in which they were born.”*

Holder wasn’t even talking about radical Islamic terrorists like the kind that had been presented as the boogey men we should all fear for the last few decades. Holder’s statement was an attempt to paint practically anyone of any race, religion, age, political affiliation, etc., as a potential “domestic extremist” who authorities want you to believe may attack the government or innocent civilians for any number of reasons at any time.

Several years earlier the federal government had secretly distributed literature to law enforcement agencies that listed what police should look for concerning possible “domestic terrorist activity.” The eight-page MIAC Report, leaked in March 2009 listed bumper stickers showing support for Congressman Ron Paul, owning gold coins, and having possession of certain documentary films as things authorities should look for.

A similar Department of Homeland Security report titled *Right-wing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment*, warned officials that returning Iraq War veterans may turn on the American government and that “rightwing extremists” are recruiting supporters who are concerned about illegal immigration, restrictions on firearms, and the loss of US sovereignty.

As the Orwellian nightmare was rapidly coming true, Big Brother saw the resistance building and worried about a revolution.

Many people believe that Nazi Germany's secret police (the Gestapo) terrorized ordinary German citizens under orders from Nazi leaders, but history shows that the majority of investigations into citizens were launched because someone tipped off authorities.

One of the world's most respected historians specializing in World War II Europe, Professor Robert Gellately of Florida State University, explains, "*There were relatively few secret police, and most were just processing the information coming in. I had found a shocking fact. It wasn't the secret police who were doing this wide-scale surveillance and hiding on every street corner. It was the ordinary German people who were informing on their neighbors.*"

In his writings Gellately explains that most Germans who turned in others didn't do so because they were doing anything suspicious or talking negatively about the Nazi party. Most people were turned in because of greed, jealousy, and petty differences, rather than because of a legitimate threat or suspicion that a person may be an actual enemy of the state.

There were many instances of people turning in their business partners so they could gain full control of the businesses they shared together. Jealous lovers turned in rival suitors in order to keep them away from their boyfriend or girlfriend, and people turned others in because they lived in an apartment that was in high demand. Others who became informants did so because it was the first time an authority figure valued them and they felt important through this process.

Gellately also emphasizes that German citizens who tipped off Nazi authorities about someone knew what horrific fate they would find, but didn't care because of the financial or social rewards that person would receive in return. While such despicable behavior was once restricted to tyrannical regimes like Nazi Germany, Stalinist Russia, or Mao Tse-tung's China, it is heart-breaking that the once great United States of America has succumbed to this same kind of erosion from within, as a result of corruption at the top.

An iPhone app with the Orwellian name of the PatriotApp functions as a way for people to send seemingly anonymous tips in the form of text messages to various government agencies including the FBI, EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), CDC (Center for Disease Control), and more, to report anything suspicious or illegal. On the surface this may seem like a reasonable function, but just like the post-911 legislation bill, The Patriot Act, the Patriot App is anything but patriotic.

The App was created by a company called Citizen Concepts which was formed by people with strong ties with DHS and DoD, according the company's website, PatriotApps.com The description in the Apple App Store says that the PatriotApp is, "the world's first iPhone application that empowers citizens to assist government agencies in creating safer, cleaner, and more efficient communities via social networking and mobile technology."

The description also says the App, "*Deputizes your iPhone,*" giving people the impression that they are a member of the secret police now that they have been "deputized" like something out of an old western film. Such an impersonal form of communication also reduces the discernment that people will use when thinking about reporting someone or something. A phone call to 911 or the police would be fairly personal and the tipster would be invested in the process, but by simply clicking a few boxes and typing a short text message, this reduces the humanity in the overall process of informing authorities that something may be

wrong. Such an impersonal act practically eliminates an informant's analysis of the situation, preventing them from giving it a second thought, thus dramatically reducing the quality of the tip.

During the 2008 presidential campaign in America, then candidate Barrack Obama made a startling statement revealing his desire to implement a program involving ordinary citizens like you and me as spies who feel like they're empowered and part of the Department of Homeland Security, the FBI, or other law enforcement agencies. Obama openly stated, *"We cannot continue to rely only on our military in order to achieve the national security objectives that we've set. We've got to have a civilian national security force that's just as powerful, just as strong, just as well-funded."*

Then, immediately after becoming president, the Obama administration began implementing one Orwellian policy after the next. We saw the telescreens go up in Wal-Mart, the 'if you see something...say something' snitch campaign. The MIAC report and more. The "civilian national security force" he was talking about was every American being turned into a paranoid rat. This will undoubtedly lead to a rash of invalid "tips" and complaints, and a larger bureaucracy (and police force) will be needed to address these floods of tips.

