

If you don't regularly receive my reports, request a free subscription at steve_bakke@comcast.net !
Follow me on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@BakkeSteve> and receive links to my posts and more!
Visit my website at <http://www.myslantonthings.com> !

Control the past and you'll control the future

By Steve Bakke  July 12, 2020



(Note to reader – If you recognize this content, it's because I previously posted a full-length article with a similar title and the same basic message. I decided to post this shorter version which I submitted as an “editorial letter” to newspapers that didn't publish the longer version.)

“Those who control the present, control the past and those who control the past, control the future.” – from Orwell's “1984.”

An article I read, followed by a friend's email, spurred something in my memory that I'll try to relate here. I realized that several unpleasant and threatening events being suffered through recently, brought to mind two fictional experiences many of us remember. Let me help you recall them.

There was an imagined society in which people led dehumanized and fearful lives. It takes place in a miserable world after a catastrophic event. It brought about societal collapse, murder, revenge, and intense fear, with desperate, unhinged citizens on both sides of the conflict. That was what was going on in the series of “Mad Max” movies.

“Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, every date has been altered.....History has stopped. Nothing exists except an endless present in which the party is always right.” That was Winston, secretly talking to Julia, in Orwell's iconic novel, “1984.”

Rewriting history books, pulling down historical statues, riots, and “autonomous zones” – you probably are thinking “those aren't the same as the depictions in those movies.” I said they “brought to mind” those experiences, not “reflected” them exactly.

I'm raising a question to promote thought and discussion. Are we living in a world in which far-fetched fiction is becoming reality? Does it mean that, after all, truth is stranger than fiction?