

Disinformation; First Use of Propaganda, Gen 3:4; Principles of Propaganda: Definitions; Detailed Analysis: Smith's "Propaganda"; National Post: New Ice Age

Colossians 2:8 - Continuously be alert that there should not be anyone carrying you off as prisoners of war through the agency of anthropocentric academic speculation and deception without content [**disinformation**] ...

1. From the several verses we noted we can see that what false communicators hope to accomplish through worthless rhetoric is to confuse their target audience into believing as true what is a lie or into believing as false that which is true.
2. Another tactic of false communicators is to use high-toned rhetoric sprinkled with buzz words that leave the impression they have said something profound when in fact they have said nothing.
3. Worthless euphemistic phrases allow them to be perceived as a people of wisdom while permitting them to avoid revealing what they really have on their minds.
4. It is the use of carefully constructed phrases and euphonious words that enable unscrupulous people to gain power over an unsuspecting population.
5. These are rhetorical veils that are designed to conceal while advancing their hidden agenda. If you knew their agenda you would be horrified, but being deceived by their rhetorical veils you grant support and ultimately power to evil people.
6. Techniques to change the way people think are not new. Lucifer has been in that business since he inspired the fall of our original parents in Eden.
7. The first use of propaganda occurred in Genesis 3:4 when the serpent, speaking to Ishah, refuted the Lord's penalty clause for eating the forbidden fruit with the assertion, "You surely will not die!"
8. The Lord identified Lucifer as "a liar and the father of lies" in John 8:44. Propaganda is nothing new nor are its effects, for the woman bought Lucifer's lie, influenced her husband to join her in the rebellion, and they immediately learned they had been duped.
9. The result was the fall, the creation of a sinful nature, total depravity, spiritual death, and the status of "no hope." The Lord provided the only solution to these problems with his proclamation of salvation through faith in His future Messiahship which Adam and Eve accepted resulting in salvation and eternal life.
10. Yet at the same time Lucifer usurped command authority over Planet Earth. And since then he has wrapped his patented lie in whatever presentation necessary to fulfill his hopeless mission stated in Isaiah 14:14, "I will be like the Most High."
11. In his effort to accomplish this objective, Lucifer has packaged his lies in ways that are alluring to those who function on human viewpoint.
12. Without divine viewpoint developed from a serious study of the Word of God, the human soul is left vulnerable to the Luciferian deceptions of cosmic propaganda.

13. This leads us to our next subject in defining the phrase “deception without content.” We have noted disinformation: “false information deliberately and often covertly spread (as by the planting of rumors) in order to influence public opinion or obscure the truth” (*M-WCD/11*).
14. Now we turn our attention to the term “propaganda” and in so doing we will unveil the strategy of the false teacher who connives to influence the benighted into doing his bidding.

Principles on Propaganda

I. Definitions:

1. The English word propaganda is taken from the Latin word *propago* \praw-pa'-gō\: “to spread.” Its original use referred to causing animals and plants to multiply or breed, i.e., propagate.
2. This word and its concept of “spreading” and “multiplying” was utilized in 1622 by Pope Gregory XV in establishing a missionary arm of the Catholic Church.
3. Gregory gave this committee of cardinals the Latin title *Sacra Congregatio de Propaganda Fide*: Sacred Congregation for Propagation of the Faith.
4. The idea was legitimate in the sense that the church wanted to “spread the Word” to foreign fields. “Planting churches” is a similar term used today by Protestants which is metaphorical of the Latin words original meaning of “propagating animals and plants.”
5. The propaganda efforts of the Catholic committee or of Protestant churches have the positive intent of “spreading” each organization’s Gospel message.
6. However, the word has acquired several nefarious definitions and English dictionaries bring these out:

Webster’s New Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language: Unabridged. 2d ed. (Cleveland: The World Publishing Co., 1962), 2:1442:

Propagate. To cause to reproduce; to multiply; to spread ideas or customs from person to person or generation to generation; disseminate; promote; circulate.

Propagandize. To spread a doctrine or theory by propaganda; to subject someone to propaganda.

Propaganda. Any organization or movement working for the propagation of particular ideas, doctrines, or practice. The ideas, doctrines, or practices spread in this way. Any systematic, widespread, deliberate indoctrination: now often used in a derogatory sense, connoting deception or distortion.

Morris, William (ed.). The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language. (New York: American Heritage Publishing Co., 1971), 1048:

Propagation. Increase or spread, as by natural reproduction. Dissemination, as of a belief: *propagation of the Gospel*.

Propaganda. The systematic propagation of a given doctrine or of allegations reflecting its views and interests. Material disseminated by the proselytizers of a doctrine.

The Oxford English Dictionary. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1971), 2:2326:

Propagate. *Figurative.* To cause to grow in numbers or amount; to cause to increase and multiply, to spread from person to person, or from place to place; to disseminate, diffuse a statement, belief, doctrine, or practice.

Propaganda. Any association, systematic scheme, or concerted movement for the propagation of a particular doctrine or practice.