RELATIONSHIPS

Friendships, romantic relationships, and families are all shunned by the Party in Nineteen Eighty-Four to *"prevent men and women from forming loyalties which it might not be able to control...the only recognized purpose of marriage was to beget children for the service of the Party."* Families are almost nonexistent, since each individual must give his or her full allegiance and love to Big Brother and the Party.

Those children that were born were all brought up in government institutions and indoctrinated from the time of birth. The government realized that if people had personal friendships and strong family ties, they would join together and overthrow Big Brother. Again, we find a reflection of our own society in Orwell's words. While in America sexuality is not repressed like in the novel, the effects of hyper-sexuality and broken families serves the same purpose and severely limits the ability of people to join together and stand up for their rights against a New World Order.

With rampant family dysfunction, divorces, out of wedlock births, and children who don't even know who their father is, society is in such chaos in regards to interpersonal problems, that many people aren't concerned with larger social issues because their own life is such a mess and they are constantly engaged in domestic disputes, money problems, and other obligations. Most people just don't care about what is going on with the government because they have their own personal problems to deal with.

A HEARTLESS SOCIETY

People in society were so inhumane in Nineteen Eighty-Four that they regularly enjoyed watching video clips of war footage that were shown on the telescreens to see the destruction of their enemy's soldiers. Winston remarked once that the audience was amused and laughed hysterically when a helicopter began shooting a fat man and riddled his body with bullets as he tried to swim away from his capsized ship. It was the highlight of the broadcast.

He describes how the audience was easily stirred into an angry mob and that, "a desire to kill, to torture, to smash faces in with a sledge hammer, seemed to flow through the whole group of people like an electric current." Since Big Brother was basically God, there was no room for religion either. One character who

worked in the Ministry of Truth was arrested and killed for allowing the word “God” to remain in a poem he was supposed to censor.

The Big Brother system has stamped out most feelings of empathy. O’Brien says, *“never again will you be capable of ordinary human feeling. Everything will be dead inside you. Never again will you be capable of love, or friendship, or joy of living, or laughter, or curiosity, or courage, or integrity. You will be hollow. We shall squeeze you empty, and then we shall fill you with ourselves.”*

A massive thirty year analysis published in May of 2010 showed that college students are dramatically less empathetic today than students in the past. *“College kids today are about 40 percent lower in empathy than their counterparts of 20 or 30 years ago, as measured by standard tests of this personality trait,”* said Sara Konrath, a researcher at the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research.

“The increase in exposure to media during this time period could be one factor,” she said. *“Compared to 30 years ago, the average American now is exposed to three times as much nonwork-related information. In terms of media content, this generation of college students grew up with video games. And a growing body of research, including work done by my colleagues at Michigan, is establishing that exposure to violent media numbs people to the pain of others,”* said Konrath.

The study also showed that the students were less likely to feel concerned about the less fortunate, and even their own friends. Today’s students were said to be the most self-centered and narcissistic individuals in recent history.

Another reason believed to cause the increase in narcissism and lack of empathy, aside from massive exposure to violent media, was the emergence of social networking sites which give people the ability to “tune out” and not respond to interactions online, and this could be translating into a learned behavior that manifests itself during face-to-face interactions.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES PAINTED AS ENEMIES

When one country is having tensions with another, or if two countries are approaching an armed conflict, the entire “enemy” country and all of its occupants are usually portrayed as “hating freedom” or being ruthless savages who want to kill the citizens of the other country. This is rarely ever true, of course, and most often it is one corrupt leader butting heads with another corrupt leader, or one country fabricating complete lies in order to spark a war for economic reasons. The vast majority of citizens of both countries want the same things out of life. They don’t want any problems. They just want to be safe and have a stable economy, and be able to enjoy a few of life’s pleasures and spend time with family and friends. Most informed citizens in the “enemy” country are just as upset about their corrupt leader as citizens of the opposing country.

