

Read and annotate the articles and answer the text based questions that follow.

Dueling messages: Propaganda in the Civil War

By National Geographic Society, adapted by Newsela staff on 05.24.19

Word Count 934

Level 1090L



This envelope from the Civil War shows a drummer boy in front of the American flag. Photo from the Library of Congress

Propaganda is the spread of information designed to promote an idea or belief and influence public opinion. It can take many forms, including written words, drawings, works of art and performances. The term usually suggests selective omission or a biased presentation of facts.



One purpose of war propaganda is to rally the public in support of the war. During the Civil War, both sides used propaganda to raise troops, criticize the opponent and promote the righteousness of their cause.

Media

Throughout the Civil War era, newspapers were the primary means of spreading information. The newly developed telegraph system allowed newspapers to quickly receive information from distant

areas. This made it much easier to report on remote events such as political debates, battle results and death tolls.

Newspapers were also able to editorialize and create propaganda for one side or the other. For example, many published stories of cruel acts performed by the enemy or heartbreaking stories from people affected by the conflict. These emotional accounts were designed to sway public opinion.

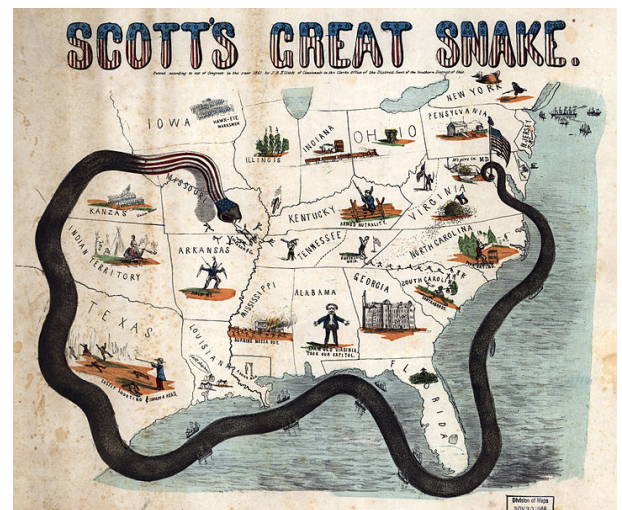
During the Civil War, illustrated journalism and cartoons in print media came into widespread use. The Civil War was the first time an event had been so widely photographed, and images of the war were popular with the public. Pictures and illustrations became a new form of propaganda. Like the emotional accounts, these images were similarly biased toward one side or the other. Editorial cartoons featured prominently in magazines such as Harper's Weekly and Vanity Fair.

At least in the early years of the war, one of the most popular forms of propaganda media was called the pictorial envelope. These were envelopes for stationery that had designs printed on them. Letter writers used these envelopes to express patriotism and other views.

The recruitment poster was another medium through which propaganda was spread. Also known as a broadsheet, these posters were used in both the North and South. Union recruitment posters made appeals to patriotism and liberty. They urged prospective soldiers to enlist instead of waiting to be drafted against their will. Confederate posters likewise appealed to liberty and emphasized the importance of defending themselves against unfair treatment by the North.

Themes Of Propaganda: Union

Union propaganda was based on portraying the patriotism of the cause and often showed Southerners as two-faced, untrustworthy rebels. It also promoted the abolitionist movement, which called for the end of slavery. Printed materials in the North emphasized patriotic symbols, such as the United States flag, the Constitution, and images of George Washington. Others poked fun at Confederate leaders and the rebels in general. A large number of publications emphasized that the fight was against slavery and slaveholders.



In addition, cartoons in magazines such as Harper's Weekly supported the war and, in particular, encouraged enlistment. Some cartoons showed women rejecting men who did not volunteer. Others suggested that any man who did not agree to fight was avoiding his duty to his country.

Themes Of Propaganda: Confederacy

Confederate propaganda also appealed to patriotism and characterized Union soldiers as thieves. The North wanted to end slavery, but printed materials in the South played on fears of interracial relationships, which were strictly forbidden at the time. Confederate newspapers supported the cause by making Union soldiers look bad and generally trying to inspire hatred of the North. They highlighted or made up tales of cruel acts by the Union Army. They published accounts of theft,

destruction of property, attacks on women and mistreatment of prisoners. At the same time, Confederate newspapers downplayed military setbacks and played up successes. For example, some papers characterized the major Southern defeats at Antietam and Gettysburg as "defensive victories."

