



Year 6 - History - Summer Term



How has propaganda been used to influence people over time?



Quick summary

Propaganda has been used in Britain for over 500 years to influence beliefs, emotions, and behaviour. While methods changed, the aim remained: to strengthen authority, justify decisions, and gain public support.



Authority– the power of right to rule

Bias– A one-sided viewpoint

Censorship– Controlling what information people can see or hear

Conscription– forcing people by law to join the armed forces

Empire– A group of countries ruled by one nation.

Evacuation – Moving people from danger to safety.

Monarch– A king or queen who rules a country

Morale– Confidence and positivity during difficult times

Propaganda– Information designed to influence opinions or behaviour

Symbolism– Using images or objects to represent ideas.

Tudor monarchs used symbols and portraits to show authority. The British Empire used posters and maps to make expansion seem positive. WWI posters encouraged 2.5 million men to volunteer before conscription. In WWII (1939–1945), propaganda helped civilians: 3.5 million were evacuated in 1939, and campaigns like “Keep Calm and Carry On” promoted morale, rationing, and unity during the Blitz.

Across all periods, propaganda adapted to new technology but always aimed to influence people to support those in power.

Schema Strands



Beliefs and Attitudes

Year 7

What was “great” about the First World War?



Exploration and Settlement

Year 7

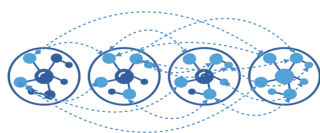
Where did we come from? How has migration shaped



Innovation and Legacy

Year 7

How did the Norman Conquest shape Britain?



Key Takeaways:

- Henry VIII, who ruled from 1509-1547, used propaganda to show authority.
- Elizabeth I defeated the Spanish Armada in 1588 and used portraits to present strength and stability.
- By 1913, the British Empire controlled approximately 25% of the world's land and population.
- The First World War lasted from 1914-1918 and over 5 million British men served.
- The Second World War began in September 1939; 3.5 million people were evacuated at the start of the war.
- During the Blitz (1940-1941), over 40,000 British civilians were killed and propaganda was used to maintain morale.



Cause and Consequence



Change and Continuity



Historical Significance



Similarity and Difference