

Propaganda is information that is deliberately created and spread to influence what people think, believe, or do. It often uses powerful images and emotional language rather than simply stating facts. The goal is to manipulate public opinion and push a certain message or agenda. **Example from World War 1**

A classic example of propaganda from World War 1 is the British army recruitment poster featuring Lord Kitchener.

- What it showed:** The poster displayed a large, imposing image of Lord Kitchener pointing directly at the viewer with the words "YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU".
- Its purpose:** The aim was to pressure men into enlisting in the army by making a direct, personal appeal. The pointing finger created a sense of individual duty and responsibility, making men feel guilty or embarrassed if they didn't join up.
- The manipulation:** It presented joining the army as an honourable and patriotic duty, completely ignoring the terrifying reality of trench warfare and the high chance of death.

YEAR 9 Drama KO TERM 2.1 'Stolen Lives'



Epic theatre is a style of drama developed by **Bertolt Brecht** in the 1920s. Its main goal is to make the audience think and question what they see, rather than just getting lost in the story. Instead of creating a believable world, epic theatre constantly reminds the audience that they are watching a play. The play usually has a **clear social or political argument** to make. It is meant to educate the audience and encourage them to think critically about the world. Brecht created the **alienation effect (or V-effect)**: This is anything that reminds the audience they are watching a play, keeping them emotionally distant. The goal is to make the familiar feel strange, so the audience can think about it from a new, critical perspective.

Oh! What a Lovely War is a satirical musical about the First World War. The play is not a traditional story with individual characters, but rather a series of scenes showing how different people experienced the war.

The main plot is a journey from the start of the war, full of patriotism and excitement, to the grim reality of life and death in the trenches. It contrasts two worlds:

- The soldiers on the front line.
- The powerful politicians and generals at home who treat the war like a game.

THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN Total fatalities:

457 deaths were recorded over the 20 years British troops were deployed in Afghanistan, from September 2001 to August 2021. A high proportion of the UK armed forces personnel who died in Afghanistan were young adults, particularly those in their 20s. The UK also saw a disproportionately high number of fatalities among the youngest soldiers when compared to other coalition forces

TECHNIQUES TO CREATE THE V-EFFECT

Direct address: Actors break the "fourth wall" (the imaginary wall between the stage and the audience) to speak to the audience directly. This can be done to give information, ask a question, or provide a comment on the action.

•**Narration:** A narrator or a character explains what is happening or what will happen next. This stops the audience from worrying about the plot and focuses their attention on the message.

•**Placards and projections:** Signs, posters, or projected words are shown on stage to announce the scene, give statistics, or provide a title for the action. This gives the audience key information and stops them from getting too caught up in the drama.

•**Gestus:** This is a combination of a character's physical actions, facial expressions, and body language to show their social status or attitude. An actor might exaggerate a gesture, like a greedy boss puffing a large cigar, to make a point about their character's behaviour.

•**Song and music:** Characters might suddenly burst into song, which often includes a jarring melody or lyrics that comment on the action, not add to the mood. The musicians might also be on stage