Other people, perhaps the majority, unfortunately, believe the propaganda produced from their own country and literally hate everyone from the “enemy” country. You could see this during the War in Iraq, with many moronic Americans wanting to kill all Arabs, or Muslims, or nuke the entire Middle East and “turn it into a glass parking lot.” Such ignorance is the fuel that the establishment needs to continue its operations. Orwell interestingly noted, “If he [people in general] were allowed contact with foreigners he would discover that they are creatures similar to himself and that most of what he has been told about them is lies.”

“The citizen of Oceania is not allowed to know anything of the tenets of the other two [enemies] philosophies, but he is taught to execrate [denounce] them as barbarous outrages upon morality and common sense.”

In an insightful documentary that aired on PBS in the spring and summer of 2010 called Rick Steves’ Iran, the host traveled to Iran and spoke with people about their country and the growing tensions with the US. Multiple Iranians said that they have no problem with America or the American people. One woman clearly stated that the governments have problems with each other, but the people should be friends. The woman went on to say that it was unfortunate that Iran had a theocracy where the religious leaders ran the government and she called it Iran’s main problem.

This is quite the opposite of what the American establishment would like people to believe. The Iranians, we are told, all hate Americans, and want us dead. This false belief aids the establishment’s military industrial complex and supports the everlasting “War on Terror.”

POWER HUNGRY OFFICIALS

Just as the “enemies” of a country are always cast in the darkest light, the leader of the homeland is almost always painted as a heroic and virtuous man who must protect the poor citizens of his land from the evildoers. “Everywhere is the same pyramidal structure, the same worship of a semi-divine leader,” notes Orwell.

We see billboards and t-shirts in America with the image of the president featured on them like they are rock stars; and no matter who the president is, their supporters will always lash out and attack anyone who questions their authority. If someone disagreed with President George W. Bush, then they were called un-American and said to support the terrorists. People who resisted President Obama were simply called racists. The strategy is the same no matter which party is in power. Most people are ideologically blind, and don’t even notice the major shortcomings of their own party or leader.

At one point in Orwell’s story, Winston muses that he now understands the how, but he had yet to understand the why. He knew how the Party and Big Brother were able to operate in total power, but he had yet to understand why they did this. He later realized it was for the power itself.

O’Brien tells him, *“The Party seeks power entirely for its own sake. We are not interested in the good of others; we are interested solely in power. Not wealth or luxury or long life or happiness; only power, pure power.”* O’Brien concludes, *“Power is power over human beings. Over the body—but above all, over the mind.”*

The infamous political player, Henry Kissinger, famously stated that “power is the ultimate aphrodisiac” and many have heard of Lord Acton’s dictum, which states that power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Power is what dirt-poor street gang members are after because its feeling is better than any drug. Power is what organized mob bosses are after more than the money they pull in, and power is what politicians desire, more than “serving” their country. And just like drug addicts will do all kinds of illegal and immoral things just to get a fix, the same is true of those addicted to power.

AN EROSION OF THE LANGUAGE

In Nineteen Eighty-Four, the language that people spoke was being reduced down to basic nouns and verbs in a purposeful attempt to dumb people down. The language was called Newspeak and each year a new dictionary would come out with the approved words for society, and each year it got smaller and smaller. The goal was to eliminate most of the words, and thus eliminate people's thoughts and ways to express themselves to keep them mentally enslaved.

In one scene a co-worker of Winston's was bragging that in a few more generations people "wouldn't be able to have a conversation like this" because the language will be so eroded.

Just as the residents of Oceania were losing the ability to express themselves verbally due to the eroding language, we can see a similar phenomenon in our culture with the decline of reading and education. People's foul mouths and the reliance on text messaging also shows their inability to articulate ideas. People's vocabulary seems to be shrinking, along with their IQs.

DOUBLE THINK

The concept of Double Think means to "know and not to know, to be conscious of complete truthfulness while telling carefully constructed lies, to hold simultaneously two opinions which cancelled out, knowing them to be contradictory and believing in both of them." Orwell used the slogan "*War is Peace, Freedom is Slavery, Ignorance is Strength*" to illustrate Double Think. It was the slogan of the Party and captured the depths of the backwards and illogical beliefs of society. Unfortunately we find equally backward beliefs in our own society and Double Think is not just a concept found in Nineteen Eighty-Four.

Everyone is familiar with the Patriot Act legislation that was passed after the 9/11 attacks in 2001, eliminating various Constitutional liberties, and is anything but patriotic. The name "Patriot" Act was carefully chosen to imply the new laws were patriotic and is a perfect example of Double Think since it is completely the opposite of anything patriotic or American.