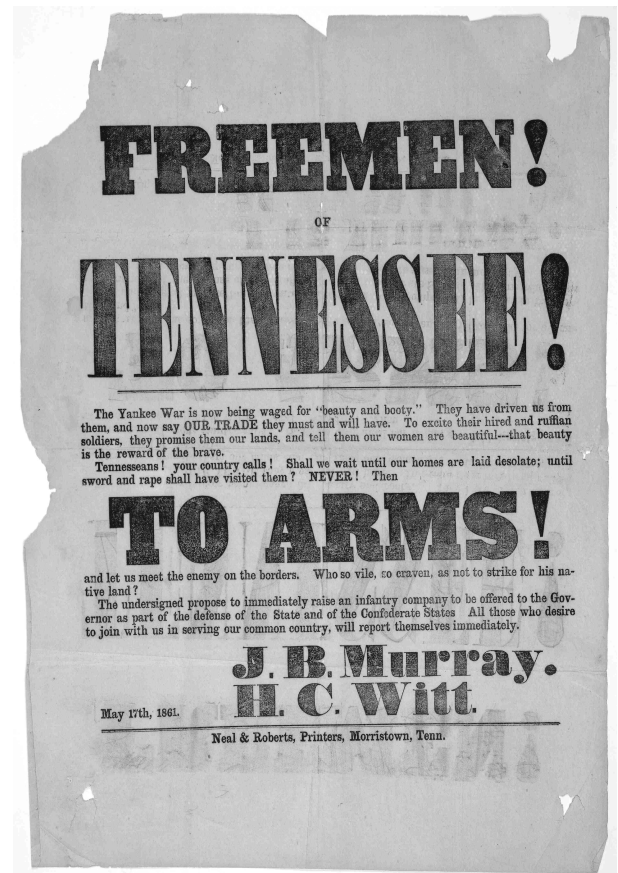
Propaganda For The Overseas Audience

Civil War propaganda was not just limited to the United States. Union and Confederate propaganda makers were also active overseas. An important question for both the North and the South was whether any foreign nation would recognize the Confederacy and lend it aid. London, England, was a particular focus. The South hoped that Britain would take its side to ensure access to cotton supplies, which had been threatened by the Union blockade of Southern ports.

To this end, London saw the publication of both pro-North and pro-South propaganda newspapers. A newspaper known as the London American supported the Union cause, while The Index supported the Confederacy. The London American was somewhat less effective, in part due to the fact that its publisher was known to print anti-British content. The Index did a better job of building sympathy for its cause. For example, it was able to generate outrage at a Union general. The general had stated that women in New Orleans, Louisiana, would be prosecuted as prostitutes if they demonstrated against Union troops. Ultimately, though, Britain did not recognize or give significant aid to the Confederacy.

Conclusion

The Civil War saw active propaganda efforts from both the Union and the Confederacy. At the same time, the telegraph allowed media reports to be carried relatively rapidly from the field. Illustrated journalism showed readers images of the conflict and biased, editorial messages.



Write Prompt

Write a short paragraph that explains the central idea of the article. Use at least two details from the article to support your response.

Quiz

1 Which section of the article BEST defines propaganda and summarizes WHY it was used during the Civil War?

- (A) Introduction [paragraphs 1-2]
- (B) "Themes Of Propaganda: Union"
- (C) "Propaganda For The Overseas Audience"
- (D) "Conclusion"

2 Read the following paragraph from the section "Media."

Throughout the Civil War era, newspapers were the primary means of spreading information. The newly developed telegraph system allowed newspapers to quickly receive information from distant areas. This made it much easier to report on remote events such as political debates, battle results and death tolls.

What conclusion is BEST supported by the paragraph above?

- (A) The telegraph was specifically invented to help newspapers get war-related information.
- (B) Before the Civil War, newspapers lacked the ability to report on the events of a war.
- (C) During the Civil War, the telegraph helped the public keep current with war-related events.
- (D) Newspapers used to focus on events occurring in distant areas rather than local areas.

