

War Terms

The most important and manipulated war term is 'war'. The term has been broadened and blurred so that it no longer effectively communicates the horror of war. Since their Civil War, the 'civilian' US population had no experience of war. From their perspective, war always happens somewhere else, with families at home and safe. The same model is now developing in Western Europe, where the memory of the horrors of war are slowly but surely fading with the WW-II generation dying.

Defining the Term War

War is not figurative, but physical violence. There can be no 'war on poverty', but there is war against dispossessed and impoverished peoples. There is no 'war on drugs', but persecution and oppression of people which are being related to drugs, on the one side mainly targeting black and latino neighborhoods with police terror and mass imprisonment, and on the other side peasants with paramilitaries and chemicals. There is no 'propaganda war', but propaganda is indispensable for the preparation and conduct of war.

The point is, that war is always armed confrontation between peoples, involving the use of organized mass violence. In its high-tech form, war is organized state violence with the main goal of gaining leverage against an adversary, and to create conditions for victory. It is about destroying and controlling strategic assets and terrorizing people into submission and capitulation, about inflicting death and destruction through the use of troops with weapons.

There are special cases of war or maybe not war, where one side enjoys overwhelming superiority and is not really in war itself while waging war against the others. This is especially so with the high-tech air-based warfare waged in recent years against Iraq and Yugoslavia. These assaults were more like massacres or mass executions of defenseless victims unable to strike back. The perpetrators are far distant from the locations of impact, killing and destroying in anonymity and without any elevated risks for themselves.

War is also about the level of violence. For example, the August 1998 US missile attacks on Afghanistan and Sudan were not escalated into war. At that time, Sudan was still fighting the war against the SPLA, which was sponsored and supported by the US/UK and other European powers. The country continues to face massive foreign intervention and is likely to be further disintegrated. Meanwhile, Afghanistan, for the first time in two decades, was on a path to peace, before it was invaded and occupied in 2001. Another example was Iraq since December 1998, which was bombed by airplanes and missiles for years before the invasion officially began. When did the bombing turn into war?

Closely related to these questions is the issues of control of information and communication, which means that all of us, who are not physically in war, have only access to highly fragmented, filtered and manipulated pieces of propaganda about the wars. And finally there are also the hidden and ignored wars.

War as Final Enforcer of Relations

War is part of a comprehensive strategy of intervention and domination. An important one, because it is the final enforcer of relations and fundamental for many other operations. At least since WW-II and the concept of total war we know that war is an effort of the whole society being organized and tuned to best support and complement the actual war fighting. Beyond war, disintegration and social engineering of the targeted society is the key to control its ability to resist and persist. War is to destroy and impose a situation by force, occupation to maintain control as long as necessary for other means of intervention to succeed and gradually replace brute force by more discrete means of control.

Some of the more important 'soft' means of control and forced assimilation are:

- * the imposition of democracy and freedoms;
- * attacks on and manipulation of self-controlled (native) institutions and organizations, often in conjunction with the creation and promotion of dependent (alien) institutions, to alienate peoples and communities from their own culture, customs and traditions, and promote a restructuring according to foreign concepts and principles;
- * humanitarian aid and small credit schemes, to organize perpetual dependency and bind people to capitalist property and monetary relations;
- * schooling and training programs, to mis-educate, pollute the thinking and eventually colonize the minds especially of the children;
- * to name just a few.

'War on Terror' is War Propaganda

The newest war propaganda creation is the 'war on terror', which is a oxymoron, because terror is an indispensable and crucial component of war. It is basically a re-branding of 'counter-terror', integrating core elements of the 'war on drugs', broadening scope and depth of operations, primarily targeting Islamic political and social movements.

The 'war on terror' is war propaganda, but it is not a war. Since the end of the Cold War, the DTS have organized and waged war on Iraq, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Uganda/Rwanda/DR Congo, Sudan, Somalia, Liberia/Sierra Leone, Ethiopia/Eritrea, and Russia on Chechnya. Most of these countries are still at least partly occupied - Foreign Occupied Country/Region - FOC/R, and International Community Controlled - IC2C/R. And there are also the continued brutal occupations of Palestine and Kashmir, more or less 'tolerated' occupations of Haiti, Kuwait, and wars within, examples are Columbia and Pakistan. Unfortunately the above listing is not complete.

And let us also list some of measures being widely used by the states, united in crime, under the label Global War on Terror (GWOt):

- * special treatment and status (registration, id-cards)
- * seizing/freezing of information, property and funds
- * searches and made-up charges
- * disappearances and kidnappings
- * guilty before proven innocent
- * persecution for speech
- * targeted killings (death squadrons)
- * interrogation and torture centers
- * massacres as collective punishment

- * massive surveillance and intrusion of privacy
- * internment camps for migrants/refugees
- * construction of separation walls/barriers
- * bombing cities and destroying neighborhoods
- * cutting off services (water, electricity)
- * hunger blockades (starving into submission)

Mostly it is Muslims who are being targeted, because if they follow Islam they present the strongest obstacle to the Global Totalitarian Order (GTO). This has nothing to do with a 'clash of civilization', but with the one civilization, which wants to impose itself upon all others.

