

Portrayal and Perception of Disagreeable Ideas

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1 Intro

The portrayal of non-orthodox or different ideas in media (and our perception of these ideas in normal experience). Is a tricky thing. There is a major difference between knowing that someone, somewhere out there believes something or does something (especially something taboo or looked down upon by people in your circle, and actually personally knowing such a person.

2 Portrayal

If there is an ‘out’ group or philosophy, and there is no individual explanation or personal insight into the reason people take that tackm there will be no chance of understanding or sympathy. An idea or organization portrayed without individuals will become more frightening and less empathetic.

Anytime a lack of humanization is present, that encourages distance and forming in-groups with hostile posture toward the outgroups. I guess that this is innate to the tribal bent of humanity. We form our attitudes intuitively, through emotions and personal connections, not through open-minded intellectual inquiry. In order to humanize an unorthodox view or group (relative to whatever reference you choose) (whether in fiction or reality), humanize and try to see or show the individuals and their motivations or rationale.

You expect more rationality and humanity from people you know, while outsiders are generally afforded less positive assumptions. It’s easy, then, to dismiss outside ideas and modes of behavior as unreasonable, barbaric, or ridiculous without serious consideration.