3 Which two of the following sentences from the article include CENTRAL ideas of the article?

1. *Newspapers were also able to editorialize and create propaganda for one side or the other.*
2. *Pictures and illustrations became a new form of propaganda.*
3. *An important question for both the North and the South was whether any foreign nation would recognize the Confederacy and lend it aid.*
4. *Ultimately, though, Britain did not recognize or give significant aid to the Confederacy.*

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) 2 and 3
- (C) 3 and 4
- (D) 4 and 1

4 Which statement would be MOST important to include in a summary of the article?

- (A) Some Union propaganda poked fun at Confederate leaders and the rebels in general.
- (B) In London, there were both pro-North and pro-South propaganda newspapers during the war.
- (C) During the Civil War, the North and the South used different types of propaganda for several purposes.
- (D) Confederate newspapers often downplayed military setbacks and played up successes.

Name: _____

Class: _____

Herd Behavior

By CommonLit Staff

2014

"Herd behavior" is a term used to describe the tendency of individuals to think and act as a group. As you read, take notes on how herd behavior affects the actions of humans.

Background

- [1] The term "herd behavior" comes from the behavior of animals in herds, particularly when they are in a dangerous situation such as escaping a predator. All of the animals band closely together in a group and, in panic mode, move together as a unit. It is very unusual for a member of the herd to stray from the movement of the unit.



"Herd of Goats" by Unknown is in the public domain.

The term also applies to human behavior, and it usually describes large numbers of people acting the same way at the same time. It often has a connotation¹ of irrationality, as people's actions are driven by emotion rather than by thinking through a situation. Human herd behavior can be observed at large-scale demonstrations, riots, strikes, religious gatherings, sports events, and outbreaks of mob violence. When herd behavior sets in, an individual person's judgment and opinion-forming process shut down as he or she automatically follows the group's movement and behavior.

Examples of Herd Behavior

Herd behavior in humans is frequently observed at times of danger and panic; for example, a fire in a building often causes herd behavior, with people often suspending their individual reasoning and fleeing together in a pack. People in a crisis that requires escape will attempt to move faster than normal, copy the actions of others, interact physically with each other, and ignore alternative strategies in favor of following the mass escape trend.

1. an idea or quality that a word expresses in addition to its meaning

Another commonly cited example of human herd behavior is the phenomenon of stock market bubbles. Large stock market trends often begin and end with a mass frenzy of buying (bubbles) or selling (crashes). Many observers see these stock market trends as examples of herding behavior because individuals are driven by emotion rather than reason to “join the crowd”; greed drives mass buying frenzies, and fear drives crashes.

Behavior in Crowds

- [5] A more obvious example of human herd behavior occurs in dense public crowds or mobs. Crowds that gather because of a grievance or protest can involve herding behavior that becomes violent. Psychologists posit ² that a “group mind” can overtake a mob and embolden people to act in ways they would not individually, increasing the likelihood that situations become violent.

Sporting events can also create herd behavior on a violent scale. The football hooliganism prevalent in Europe in the 1980s is a well-known example of sports-related herding behavior and violence. Overzealous fans of football teams often engaged in unruly or destructive behavior in the name of supporting their team and intimidating the rival team, to the extent that people involved could be badly injured or even killed.

Some historians believe that Adolf Hitler purposefully took advantage of herd behavior psychology by planting a significant number of undercover German officers in the crowds at his speeches. These officers would enthusiastically cheer for Hitler, and the rest of the crowd followed suit, making it seem as if the entire crowd supported Hitler. These speeches would then be broadcast to a larger public audience, magnifying the effect.

Everyday Decision-Making

Herd behavior does not always have such harmful effects; it can be influential in people’s everyday, simple decisions. For example, suppose that a family is walking down the street looking for a restaurant to have dinner. If they pass a restaurant that is empty and one that is relatively crowded with patrons, they are far more likely to choose the crowded one, on the assumption that it’s better because there are more people there. Herding can be subtle in this way; it simply involves people’s tendency to follow a crowd rather than carve out an individual path in many situations.

"Herd Behavior" by CommonLit Staff. Copyright © 2014 by CommonLit, Inc. This text is licensed

2. **Posit** (*verb*) to propose or assume

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Text-Dependent Questions

Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1. Which of the following best summarizes the central idea of the text?
 - A. The actions of a large group can greatly influence an individual's actions.
 - B. Herd behavior suggests that there are limits to human beings' free will.
 - C. Crowds always become violent and chaotic when individuals begin to panic.
 - D. Even when acting alone, humans are not as advanced as we would like to think.