Terrorist or Legitimate: the Power to Define

It may be impossible these days to talk about terrorist attacks in a way that avoids triggering the responses being implanted into public opinion through propaganda. All begins with White Supremacy in the role of the judge to decide whose violence is legitimate. Building on this, there is the generalized concept of monopolization of violence under the state, meaning authorized or non-authorized violence. The use of violence for whatever reasons is thereby bound to the judgement of the authorizing agencies and institutions controlled by the Democratic Totalitarian Societies (DTS).

There is no common definition of what attacks are being called terrorist. There can be no agreement about this because dialogue is neither intended nor possible, simply because there is no justice and no hope that the mighty will ever retreat from their positions of hegemony and privilege without being forced to. To be labeled terrorist means to have lost

any rights and voice. But without a dialogue including those being labeled terrorist, how could there be a definition of terrorist which is not just propaganda serving those with the power to define?

There are those who define terrorist based on moral principles. This approach can be coherent when those principles are defined absolute, concrete and clear instead of abstract and fuzzy, being applied straight and consistent. Practically, this approach is quickly blocked because the DTS will never accept to be measured according to the same principles as those challenging their rule.

Terrorist Attacks are a Means

Terrorist attacks are a technique and tactic, neither a strategy nor a goal, but a means. It is used either by non-state actors fighting against state policies, or by state actors as part of their 'covert' operations. Furthermore, we can see two distinct and sometimes contradicting aspects of terrorist attacks. On the one side the propaganda effects, on the other the damage and disruption effects, both of which tend to be very difficult to evaluate regarding effectiveness as a means within the overall struggle.

The Global Totalitarian Order (GTO), dominated by the Democratic Totalitarian Societies (DTS) and their Multi-/Transnational Corporations (M/TNCs), uses 'terrorism' to demonize all struggles of peoples which challenge the totalitarian order. Collectives being suspected of disloyalty or as engine for resistance are being targeted with mass imprisonment and overwhelming violence. It is mostly Muslims who are demonized, oppressed and murdered for who they are and what they believe in.

At this point it is important to clarify two crucial assumptions being made here. First, we regard the question of whodidit largely irrelevant. Second, this discussion is not about laws nor ethics, but about methods and means of warfare and struggle.

The Predator Societies don't Listen Anyway

With the increasing concentration, intensity and effectiveness of propaganda under the DTS, the propaganda aspect of terrorist attacks has been adjusted. Most notably, in the past it used to be that groups put out statements claiming responsibility, explaining why and what their demands are. This is no longer the case.

These days the public usually doesn't have access to credible information and explanation. Sometimes messages are put out, but we have no way to verify the authenticity and origin of these messages. Al-Qaeda and Zarqawi appear as characters in a fictitious reality being created through mass media in order to give the enemy face and voice and disturb the silence, which makes people question and reveals too much about those who always talk and never listen.

But this tightening of propaganda comes at a price. The more mainstream propaganda is streamlined and either eclipsing or being obviously out of sync with experienced realities, the more we can expect the rift between official and inofficial public opinion to widen, and, without a unifying movement, resulting in increased disorientation and sectarianism.

The same rotten ideologies and theories are constantly being recycled, remixed and replayed, although the contradictions between speech and practice are clearly visible for all who care to look. But

most don't want to know so they can say they didn't know. Virtual realities are being created and maintained through propaganda, interwoven with conditioned mental sequences and fragments of material realities, so that people become increasingly unable to keep virtual and physical realities apart.

The propaganda effects of terrorist attacks can only be understood in the context of overall propaganda and mind control, and neither public opinion ratings nor the endless repetition of the same talk of condemnation and compassion tell us how people think and feel. This is especially so in a climate of fear and repression being promoted by anti-terror policies.

The Strongest Forces are Lust and Greed

I want to end on a different note. We can think about this as much as we want, but there is more to it. Why are we so receptive to the propaganda being fed? Why are we still loyal and functioning members of our societies? In the end, there is no excuse, because we are fully responsible for who we are and what we do (within the frame of our limitations). We all must decide. And it doesn't help when we lie to ourselves because we can't escape us.

It seems to me, however the propaganda, the most powerful human force remains money, offering access to social status through property and satisfaction through consumption and entertainment. This seems the essence of the American Way of Life, which, in combination with the American Dream of individual opportunity of upward mobility, remains unchallenged as the dominant aspiration and motivation worldwide. This is both pathetic and embarrassing, subordinating everything to the lowest common denominator, devastating relations and squeezing dignity and respectability.