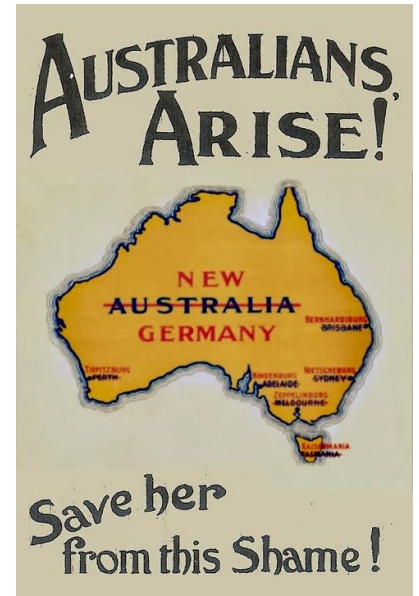


Fear and Politics



Fear has been used in politics in order to spread distrust amongst the public in order to levy power.

Examples Around the World

Stalin – Stalin was the leader of the Soviet Union from 1922 to his death. During his reign he used his secret police in order to keep all enemies of the state under control. He also created a Cult of Personality, which means that he created the idea that he was the saviour of the nation. He also produced a lot of anti-west propaganda, creating a lot of tension between the west and the USSR.

Mao Zedong – Mao Zedong was another communist leader of the People's Republic of China (PRC). Mao Zedong sent intellectuals and artists to the countryside for 're-education.' This is similar to how Napoleon executed the pigs as they knew what he was doing.



Hitler - Hitler used fear in order to come to power. After Germany lost WWI, the blame for the peace treaty at Versailles was blamed on the Jews and minorities, which Hitler took advantage of. His party, Die Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei, (German National Socialist Worker's Party) was very anti-semitic which believed in a master race of the Aryan race. They were able to spread fear by lying about Jews so that Hitler would be voted into power.



George Bush - George Bush was the president of the United States after the 9/11 attacks. After the attack, he used it as an excuse to invade Iraq. However, another thing Bush claimed was that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction, but they are yet to have been found. Bush and the media also didn't refer to the terrorists as terrorists but they instead referred to them as Islamic radicals, stirring fear about the Muslim population.



How Might Fear be Used in the Future?

Fear has always been used to stir fear in the public. Be it to gain support for a war, or to paint a bad image of the enemy. For example, the 9/11 attack was used by the United States to gain enough support to go to war with Iraq, the so called ‘War on terror.’ However, a major backlash is that they didn’t describe it as a war on terrorism, but a war on *Islamic Radicalism*. That made it so not only would Americans start to fear terrorists more, but also Muslims, leading to a **much** more Islamophobic society in America than before the terror attacks.

Fear might be used in the *future* in the current migrant crisis by right-wing news networks in order to stir unrest in the public. For example, Fox News used an old clip from 2010 showing people on a train shouting “Allahu Akbar,” and used it in the migrant crisis with the headline “ISIS amongst Refugees?” This is a news network using **the fear of ISIS** and connecting it to the migrant crisis so people will fear migrants. This could continue which could see large anti-migrant protests.