2. According to this article, what happens to a person's sense of individuality when they follow a larger group?
 - A. It shuts down.
 - B. It grows weaker.
 - C. It grows stronger.
 - D. It remains the same.

3. Which statement best describes the relationship between the stock market and herd behavior?
 - A. Stock market employees work in a constant state of anxiety, much like herd animals.
 - B. Stock market bubbles and crashes are sometimes caused by herd behavior but are most often caused by fear.
 - C. Herd behavior contributes to stock market changes because it compels stockbrokers to act on emotion rather than reason.
 - D. Both herd behavior and the stock market are motivated mainly by greed, which prevents people from using logic and reason.

4. Why does the author likely include the final section titled "Everyday Decision-Making" in the article?
 - A. to show how herd behavior can affect us daily
 - B. to show that herd behavior also occurs in smaller groups
 - C. to demonstrate how herd behavior allows individuals to avoid risks
 - D. to acknowledge that herd behavior is a problem that everyone faces

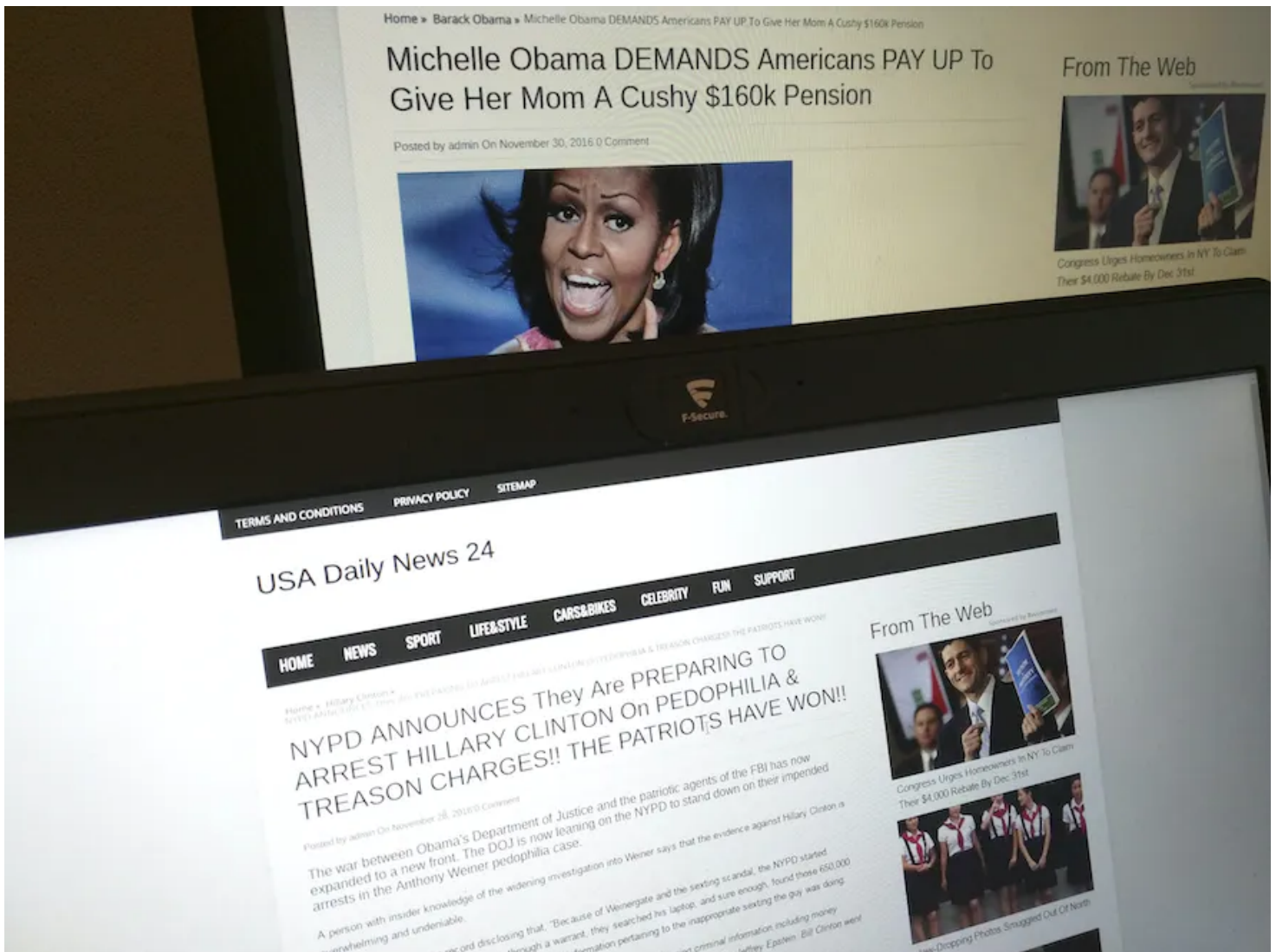
5. Summarize in 4-5 sentences how herd behavior affects individuals. Use examples from the text to support your answer.

