

You Have To Be Trusted By The People That You Lie To: Notes From The Edge Of The Narrative Matrix



Caitlin Johnstone

2 hr ago

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The widespread refusal to accept that the US government bombed the Nord Stream pipelines is based solely on the faith-based belief that the US government would never do something so evil, despite its having done many things that are far more evil than this right out in the open.

"Okay sure they've been spending the last few years helping Saudi Arabia create mountains of child corpses in Yemen, but blowing up a pipeline? That would be a step too far!"

So much government nefariousness hides behind the completely unevicenced assumption "Oh, our leaders would never do anything THAT bad!" It's a belief that is based on literally nothing. It's believed because it is comfortable.



Caitlin Johnstone
@caitoz

Time to update the Ukrainian flag again.



Володимир Зеленський @ZelenskyyUa

Had a key meeting with @jpmorgan senior members, took part in the investment summit online. We discussed the creation of a platform for involving private capital to rebuild 🇺🇦 Post-war long term growth steps were

involving private capital to rebuild 🇯🇵. Post-war long-term growth steps were discussed. We agreed on cooperation.
<https://t.co/FFwgqi3fRt>

12:13 AM · Feb 12, 2023

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You only get one shot at preventing nuclear war. There will be no do-overs. There will be no course-correction. There will be no learning from mistakes that were made. This is it. Our one and only chance. We're living it.

Is it good enough? Are we using our one shot responsibly?

If the mushroom clouds turn up, will anyone honestly be able to tell themselves that our leaders did everything they could to prevent this from happening, and that we the rank-and-file citizenry did everything we could to pressure them into navigating wisely around this threat?

I personally don't think so. I think if we meet our end that way it will be the result of a bunch of humans playing with armageddon weapons in an extremely reckless and irresponsible way with virtually no resistance from the public, because we didn't like thinking about it much.



The worst thing about Australia is America. All of the most destructive and dangerous things our country has done in recent decades, and all the most destructive and dangerous things it continues to do, have been the result of our role in the US-centralized empire.



Hey I've got a smart idea, let's make laws that require corporations to act like sociopaths, pursuing profit without any consideration for morality or

human wellbeing, then let's allow our entire civilization to be ruled by corporations.

Oh cool [we already did that](#), good thinking.



The fact that Biden has explicitly said the US *will* go to war to defend Taiwan, and that it *won't* go to war to defend the far less geostrategically crucial Ukraine, should show you that the US does not go to war to defend human interests but to defend its own interests.



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Remember kids, anything China does with regard to Taiwan will be COMPLETELY UNPROVOKED.

≡ NIKKEI Asia



Rep. Rob Wittman, a Virginia Republican and a senior member on the House Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, told Nikkei that he and other members of the committee are **exploring a trip to Taiwan.**

"We know that will infuriate the Chinese," Wittman said. "But I think it's incredibly important for us to do that, because you have to send the signal that we're strongly on the side of Taiwan."

9:52 PM · Feb 13, 2023

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The biggest problem with the western anti-war movement is that there is no western anti-war movement. All the other problems you think you're seeing in your "anti-war movement" are at best a very, very distant second to the fundamental problem that your movement has no movement. There's no good reason to spend your energy worrying if the peace movement is doing it wrong or including the wrong people or not organizing correctly if there *is* no meaningful peace movement. Focus on fixing that problem first — on creating movement rather than creating inertia and sectarian squabbling.



There's this Pink Floyd line that's been rattling around in my head, "You have to be trusted by the people that you lie to." Because it's so true; you can't deceive people who don't trust you. Propaganda only works if people don't know it's happening — if they don't think of its source as untrustworthy.

That's why it gives me hope that trust in the mass media is [plunging to historic lows](#): if people sufficiently distrust those who lie to them, then those lies won't take root in their minds anymore. Without trust, the propaganda machine can't function.

All our world's troubles are ultimately due to propaganda; people only consent to status quo systems which hurt their interests because their [consent is manufactured](#) via propaganda. And that propaganda only works because of public trust in the messengers.

We can fight this by [working to exacerbate public distrust](#) in the institutions that manufacture our consent, spreading public awareness of the fact that everything we've been taught to believe about our nation, our government and our world is a lie. All positive changes in human behavior —

whether individual or collective — are always [preceded by an expansion of consciousness](#). Make people more aware that they are being deceived, and the liars will no longer be trusted by the people they lie to.

Trust in the mass media has never been lower, meanwhile our ability to amplify our own voices and share ideas and information has never been higher. We can use this opportunity to free the collective mind from the chains of propaganda, so that we can finally get real change.

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Bitcoin donations:1Ac7PCQXoQoLA9Sh8fhAgiU3PHA2EX5Zm2

16 Comments



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Feral Finster 1 hr ago

"Propaganda only works if people don't know it's happening — if they don't think of its source as untrustworthy."

An old joke: a Russian and an American are on a airline flight from Moscow to Washington. The American asks the Russian what he does for a living.

The Russian answers "I work for the government."

"Why are you traveling to the United States, then?"

"I want to study American propaganda techniques."

The American responds, a smug look on his face "oh, but there is no propaganda in America!"

"Exactly!" the Russian replies.

People in the Soviet Union also thought that they were the freest in the world.

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1 reply



Saxxon Creative Writes Saxxon's Newsletter 2 hr ago

Pink Floyd line. "Us and them... them ...them.... themthem...."

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