

Information Warfare

A number of years ago, the FCC was set to make a decision that would have allowed further consolidation¹ of the media. As it stands now, there are basically six companies that control virtually all of what we read, see and hear. The FCC regulations allowing more consolidation would probably have reduced that number to three. The following are the corporations that control our perceptions of the world. Michael Powell (son of Colin Powell) was FCC Chairman at the time.

[Advance Publications Corporation](#)²

[Disney Corporation](#)³

[General Electric Corporation](#)⁴

[News Corporation](#)⁵

[Time Warner Corporation](#)⁶

[Viacom Corporation](#)⁷

The image that mass media cultivates is that they reflect popular culture. The truth is that they aren't reflecting it at all. They are creating it and in so doing, they are manipulating your perception of the world.

When the trashiness of the media is discussed on television, they never fail to mention that we - the public own the airwaves. Theoretically, that gives the public the right control them but it's all a farce. Most people have cable and cable is exempt from the laws that pertain to over the air broadcasters. Since we receive over the air broadcasts on our cable, we don't differentiate. This means that ABC, CBS and NBC have different rules to play by than FOX.

Another image that the mass media cultivates is that they present news and information. The truth is that they have become the gatekeepers information rather than the providers of information. The wider reach channels do stories that are unquestionably local with local being defined as a story with no national significance. The more disgusting the story, the more time it gets. Personally, I don't know anybody who is interested in the seemingly endless coverage of the Scott Peterson or Kobe Bryant cases. Thousands of hours of TV time are given to analyzing every aspect of these cases - over, and over and over again.

The 'news' has become a vehicle for the Hegelian Dialectic. For example, there have been endless stories of pedophiles and porn on the internet. "They're coming after the children!". What are the solutions to the dilemma? Government control and snooping on the internet of course. Never mind that so-called entertainment programs on television have themes that can only appeal to the most perverted of pedophiles and rapists. Logic says... if you want to stop pedophiles, go after the pedophiles. A good place to start is with the people who write television 'entertainment' programs.

The 'missing children' story line is obviously to create the idea in the minds of parents that their children need to be RFID chipped. This fits with the 'vision' of our technology jailers to eliminate the need for hardcopy ID. Rarely is it mentioned that chipping the perverts would be the way to go. With a chip,

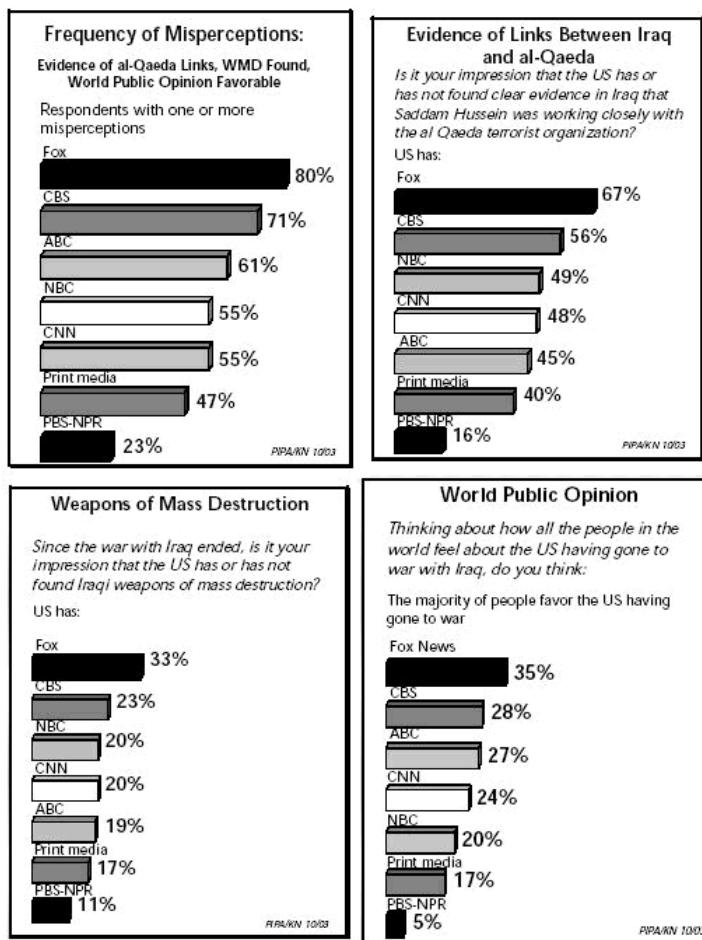
your every move can be monitored and in fact, the technology exists to execute you on the spot if you are found doing something you shouldn't be doing. No doubt the ACLU would step in to say that chipping perverts is discriminatory so everybody needs to be chipped to 'keep things fair'.

In looking at media and mind control (i.e. the manipulation of perception) I found some fascinating information. Here is one - in particular, click the link and scroll down to persuasion techniques and read it.