The power to stop fake online news lies with advertising networks

By Tribune Content Agency, adapted by Newsela staff on 01.09.17

Word Count **695**

Level **930L**



This photograph taken in Paris, France, on December 2, 2016, shows stories from USA Daily News 24, a fake news site registered in Veles, Macedonia. AP Photo/Raphael Satter

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — It's never been easier to start an online media empire. Just \$10 gets you a website address and online storage. Fill out a short form and start getting ads on your website.

Then lure in some readers, and you'll have no trouble making money.

Every 1,000 visitors earns you at least a dollar or two with banner ads sold through Google. A banner ad is a small rectangular ad on a website. If you click on it, it will take you to the ad's website.

You will make three times the amount of money from recommended content ads. They combine crazy headlines with exciting pictures. Many are not true.

Sites earn most of their money from a combination of these ads. Some of the major media websites have them, including LATimes.com, Bloomberg.com and Newsweek.com.

Fake News Sites Can Publish Whatever They Want

The advertising technology companies that place them have few rules. This enables sites that publish fake news to make as much money as they can.

In online publishing, the crazier the story, the more people tend to click it. Websites post exaggerated political news articles. Some have made-up quotes and details, and millions of people can't resist opening them.

President Obama banning the national anthem at sporting events? Anything to get more attention on Facebook — and more income through recommended content ads.

Stopping fake news is now a major focus of tech companies. Facebook has promised to fight sites that spread fake news.

Billions Are Spent On Online Advertising

Businesses will spend more than \$30 billion on nonvideo online ads in the U.S. this year. People who make advertisements pay dimes or pennies each time their message gets clicked. The tech companies split the money with websites that run the ads. Companies in the misleading news business have said they can make up to tens of thousands of dollars per month.

Many ad tech firms check sites for hate speech, violence or illegal drugs. But they do not check whether information is true.

Before last month's presidential election, more than 100,000 Facebook users promoted a fake news article. It claimed Hollywood star Tom Hanks was voting for Donald Trump. Hanks actually supported Hillary Clinton.

Conservative101.com and other websites produce mostly real stories. But they rely on the fake news posts for most of their traffic, according to research firm SimilarWeb. As much as 90 percent of their monthly visitors find these sites by clicking on a Facebook link.

Some Ad Companies Aren't Concerned With The Truth

Some ad companies didn't respond to requests for comment. Nearly all the rest said they don't want to decide what's fact and what's fiction.

Justin Bunnell is the head of AdSupply.com, an advertising firm. He said he doesn't feel comfortable determining whether Hanks actually supported Trump.

Advertisers and major sites are increasingly urging ad networks to clean up their acts. Media critics and politicians want action too. They worry that bad information makes it hard for people to make good decisions.

Some are making changes. Google and Facebook are the two top online advertising companies. They have banned fake news sites from using their ad services. DoubleVerify is a company that provides a tool to control where ads run. It just released a new tool to block fake news websites.

But these won't fully stop the spread of fake news.

Exciting News Gets More Clicks

The fake stories give people what they want, and people are more likely to click on more exciting stories.

"Lots of junk is there because that's what people call on," said Mike Rosenberg. He is a top official at Content.ad, another online ad company.

It works, and ad companies don't have much reason to change a product that people are buying.