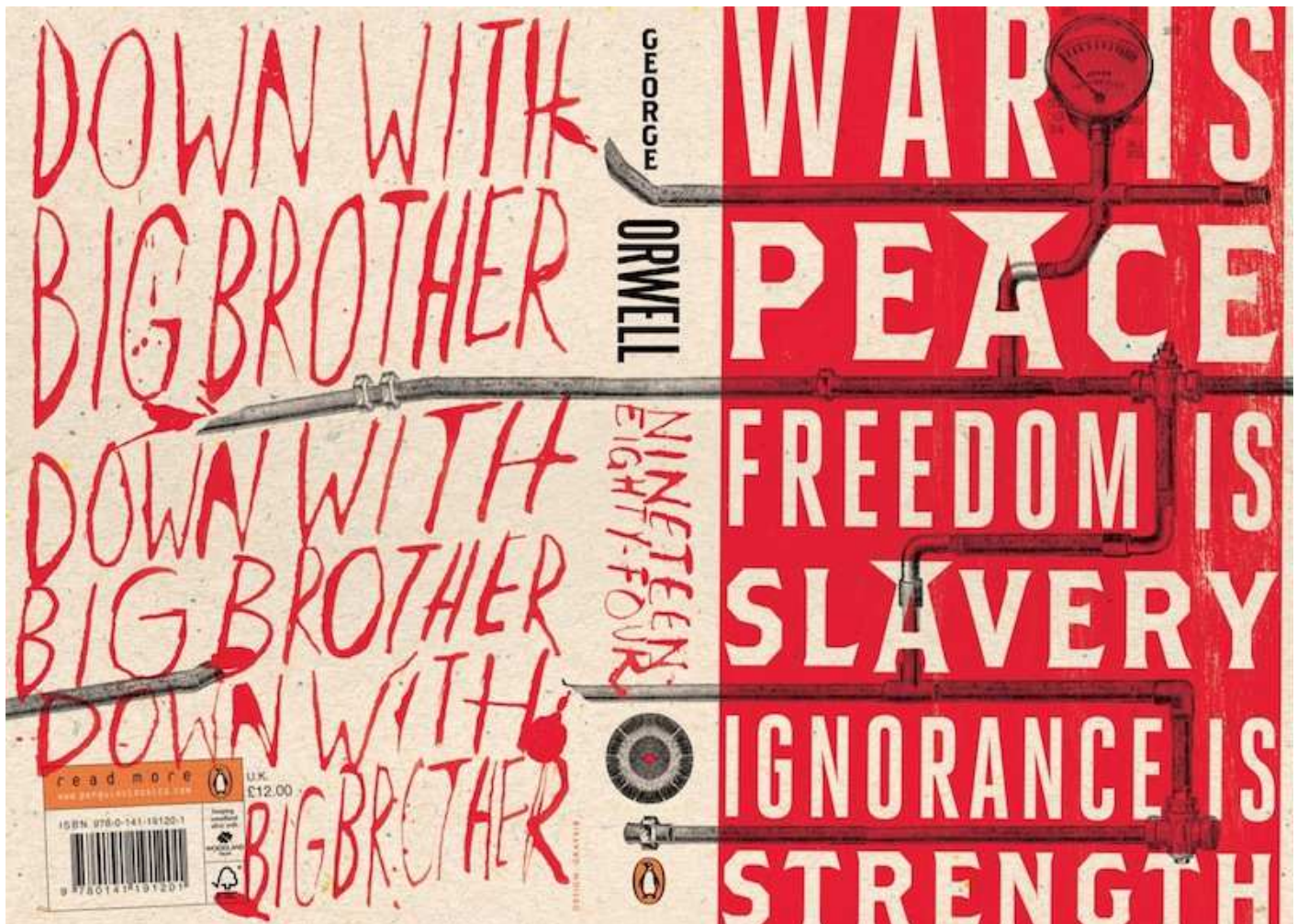
In a segment of Alex Jones' documentary *Terrorstorm: A History of Government Sponsored Terrorism*, the camera crew interviews random people on the streets of London to discuss the increasing surveillance, and one woman proclaims, "*I think we should give up liberty for freedom,*" clearly not realizing the illogical and blatant contradiction of her own words.