Propagandism. The practice of propaganda; systematic work at propagating any opinion, creed, or practice.

Propagandist. A member or agent of a propaganda; one who devotes himself to the propagation of some creed or doctrine; a proselytizer.

Propagandize. To disseminate principles by organized effort.

Jewell, Elizabeth and Frank Abate (eds.). *The New Oxford American Dictionary.* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001), 1365:

Propagate. To spread and promote an idea, theory, or knowledge widely.

Propaganda. *Chiefly derogatory.* Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote or publicize a particular political cause or point of view.

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. 11th ed. (Springfield, Mass.: Merriam-Webster, 2003), 996:

Propagate. To cause to spread out and affect a greater number or greater area. To foster growing knowledge of, familiarity with, or acceptance of (as an idea or belief).

Propaganda. The spreading of ideas, information, or rumor for the purpose of helping or injuring an institution, a cause, or a person. Ideas, facts, or allegations spread deliberately to further one's cause or to damage an opposing cause.

7. From these definitions we accumulate the following points on the sometime benign, sometimes malignant uses of propaganda:

- To spread abroad from person to person doctrines, ideas, customs, and theories.
- An organization or movement whose objective is to influence or persuade people.
- Deliberate indoctrination by means of deception and distortion.
- Information disseminated through media of the propagandist's views and beliefs; a proselytizer.
- Biased and misleading information used in promotion of a political cause or point of view.
- To foster the advance or acceptance of an idea or belief.
- The deliberate spreading of ideas or rumor in order to injure and institution, cause, or person.

II. Detailed Analysis:

Smith, Bruce L. "Propaganda." In *Encyclopaedia Britannica: Macropaedia.* 15th ed. (Chicago: Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1979), 15:36-41:

Propaganda is the systematic effort to manipulate other people's beliefs, attitudes, or actions by means of symbols (words, banners, music). A relatively heavy emphasis on deliberateness and manipulateness distinguishes propaganda from casual conversation or the free and easy exchange of ideas. The propagandist has a specified goal or set of goals. To achieve these he deliberately presents a selection of facts, arguments, and displays of symbols in ways he thinks will have the most effects. To maximize effects, he may omit pertinent facts, and he may try to divert the attention of the reactors (the people whom he is trying to sway) from everything but his own propaganda. (p. 36)

NOTE: A current example of propaganda gone wrong is the deception of global warming when the truth is that weather is primarily controlled by the sun and the presence or absence of sun spots.

Lorne Gunter, "Forget global warming: Welcome to the new Ice Age," *National Post*, February 25, 2008, <http://www.nationalpost.com/opinion/columnists/story.html?id=332289>:

The U.S. National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) reported that many American cities and towns suffered record cold temperatures in January and early February. According to the NCDC, the average temperature in January "was -0.3 F cooler than the 1901-2000 (20th century) average."

In just the first two weeks of February, Toronto received 70 cm of snow, smashing the record of 66.6 cm for the entire month set back in the pre-SUV, pre-Kyoto, pre-carbon footprint days of 1950.

And remember the Arctic Sea ice? The ice we were told so hysterically last fall had melted to its "lowest levels on record? Never mind that those records only date back as far as 1972 and that there is anthropological and geological evidence of much greater melts in the past.

The ice is back.

Gilles Langis, a senior forecaster with the Canadian Ice Service in Ottawa, says the Arctic winter has been so severe the ice has not only recovered, it is actually 10 to 20 cm thicker in many places than at this time last year.

OK, so one winter does not a climate make.

But it's not just anecdotal evidence that is piling up against the climate-change dogma.

According to Robert Toggweiler of the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory at Princeton University and Joellen Russell, assistant professor of biogeochemical dynamics at the University of Arizona -- two prominent climate modellers -- the computer models that show polar ice-melt cooling the oceans, stopping the circulation of warm equatorial water to northern latitudes and triggering another Ice Age are all wrong.

"We missed what was right in front of our eyes," says Prof. Russell. It's not ice melt but rather wind circulation that drives ocean currents northward from the tropics. Climate models until now have not properly accounted for the wind's effects on ocean circulation, so researchers have compensated by over-emphasizing the role of manmade warming on polar ice melt.

But when Profs. Toggweiler and Russell rejigged their model to include the 40-year cycle of winds away from the equator (then back towards it again), the role of ocean currents bringing warm southern waters to the north was obvious in the current Arctic warming.

Last month, Oleg Sorokhtin, a fellow of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, shrugged off manmade climate change as "a drop in the bucket." Showing that solar activity has entered an inactive phase, Prof. Sorokhtin advised people to "stock up on fur coats."

He is not alone. Kenneth Tapping of our own National Research Council, who oversees a giant radio telescope focused on the sun, is convinced we are in for a long period of severely cold weather if sunspot activity does not pick up soon.

The last time the sun was this inactive, Earth suffered the Little Ice Age that lasted about five centuries and ended in 1850. Crops failed through killer frosts and drought. Famine, plague and war were widespread. Harbours froze, so did rivers, and trade ceased.

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