"Fake news sites probably perform as well as a real news website, so I don't think it makes an impact on my bottom line," said lifestyle blogger Andrew Wise. He paid for a link to his website on AmericanReviewer.com. It is the source of the Hanks-backs-Trump story. However, he added, "I would prefer to work with a business that prohibits fake news."

Write Prompt

Write a short paragraph that explains the central idea of the article. Use at least two details from the article to support your response.

Quiz

- 1 Which of these details BEST supports the article's central idea?
- (A) Just \$10 gets you a website address and online storage.
 - (B) Every 1,000 visitors earns you at least a dollar or two with banner ads sold through Google.
 - (C) Online companies such as Google and Facebook are trying to find ways to prevent spreading fake news.
 - (D) Many ad tech firms check sites for hate speech, violence or illegal drugs.
- 2 Which of these sentences from the article would be MOST important to include in a summary of the article?
- (A) It's never been easier to start an online media empire.
 - (B) In online publishing, the crazier the story, the more people tend to click it.
 - (C) Websites post exaggerated political news articles.
 - (D) Advertisers and major sites are increasingly urging ad networks to clean up their acts.
- 3 How does the author mainly explain the importance of online advertising?
- (A) by identifying some of the major media websites that use online advertising
 - (B) by pointing out that there are few rules that online advertising companies have to follow
 - (C) by describing how much money people and companies can make from online advertising
 - (D) by stating that politicians want changes made to online advertising
- 4 Based on the article, which answer choice accurately characterizes how many websites like Google and Facebook feel about fake news articles?
- (A) They rely on the fake news articles for most of the visitors to their sites.
 - (B) They complain about the fake news articles confusing readers on their sites.
 - (C) They are eager to adopt rules controlling who can publish fake news articles.
 - (D) They are increasingly disturbed by the content of the fake news articles.

Journalists in China must be absolutely loyal to Communist Party, Xi says

By Associated Press, adapted by Newsela staff on 02.26.16

Word Count 448

Level 1030L



Chinese President Xi Jinping (right) shakes hands with staff members of China Central Television (CCTV) in Beijing, China, Feb. 19, 2016. Ma Zhancheng/Xinhua via AP

BEIJING, China — Chinese President Xi Jinping made a rare tour of the country's top three state-owned news media groups Friday. He told editors and reporters they must pledge absolute loyalty to the Communist Party. He also told them that they must closely follow its leadership in "thought, politics and action."

Xi is the head of the Communist Party, which runs China. His visit is the latest sign of the party's increasingly tighter control over all media. It also shows that Xi is trying to strengthen his personal power. The Communist Party oversees most aspects of life in the country, from its economy to the information people hear. There is no freedom of speech in China.

Xi was accompanied by party's propaganda head, Liu Yunshan. They visited the newsrooms of the party newspaper People's Daily, the official Xinhua News Agency and state broadcaster China Central Television.

Media Obedience Is Required

At CCTV, Xi was welcomed by a sign pledging loyalty to the party. "The central television's family name is the party," the sign read.

"The media run by the party and the government are the propaganda fronts and must have the party as their family name," Xi told workers at the meeting. He demanded absolute loyalty from state media.

"All the work by the party's media must reflect the party's will, safeguard the party's authority and safeguard the party's unity," Xi said. "They must love the party, protect the party." He also said they must support "the party leadership in thought, politics and action."

Willy Lam is an expert on Chinese leaders at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He said Xi is requiring reporters and editors obey the party's top leadership. Increasingly, Xi consider this to be himself. It is another sign of how he has accumulated more personal power than either of the last two presidents, Lam said.

Xi Still Faces Challenges

Lam called the media visits a heavy-handed "campaign to drive home the point of total loyalty" to party leaders, Lam said. On one hand, no one is challenging Xi's influence and power, but on the other hand, he does not feel completely secure.

Lam said Xi faces challenges from within different groups within the Communist Party. He also must deal with the Chinese public, which is unhappy with the slowing economy and other financial problems.

Zhang Lifan is a Beijing-based historian and political observer. He said the Xi's tour of the news media added further to Xi's growing personality cult. Xi expects the Chinese public to be loyal and devoted to him personally. "I think Xi is declaring his sovereignty over the state media to say who's really in charge," he said.

