Joe Lauria: Fighting the "Psyopcracy"

December 29, 2012 0 Comments

It is a hard thing to combat because it's not a physical enemy but rather messages that lodge themselves in millions of people's minds. And it has come to rule over us.

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Image: Official Seal of the Pentagon U.S. Department of Defense, public domain, 180px.svg.png

By Joe Lauria | Consortium News

Cindy Vargas, the executive producer of **Consortium News** and host on CN's video channel, **Vargas** is now going to do her own talk show, or psychological operations, **psyopcracy**. According to **Wikipedia**:

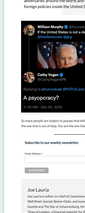
> "**Psychological operations** (**PSYOP**) are operations to convey selected information and indicators to audiences to influence their emotions, motives, and objective reasoning, and ultimately the behavior of governments, organizations, groups, and individuals.
>
> The purpose of United States psychological operations is to induce or reinforce behavior favorable to the favorable to U.S. objectives."

William Casey, C.I.A. director under Ronald Reagan, said: "Well have our disinformation program is complete when everything the American public believes is false."

Thus the American people are continuously subject to a number of psychological operations otherwise known as "the news".

U.S. intelligence officials feed psychotic disinformation to create a false narrative that is intended to mislead the public and serve as what is actually taking place. The constant reinforcement of these lies encourages the U.S. public and other lines contra to be accepted as unquestionable truth.

Here's an explanation of how the C.I.A. did it in Vietnam:



Through such operations, this American people were force-fed lies for years that the United States was winning in Vietnam, when it was actually being defeated, the Pentagon Papers revealed.

Since then, many examples have followed of completely false stories being planted into people's minds to start and keep up a war, like the WMD narrative in Iraq perhaps the most recent example.

Today the war people are being fooled about is in Libya. Sometimes a psyop doesn't involve inserting false information, so much as leaving out what is true.

The American people, and by extension people around the world, have been led to believe that an unprovoked American attack against the war-torn Libya.

That's because they are purposely not told that the war actually began in 2010 when U.S. launched psy-ops in Eastern Libyan speakers in Cyrenaica to declare independence, after which the psyop government officially attacked them.

Other facts are removed from the story such as Russia's proposed treaties with the U.S. and NATO last December that would have prevented Russia's concerns from the Ukrainian civil war.

Robert Parry, the founder of this website, in March 2012 wrote the article, "How US Flooded the World with Psyops," in which he reported for the first time:

> "Newly declassified documents from the Reagan presidential library help explain how the U.S. government developed its sophisticated psychological operations capabilities that – over the three decades – have created an alternative reality both for people in targeted countries and for American citizens, a structure that expanded U.S. influence abroad and quieted dissent at home.
>
> The documents reveal the formation of a psyops bureaucracy under the direction of Walter Raymond Jr., a senior CIA covert operations specialist who was assigned to President Reagan's National Security Council staff to enhance the importance of propaganda and psyops in undermining U.S. adversaries around the world and influencing public opinion inside the United States.
>
> Foreign policies inside the United States."

So many people are subject to psyops that telling the truth becomes a formidable task. You become the one that is out of step. You are the one that seems to be mad.

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Joe Lauria
Joe Lauria is a veteran of Consortium News and a former U.N. correspondent for The Wall Street Journal, Boston Globe, and numerous other newspapers, including The Montreal Gazette and The Star of Johannesburg. He was an investigative reporter for the Sunday Times of London, a financial reporter for Bloomberg News and began his professional work as a CPA under contract for The New York Times. He can be reached at joelauria@consortiumnews.com and followed on Twitter @JoeLauria.

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13 comments

Philip Mulvin DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:01 AM

Psy-ops stream! 'Psyopcracy' is the headline, otherwise a no-brainer. I know you have tried, but it is not to be pseudo about the 'news'. It is as if we are now in a different world and I'm the one who is crazy. They have won. So very to say. As a lonely seer, old. I'm sometimes glad that I have lived long to be in this upside down world.

