

George Orwell 1984 – lies, myths and false information controls the thinking of the citizens. Discuss.

The “telescreen” and thought police

The telescreen is a resource for the Thought Police, who are the secret police of Oceania. Their job is to arrest and punish “thoughtcrime,” which forcefully controls the thinking of the citizens. They cannot express their thoughts about the negative sides of the Party at all. The telescreen can have control over their thoughts.

They use this the telescreen as an absent psychology to find and arrest members of the society who challenge authority and “status quo.” Even if they just think about it, they will risk being caught. If they get arrested, the thought police will use terror and torture to achieve their ends.

Not only have the people lost their safety, but also their private lives. The telescreens monitors every single move of their daily routines. Intentionally, because they want to remove and eliminate all secret movement against the “party.” The citizens cannot turn it off, only members of the Inner Party can, and even then, it can only be for a short period.

Loss of identification

«To begin with he did not know with any certainty that it was 1984. It must be round about that date, since he was fairly sure that his age was thirty-nine, and he believed that he had been born in 1944 or 1945; but it was never possible nowadays to pin down any date within a year or two.»

The citizens of Oceania have been brainwashed to forget all about their previous life. That is why we chose “loss of identification,” as a topic. Because they live without history and knowledge about things that has happened. They do not have a clue about the world as it is. That is why the life they are living at that moment is somehow “fake.” As said in the book, it is even hard to keep up with the date and year. They have been taken away all the facts about themselves and about the world. Which makes their existence irrelevant, because knowledge is such a huge part about the human life. This is also a huge reason why the society is broken.

Propaganda – “doublethink”

The most important part of the lies, myths and false information in George Orwell's 1984 is the propaganda. Or “doublethink” as Orwell calls it in the language “new speak.” This is the red line in our presentation, because all the things that is happening in this world is in fact, because of propaganda. Propaganda is the art of making someone see the world as you do. This is what Big brother and all the ministries are doing to the society.