Write Prompt

If you were going to add another picture or a chart to this article to help readers better understand an important point, what would it be and why?

Quiz

- 1 Which answer choice accurately characterizes Willy Lam's reaction to Xi's actions with regard to the media?
- (A) He believes that Xi's actions are merited.
 - (B) He believes that Xi's actions are unnecessary.
 - (C) He believes that Xi's actions are laughable.
 - (D) He believes that Xi's actions are repulsive.
- 2 According to the article, what is the MOST important reason why Xi wants to control the media?
- (A) in order to control the slowing economy
 - (B) in order to increase his personal and political power
 - (C) in order to require media to take the party as their family name
 - (D) in order to decrease freedom of speech within the country
- 3 Which of the following words, if it replaced the word "welcomed" in the sentence below, would CHANGE the meaning of the sentence?
- At CCTV, Xi was welcomed by a sign pledging loyalty to the party.*
- (A) met
 - (B) received
 - (C) saluted
 - (D) greeted
- 4 Read the sentence from the article.
- He said the Xi's tour of the news media added further to Xi's growing personality cult.*
- How does using the word "cult" affect the tone of the sentence above?
- (A) It conveys an ambiguous sense of insecurity.
 - (B) It conveys a hopeful sense of optimism.
 - (C) It conveys an unhealthy sense of power.
 - (D) It conveys a desperate sense of anger.

When done, write a summary of the following article. A summary begins with an introductory sentence that states the text's title, author and main point of the text as you see it. A summary is written in your own words. A summary contains only the ideas of the original text. Do not insert any of your own opinions, interpretations, deductions or comments into a summary.

The Cultural Revolution: China (History for Kids)

Chinese Communism

The Chinese Communist Party was founded in 1921. They took ideas from other countries that wanted to make Communism happen. Communism is a political and economic system in which the major productive resources in a society—such as factories and farms—are owned by the state, and wealth is divided among citizens equally or according to individual need. The Chinese government was not good at governing the people, so the Communists took over.

The party's early efforts were not very good. They were unable to find a base of people that wanted to join the Communist party in either of the cities of the country.

But one of the party's founders, Mao Zedong, began to think about using village people. While still being the leader of the party, he pushed for more focus on these peasants.

The Chinese Communist Party formed a Red Army to take over urban areas (cities and towns).

After World War II, the Chinese Communists were a powerful group because they had lots of support. They organized better and had more motivation.

After the Great Leap Forward

The Great Leap Forward was a campaign that Chinese communists undertook to organize their country. They wanted to develop a way of making more products without needing machines but only people.

China wanted to have more manpower rather than just machines or lots of money. They hoped that it would be faster for them to become an industrialized country if they did this. Industrialized countries have many businesses to produce goods.

Mao wanted to create a better country. To do this, Mao had the people work together with the government. This is called collectivization.

At first, it seemed like it was going well, but then there was a famine, and 45 million people died from starvation. Many people blamed Mao, and he was partly taken out of power by Communist Party leaders who weren't as extreme as him about collectivization.

Causes for the Cultural Revolution

Mao Zedong felt that the current leadership of China was moving too far away from the original ideas. Mao's power was weakened after the failure of the Great Leap Forward.

He gathered a group of radicals (extremist views and ideas), including his wife Jiang Qing and defense minister Lin Biao, to help him attack current party leadership.

One of the reasons for the Cultural Revolution was a play called “The Dismissal of Hai Rui From Office.” The play is about an official who criticized the emperor. Mao saw it as attacking him.

The movement of the Chinese Cultural Revolution was about politics. Mao wanted to take control of the Communist Party again. He did that by siding with radical youths against the party hierarchy. But this had many different consequences for society, not just for one level of society.

Young people fought with Mao’s enemies. This was before they were sent to the countryside. They battled with each other, too. But they were not the only ones who took part in this and suffered for it after. Intellectuals and people who worked against Mao also suffered from this too.

Intellectuals who had ties to the Nationalist party were prosecuted. They were killed or had long-term repercussions because of it.

The Chinese Cultural Revolution Begins



Mao launched the Cultural Revolution in 1966. It lasted 10 years.

Mao began by closing the schools. He wanted young people to come to the rallies.