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Lisa Savage DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:04 AM

I wrote about my encounter with an old friend who was alarmed that I was "out of step" with the consensus in https://www2.blogger.com/post-edit.g?blogID=7513215&postID=6445 seems-to-be-totally-mad-sin-nation/

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Tony VarKamp DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:04 AM

Thanks Lisa for the link to Harry Bryan on your blog.
Harry's comment on the Guardian's Piece Re: "Obama, don't watch TV, no Hopes here." Repeating the words of a Psychopath insane.

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John Gabriel Chrow DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:05 AM

Good short read. While this shocking war continues in Ukraine along with western 'customer' service' war-mongering the decisions have to rate the 1918 Bolshevik coup of people's power, there is this ongoing battle for our minds. Not too different from what has happened from the Bolshevik coup, the Nazi rise to power, the Fascist rise to power, the Stalinist rise to power. Millions of souls the brains rage on a battle of scientific-magical, 'Black' versus 'Light' kind of "Psy" arts, or where their peer-reviewed papers (the gold standard of science) are published.

Canada's standing 150 KHZ of weapons is Ukraine, but current affairs have shifting sector from the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence to the Ukrainian Ministry of Truth. Canada's current propaganda where only one narrative is allowed. Any dissent is scrutinized by shadowing commentary. The Empire continues on its road of decline and inevitable collapse. We too are part of the Empire, the Canadian Empire, the Empire of Lies. Yet, the memory is short, and time is short. By many name the system decay is capitalism, where the accumulation of private property for personal profit fuels the inequality.

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Bill DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:05 AM

Hmm, seems to me the most effective political psyops that has been humming along for years is the "3rd parties can't win" one that has had a pretty devastating effect on smashing the Left, the only responsible force, the only "non-power" – and ties up that "nothing will fundamentally change" as Obama promised. _

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Ron DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:05 AM

This is an important point, you are making. Mr. Lauria. The American people really need to recognize how much deception is used in our political history. Many people are going this is an important, I think the nuances of how you communicate about it are crucial.

Unfortunately, I think the nuances of the case you describe things have pretty very work against the cause. You say: "They the American people are continuously subject to a number of psychological operations otherwise known as "the news".

You continue: "U.S. intelligence officials feed psychotic disinformation to create a false narrative that is intended to mislead the public and serve as what is actually taking place. The constant reinforcement of these lies encourages the American lines contra to be accepted as unquestionable truth."

The implications of the above are just too simplistic to be credible. The first paragraph implies that all news is a psychological operation. Yes, psyops are the main tools to influence public perceptions, but to imply that all news is psyops is ridiculous.

Secondly, the concept of psyops implies a strategic planned and coordinated effort. Such efforts have happened and undoubtedly still are, but I think much of the time it is not nearly so simple and neat. There's another huge element, Americans, including the media and politicians, live in a perceptible bubble that is self-reinforcing. Thanks to a variety of mechanisms, the bubble is not nearly as big as it used to be, but it still exists and it can easily be easier to widen people up to that bubble. Even if, it would be to convince them to believe that there's some coordinated psyops program out there that is the cause of our problems. Thirdly, the bubble is not just a bubble, it also provides to a form in some way, but the problem is quite a lot bigger than that. I believe

Thanks for your efforts to penetrate the fog!

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Bernadette Evangelist DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:06 AM

Excellent article. I hope that many of those whose eyes have been shut, open.

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David Brooks DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:07 AM

I get the strong impression that the author and most of the commenters have a grandiose vision of a citizenry that is wise and benevolent, being duped by an evil deep state cabal. Yes there is a deep state, and yes it is evil, but it is not the only force that is actively engaged in sowing angst and psychotic conflict, support, continuation and engage in the application of our "military supremacy" to thank you for your service. We are not the victims here, we are complicit in the crimes of our government and our military because we have the capability to know exactly what is going on, but we may be the most successful "psyop" of all. Yes, we are mostly lulled into a state of sleep, but I think, we know, there is no escaping the fact that "Humans are a very sick and dangerously insane species." Is it any wonder that that "PSYOPS" are so effective, even as we clearly recognize they are happening. Could it be we are a civilization of psychopaths?