The concept of Double Think often applies to war. "Peace keeping" troops are often there to kill the enemy, and it is often said that we must "fight for peace." Comedian George Carlin saw the irony in the terms and once said, "*fighting for peace is like screwing for virginity.*" In America, the Department of Defense used to be called the Department of War until 1947 when the name was changed to improve its image. It should really be called the Department of Offense, not Defense, but in true Orwellian style, its name reflects the opposite of what it is.

When the commercial for the Little Buddy GPS tracking device said parents can "build trust" by forcing their children to wear a GPS tracker—this is another example of Double Think—since using the product is an obvious sign of not trusting your child.

Double Think is essentially a blatant lie that can easily be identified by an enlightened person, but is fully believed by the ignorant masses. It's like when a store advertises that people should "spend more to save more" and customers actually believe they're saving money by spending it.

Double Think uses misnomers and false terms to purposefully label things incorrectly, and such names are often the exact opposite of what the thing really is or does. People with minimum critical thinking skills often accept the word or phrase on face value, and don't realize it masks something else.



THE MINISTRY OF LOVE

The Ministry of Love is basically the police force and prison system in Nineteen Eighty-Four and is anything but loving. They look out for, and arrest people who betray Big Brother and the Party. Violators are taken to the much-feared Room 101 where they are tortured and brainwashed to love Big Brother.

THE MINISTRY OF PLENTY

The Ministry of Plenty is in control of the food rations and the manufacture and supply of goods and services. Periodically the Ministry of Plenty publishes reports that claim the standard of living has increased, along with the amount of food rations people are entitled to, but in reality, the standard of living has continuously declined. As with the other departments of government in the novel, its name reflects exactly the opposite of what it says, and the Ministry of Plenty is really the reason for scarcity.

THE MINISTRY OF PEACE

The Ministry of Peace is responsible for the perpetual war that plagues society and uses up or destroys the fruits of people's labor to prevent an increase in the standard of living for the lower levels of society. In America, we have the Department of Defense, which is really the Department of War, and actually used to be called that, until the name was changed in 1947 to give it a better image. In true Orwellian fashion, the department's name is meant to hide the fact that it is really a Ministry of War.

THE MINISTRY OF TRUTH

The Ministry of Truth, found in the novel, is a misnomer and in reality serves as exactly the opposite of what its name implies. It is responsible for the falsification of historical events, and determines what the "truth" is and then disseminates it in the media and historical records. The massive building is described as being in the shape of a pyramid.

The Ministry of Truth also provides the citizens of Oceania with all of their newspapers, films, textbooks, plays, and novels. They have a special department for proletarian literature that "produced rubbishy newspapers, containing almost nothing except sport, crime, and astrology, sensational five-cent novelettes, films oozing with sex, and sentimental songs." It is basically the heart of the massive propaganda machine that is entirely under the direction of the Party.

4. SETTING THE SCENE

Orwell's book is where we get the term Big Brother from, such as when people say "Big Brother is watching you." When people say this, they're referring to the omniscient surveillance system described in the novel that continuously watched and listened to people—even in their own homes. When we call something Orwellian to describe the invasiveness of certain technology or government policies, we are also referring to George Orwell's nightmarish vision as seen in the previous pages. Even if you have not read the book or seen the film, you are still undoubtedly familiar with the issues that make up the storyline, such as the high-tech surveillance system watching and listening to everyone in order to keep them in line with the government (called the Party in the novel). You are probably also familiar with the concept of a small elite ruling class (what Orwell calls the Inner Party) living in luxury and wielding unimaginable power over lower level citizens.

In the novel, people have lost their freedom, their critical thinking skills, and even the ability to love due to the cultural depths society has sunk to as a result of Big Brother's control. The reason *Nineteen Eighty-Four* remains so popular, and the reason society has adopted vocabulary from the book, is because it serves as more than merely a fictional novel for the reader's entertainment. The novel served (and continues to serve) as a stark warning of what the future may hold if we don't resist invasive technology and oppressive government policies, or if the population at large becomes so lost in a world of pop culture, sports entertainment, or our own selfish desires, that we simply don't care.



666 Singularity will hopefully give you some additional insight into the murky world of the global elite who are exerting their influence in all aspects of society to bring the world closer to accepting procedures and policies that we would never have accepted before. This process is part of what is called the *Hegelian Dialectic*. Manufacturing a problem to help bring in a desired solution since offering the solution in the first place without the problem would encounter considerable and possibly overwhelming public resistance.

Enjoy
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