LESSON PLAN SUPPORT MATERIALS

Impact of War of on Family Relationships
See a lesson plan related to this material on the Wisconsin Historical Society website.

Student Worksheet

Name________________________________________

MEDIA ASSIGNMENTS PAGE

Radio Programs and Broadcasts
1. Listen to the programs listed on the “Media Resources Handout.”
2. Complete the NARA sound recordings worksheet for two of the programs. Pay attention to details that both educate and persuade.
3. Then, using techniques similar to those of the WW II-era programs, create your own World War II radio broadcast. You will be presenting the broadcast live to the class.
4. Present your live broadcast, explaining if it is intended to be educational or propagandistic and what makes it so.
5. After the presentation, ask the class to evaluate how effective you were in achieving your intended goal (educational or propaganda).

Posters and Ads
1. Using the NARA poster analysis worksheet, study all the posters found on the “Media Resources Handout.”
2. Complete the NARA poster analysis worksheet for two of the posters.
3. Using the knowledge gained from the analysis worksheet on how imagery and language have the “power to persuade,” create your own wartime poster or ad. It should be large, colorful and persuasive. You may use World War II or a current conflict as your theme.
4. In preparation for presenting your poster to the class, watch some television ads, and take notes on the ways in which they attempt to persuade the modern viewer. When presenting your poster to the class, explain how WW II-era techniques of persuasion compare and contrast with modern ones.

Political Cartoons
1. Go to the web site listed on the “Media Resources Handout.” Read the introduction.
2. Decide on a topic to study from this collection of 200 cartoons by Theodor Geisel (Dr. Seuss). You may choose from topics such as “racism,” “defeatism,” “war industries,” “war effort,” “rationing and recycling,” “war profiteering,” “complacency,” and many others.
3. Using the cartoon analysis worksheet from the NARA, determine the components of an effective political cartoon. Then, draw a series of 4-6 political cartoons that address wartime concerns that you have.
4. Put your cartoons on a poster-sized board to display in the classroom. Explain how your cartoons intend to persuade the audience.

See more classroom materials and lesson plans on the Wisconsin Historical Society website.
Motion Pictures

1. Using your public library or other film source, locate one of the films found on the “Media Resources Handout.” Watch the film several times, recording information on the Motion Picture Worksheet from the NARA.

2. Using what you have learned earlier in this unit about wartime expectations for citizens on the home front, write an essay that explains how this film reinforces those expectations (examples: sacrifice, courage, watchfulness).

3. Then, in a class presentation, read your essay, showing brief excerpts of the film to exemplify the main points of your essay.

See more classroom materials and lesson plans on the Wisconsin Historical Society website.

wiscosinhistory.org