Persuasion Techniques⁸

Now think about the Fox News lineup - O'Reilly, Hannity and Colmes and Greta Van Susteren. And you probably thought they were just trying to appeal to different audiences in different time slots huh? If you still have doubts, consider the fact that [Roger Ailes](#)⁹ is an expert at mind manipulation. "He has been described as "the amusingly ferocious Republican media genius" and a "pit-bull Republican media strategist turned television tycoon." Roger Ailes is the President and CEO of faux news on Fox.

The Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) recently published [a study](#)¹⁰ on viewer misperceptions of the war on Iraq. The following is a summary of their findings as presented in handy little graphs by the [TurnOffYourTV](#)¹¹ website. The graphs below are from the article:



Perception Management

'News' programming is a subtle blend of entertainment, drama and propaganda. Snippets of news are presented in the form of headlines but no detail is provided so your perception is manipulated in the way that the newsperson delivers the headline and by the spin of the commentary that follows.

The prime time 'News' on Fox News is a case study in perception management. They have a three show lineup which corresponds to a public speakers technique for making people remember what you're saying:

Bill O'Reilly - 'Tell them what you're going to tell them'.

Hannity & Colmes - 'Tell them'.

Greta Van Susteren - 'Tell them what you told them'.

Bill O'Reilly plays the part of the stern father figure who assures you that he is looking out for your best interests while he is telling you what you should think.

Sean Hannity, is an attractive and lively man is paired with a very unattractive and rather dull opposition, Alan Colmes. Colmes is the perfect foil for Hannity. He's Mr. Milktoast while Hannity is obnoxious and abrasive. Hannity tells you that you are an idiot if you don't think the way that he thinks while Colmes begs to differ.

Greta Van Susteren a stern female authority figure who follows up telling you what you've already been told so that it's burned into your memory.

Reliable Information

Democracies work only when the voters have reliable, accurate information upon which to base their decisions.

In the United States, reliable, accurate information is getting harder and harder to come by. It is not that we aren't bombarded with information because we are - it's that the information is being used to create a false reality - a virtual reality.

The manufactured version of reality is presented on television. Newspapers publish canned and sanitized stories from a monopoly provider - **American Pravda**.

The truth - if one is interested, must be ferreted out on the internet by reading the same stories from different sources. The cognitive dissonance that results from the two entirely different realities is reminiscent of Rod Sterling's Twilight Zone.

In an article titled "[Without A Doubt](#)¹²", Ron Suskind quoted an senior Bush advisor which confirms the suspicion of a false reality.

"The aide said that guys like me were "in what we call the reality-based community," which he defined as people who "believe that solutions emerge from your judicious study of discernible reality." I nodded and murmured something about enlightenment principles and empiricism. He cut me off. "That's not the way the world really works anymore," he continued. "We're an empire now, and when we act, we create our own reality. And while you're studying that reality - -judiciously, as you will -- we'll act again, creating other new realities, which you can study too, and that's how things will sort out. We're history's actors . . . and you, all of you, will be left to just study what we do.'

Note: It was later revealed that the Aide was Karl Rove.

The creation of a virtual reality became government policy during the Reagan Administration as reported by James Kelso in an article titled '[Control of the American News Media](#)¹³'. The following is an excerpt from that article:

A covert policy, formulated by Ronald Reagan in conjunction with the CIA, was termed "perception management" and was formalized on January 14, 1983 when President Reagan signed the National Security Decision Directive No. 77. The Reagan White House and the CIA felt that a resurrection of anti-war activism in the United States as had occurred during the prolonged and futile Vietnamese war could curtail or halt the Reagan/CIA policy of "aggressive containment," specifically in Central America.

This project was also called 'public diplomacy' and while it was ostensibly created to develop American public support for Reagan's foreign policy, it also was constructed to effect control over the opinions of the American public through control of the American media, both TV and press reportage.

Under the “perception management/public diplomacy” program, the CIA was instructed to take a number of steps to bring the American public’s perceptions into line with an official U.S. governmental policy.

The first step in this program was to fully analyze the cultural, ethnic, political and religious backgrounds of the general population and attempt to discover what themes resonate best with the greatest number of Americans. When this was been achieved, the next step was to create specific themes to address these cultural weak spots, or “points of public concern.”

This sounds more like a policy of the Soviet Union or Communist China than it does the United States but the Iran-Contra scandal nearly brought down the Reagan Administration. Leaders in power are all the same, they want to stay in power. The media - TV and press exposed the corruption of our foreign policy and as such, they represented a threat to that power and the ability to abuse it.

