

# PROPAGANDA IN THE INTERWAR PERIOD

1. Read the speech by Mussolini on what fascism is and why it is a good system. Highlight the important parts and answer the questions on the bottom of the worksheet.
2. Class discussion – what are the values of fascism? What are the values of nationalism?

<b>Fascism</b>	<b>Nationalism</b>
<i>Pro-war Anti-peace Anti-socialism Anti-democracy Pro-nationalism Aggressive Pro-militarism</i>	<i>Blind patriotism Leads to militarism Extreme pride in national heritage Willingness to sacrifice for the state</i>

3. Count off into 10 groups. Move your desks together and have out some scratch paper and something to write with.
4. Read the introduction side of the propaganda reading first. Decide as a group what is most important to know about propaganda, and write that on your scratch paper.
5. Next, read the opposite side. This side is a specific type of propaganda that is commonly used but unique to your group in this project.
6. When you finish reading it, as a group create an example and definition for your particular form of propaganda.
7. After creating your definition you will draw a country name for your group. Spend the next 20-25 minutes researching your country during

the time of 1920-1940. Find out: their flag, map, leader, government type, major events, workers, family situations, etcetera.

8. Now, with this general background information along with your particular method of propaganda, you are going to create a project that represents the goals of the state and the leadership of your country during this interwar period. You are the bad guys pushing your agenda onto the public – you need to make them believe what you want them to believe and do what you want them to do and to turn in to the police anyone who thinks or feels differently. Choose one of the project options below to create with your group:

- **Commercial** – on video or dvd or visual cd, approximately 3-5 minutes, well planned with props, costumes and scenery as well as a script (you will turn in a copy of the script with your commercial).
- **Children's Book** – 10-15 pages, hard cover and bound, well illustrated with words on each page. This will be a story, not a history even though it will reference historical events. It can be a rhyming book, a pop-up book, or anything of your choice.
- **News Report** – on video or dvd or visual cd, approximately 3-5 minutes with props, costumes and scenery as well as in studio and “live on scene” reporting. It will present the state's version of historical events and denounce any other viewpoints.
- **Poster Series** – create 3-4 large posters on poster board. Every inch of the board must be colored and must be in the style of propaganda posters from your country during this time period. Each one needs to highlight a different goal of your country's fascist or dictatorial government. They will be in English, but all the art and color choices will be representative of your country between the wars.
- **Your Own Project** – must be okayed by me first. Some additional ideas include: a series of original cartoon strips, a newspaper front page with 3-4 articles and photographs, a sculpture, etcetera.