After that, the students formed groups called Red Guards. These groups attacked and harassed people who were old or who had different ideas.

A poster against the school leaders was made and put up at Beijing University. The feelings of the students were strong against the school leaders.

Classes across the country were canceled. Students began protesting and shouting against Mao Zedong's enemies.

Mao Zedong supported the Red Guard. He later called for people to bombard the headquarters. It was clear that he was denouncing (speaking out against) the President.

Mao believed that the important people in the government had grown lazy and not as good as they used to be. Local Red Guards – who were very strict and wanted to make sure everyone had the same ideas- attacked anyone they believed didn't agree with their ideas.

The Cultural Revolution started when teachers and intellectuals in the nation were publicly humiliated, beaten, and killed. It is estimated that over 10 million people were persecuted. It was hard to find work because people had to move and schools closed.

After the first student-led red terror, chaos spread quickly. Workers joined the fight, and China was in a state of civil war with rival factions (groups) fighting in cities all over the country.

People were told to get rid of the four "olds":

1. old customs
2. old culture
3. old habits
4. old ideas

After the Cultural Revolution, the country's rulers said that it was a bad thing. It had only made things worse.

The Leader

President Lin was a person with a lot of power and popularity. Mao was afraid that Lin would take away his position as the leader of China. To fix this, Mao got rid of President Lin to make sure he had no competition.

A personality cult quickly sprang up around Mao. Different groups of people argued about the true interpretation of Maoist thought (the beliefs of Mao).

Defense Minister Lin Biao created copies of the Little Red Book of Mao's quotes and distributed them to get people to like Mao.



At the height of the Cultural Revolution, people read from “The Little Red Book.” This book was read on public buses. Even in the sky, flight attendants talked to passengers about Mao’s words. The Little Red Book was printed more than one billion times!

Control Over the People

Mao ordered the army to restore or bring back order in China. This made China a military dictatorship. The military ruled.

The Chinese Communist Party would assign labels to each person called “classes.” These classes determine how people were treated.

The Communist Party had a lot of control over the lives of people. They knew what everyone did.

As a result, people in China were not allowed to express themselves during the Cultural Revolution. They had to do what their boss said and be obedient to the Chinese nation. Only the Party members could have direct influence over their own lives.

There was a lot of fighting in China during the Cultural Revolution. Fighting was especially bad in Beijing and Guangzhou. This fight led to more than 1000 people dying.

Radicals took control of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (politician in charge of keeping the country safe). They began to put radical Chinese representatives in all the other embassies around the world. These representatives provided communication between China and the government of the country where the embassy is located.

Consequences of the Cultural Revolution

The Cultural Revolution lasted for a long time, and many people were persecuted. They tried to get rid of people with “bad” backgrounds.

Many people from China who were not on Mao's side were sent to the countryside. They had to do hard work in the fields. And when they weren't working, they had to listen to things that made them think about what they did wrong and why Mao was a good leader.

Many people ended up living in the country. They did not get any education because they were away from schools.

China also had fights with the Soviet Union during the Cultural Revolution. Then China began trying to make deals with Western countries to renew relationships with the West.

Mao wanted people to stay true to the Communist values in China. So he started a campaign (military action) for the Chinese to remain loyal to their Communist Party.

The End of the Cultural Revolution

Zhou Enlai was a Chinese statesman, diplomat, and revolutionary who served as the first Premier of the People's Republic of China. He was always less radical than Mao. By 1974, China's most powerful leaders were sick. They could not make decisions for the country after they got sick.

Zhou Enlai died. He was a good leader who always looked out for the well-being of the Chinese people.

Thousands of people gathered in Tiananmen Square. They wanted the government to be more open and for there to be an end to the dictatorship that ruled with total power. The people who did public protests were stopped.

Mao Zedong was China's leader for 27 years. He died. The people in China were sad, but they did not protest after Zhou's death.

Hua Guofeng took over the power. He arrested the last leaders of the Cultural Revolution, who he called "The Gang of Four."

They were accused of a variety of wrongdoings, including the Cultural Revolution's mistakes. They became the people that were blamed for the Cultural Revolution's excesses, and Mao's reputation was unaffected.

The arrest of the Gang is considered by many to be the end of the Cultural Revolution.

<https://historyforkids.org/the-cultural-revolution/>