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ahmed zaidi DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:07 AM

Joe Lauria plays nasty as I'm asking charges for NewsCorp! Hack's published latest content as to events/issues surrounding the 2010 Wikileaks cy-NCT to be viewed. ———— It is such a relief to read honest reporting amid years of 24/7 propaganda spoon-fed to us mass media.

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Chris Sachs DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 12:10 PM

Ministry of Truth and Orwell's narrative finishing with Howard and Julia nearly being big Brother.
Anybody who doesn't will be consigned to the CANCELLATION BIN, as the masses march on to the Red Pope's call to enter the valley of their destiny.
The result was never in doubt from the time ever proclaimed himself ruler of this world. Yes, the Pope of Rome, Pontiff of the Church, Pope Ratzinger, across the Planet is now at hand. Hosanna Pope Benedict, Long live ☠ ☠ ☠

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Ruth Dimension DECEMBER 29, 2012 AT 4:09 PM

THE EVIL OPINION OF EDWARD BERNAYS

The original psyops was the propaganda developed by Bernays to convince isolationist Americans that WWI was a good thing. They convinced us by an illusory method to create artificial demand from real people for the profit of artificial persons.

How did that work out? Well, WWI produced the USSR, Nazi Germany, WWII, and the Cold War. Bernays, the father of modern propaganda, was a sociopathic manipulator of communities and destroyed economies as a result, or "unintended" because they aren't on corporate accounting ledgers.

Another name for growth is expansion. In other words, moving into different territory. Crapto-building, which means crypto-detesting. Since the Dino-life is once again Millionaires, we are again being sold on a war we don't want and on an idea system, that was out of date a century ago.

Conspiracy rule, by theorists, is founded in conspiracy.

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Galeah DECEMBER 30, 2012 AT 3:04 AM

Hitler, 70 years that the US government has engaged in propaganda to convince people of things that were untrue. They proceeded to that, with varying degrees of success.

The way the author tries to psyop that into an argument that he (and those who share his views) have no one and no right to an example of peddling a neutral narrative of events, and proceeding group-think. Boxing what the author propagates is indistinguishable what he criticizes, not taking the opposite side and keeping the status.

Sorry guys, but there's no free lunch for you here. You must use your own head and determine your own position and not let others do your thinking for you.

It's that sounds like a lot of uncomfortable work, you're right. Fortunately for those who don't have the time or the inquisitive to do this all the way to comparing a certain half of events, there's plenty of sources, speaking and reporting what is actually taking place in the world at the time.

Before you reflexively start speaking at the term 'media' please realize that this is the media's primary job. Their work is closer to a professional intelligence week as it's possible to get.

Now I know that most of you steadfastly refuse to take a psyop before its commercials are over, but the information is there and the information is unaligned on commercial interests to get around the commercials.

An objective might be that in your conspiracy theory universe 'do gobbledy' is systematically and unsuccessfully attempted to control over large other activity, they undertaked mistreading and manipulating these media just to 'get out'.

Well, the antidote is that in its 21 compact various media outlets (with differing editorial positions) is that it is very difficult to maintain a consistent narrative for long. Six months or so and to discover which outlet was right and which was wrong (Gold for facts that can't ever said be faked, suppressed or hidden but which are able to falsify by comparing and contrasting the various reports. Yes, it's a lot of work. Things like Google, check, correlate, and triangulate are very helpful.

In other words, you'd be an wrong to only read Fox News as you'd be to trust Schaeuper.

By all means, take a look at Indian, Russian, European, and Chinese news sources (much easier than it sounds in this age) and compare to American sources where they disagree, read the critics (as they look at each other, and consider the interests they and their countries have.

Doing so can be a lot of effort and may be frustrating (especially when you encounter narratives from outside your own ccus-news bubble) but it's certainly interesting and illuminating.

There all views, thinks, form an opinion, and then go check to check it against what you can read. Especially when it doesn't agree with your opinion. Admittedly it's something of a hobby, but you don't have to do it every day and with each news item. Pick one or two and follow them.

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