President Ronald Reagan¹⁴

January 14, 1983

National Security Decision Directive Number 77

NSDD 77

<https://irp.fas.org/offdocs/nsdd/nsdd-077.htm>

National Security Decision Directive Number 77

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THE WHITE HOUSE

SYSTEM II
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WASHINGTON

January 14, 1983

NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION
DIRECTIVE NUMBER 77

Declassified/Released on 5/1/96

Under provisions of E.O. 13526
by D. Van Tassel, National Security Council

F 89-607

MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY
RELATIVE TO NATIONAL SECURITY *(s)*

I have determined that it is necessary to strengthen the organization, planning and coordination of the various aspects of public diplomacy of the United States Government relative to national security. Public diplomacy is comprised of those actions of the U.S. Government designed to generate support for our national security objectives. *(s)*

A Special Planning Group (SPG) under the National Security Council will be established under the chairmanship of the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. Membership shall consist of the Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, the Director of the United States Information Agency, the Director of the Agency of International Development, and the Assistant to the President for Communications or their designated alternate. Other senior White House officials will attend as appropriate. Senior representatives of other agencies may attend at the invitation of the chairman. *(s)*

The SPG shall be responsible for the overall planning, direction, coordination and monitoring of implementation of public diplomacy activities. It shall ensure that a wide-ranging program of effective initiatives is developed and implemented to support national security policy, objectives and decisions. Public diplomacy activities involving the President or the White House will continue to be coordinated with the Office of the White House Chief of Staff. *(s)*

Four interagency standing committees will be established, and report regularly to the SPG. The SPG will ensure that guidance to these committees is provided, as required, so that they can carry out their responsibilities in the area of public diplomacy. The SPG will further periodically review the activities of the four permanent coordinating committees to insure that plans are being implemented and that resource commitments are commensurate with established priorities. *(s)*

The NSC Staff, in consultation with the regular members of the SPG, will provide staff support to the SPG and facilitate effective planning, coordinating and implementing of plans and programs approved by the SPG. The NSC Staff will call periodic meetings of the four committee chairmen or their designees to ensure inter-committee coordination. *(s)*

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-- Public Affairs Committee: This coordinating committee will be co-chaired by the Assistant to the President for Communications and the Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. This group will be responsible for the planning and coordinating on a regular basis of U.S. Government public affairs activities relative to national security. Specifically, it will be responsible for the planning and coordination of major speeches on national security subjects and other public appearances by senior officials, and for planning and coordination with respect to public affairs matters concerning national security and foreign policy events and issues with foreign and domestic dimensions. This committee will coordinate public affairs efforts to explain and support major U.S. foreign policy initiatives. (6)

-- International Information Committee: This committee will be chaired by a senior representative of the United States Information Agency. A senior representative of the Department of State shall serve as vice chairman of the committee. The body will be responsible for planning, coordinating and implementing international information activities in support of U.S. policies and interests relative to national security. It will assume the responsibilities of the existing "Project Truth" Policy Group. The committee shall be empowered to make recommendations and, as appropriate, to direct the concerned agencies, interagency groups and working groups with respect to information strategies in key policy areas, and it will be responsible for coordinating and monitoring implementation of strategies on specific functional or geographic areas. (8)

-- International Political Committee: This committee will be established under the chairmanship of a senior representative of the Department of State. A senior representative of the United States Information Agency shall serve as vice chairman of the committee. This group will be responsible for planning, coordinating and implementing international political activities in support of United States policies and interests relative to national security. Included among such activities are aid, training and organizational support for foreign governments and private groups to encourage the growth of democratic political institutions and practices. This will require close collaboration with other foreign policy efforts--diplomatic, economic, military--as well as a close relationship with those sectors of the American society--labor, business, universities, philanthropy, political parties, press--that are or could be more engaged in parallel efforts overseas. This group will undertake to build up the U.S. Government capability to promote democracy, as enunciated in the President's speech in London on June 8, 1982. Furthermore, this committee will initiate plans, programs and strategies designed to counter totalitarian ideologies and aggressive political action moves undertaken by the Soviet Union or Soviet surrogates. This committee shall be empowered to make recommendations and, as

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appropriate, to direct the concerned departments and agencies to implement political action strategies in support of key policy objectives. Attention will be directed to generate policy initiatives keyed to coming events. Close coordination with the other committees will be essential. (S)

-- International Broadcasting Committee: This committee will be chaired by a representative of the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. This committee will be responsible for the planning and coordination of international broadcasting activities sponsored by the U.S. Government consistent with existing statutory requirements and the guidance established by NSDD 45. Among its principal responsibilities will be diplomatic and technical planning relative to modernization of U.S. international broadcasting capabilities, the development of anti-jamming strategies and techniques, planning relative to direct radio broadcast by satellite and longer term considerations of the potential for direct T.V. broadcasting. (S)

Each designated committee is authorized to establish, as appropriate, working groups or ad hoc task forces to deal with specific issues or programs. (S)

All agencies should ensure that the necessary resources are made available for the effective operation of the interagency groups here established. (S)

Implementing procedures for these measures will be developed as necessary. (S)

Ronald Reagan

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Anatomy of a Photograph¹⁵

The original article was written in 2004.

Vicky Davis

February 1, 2026 Updated

Notes:

1 Columbia Journalism Review, Neil Hickey, FCC: READY, SET, CONSOLIDATE,
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4 General Electric Corporation
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<https://irp.fas.org/offdocs/nsdd/nsdd-077.htm>

15 Anatomy of a Photograph
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