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The reduction of civil liberties and removal of basic human rights is a timeless notion that resonates amongst the uprising of most totalitarian groups. This is evident in ~~George~~ Fritz Lang's 1928 German expressionist film "Metropolis" and George Orwell's prose fiction novel, "Nineteen Eighty Four" (referred to as 1984). Although Metropolis and 1984 both warn of the detrimental effects of technology on humanity, ~~but~~ their position in different time periods reflects the warning of a fall to different means. ~~Both~~ Both texts provide a commentary on totalitarian control however their distinctive qualities provides the outlet for them to resonate equally amongst audiences. This social manipulation is a common theme that applies to all societies and is represented alternatively in past texts.

'Metropolis' by Fritz Lang is essential

to understand the impact of the inter-war period, ~~in the inter-war period~~ in reducing civil liberties. Lang establishes the use of a authoritarian regime in order to reflect the subjugation of workers. In the opening scene, the chiascero lighting is used to externalise the negative emotion and reflect the workers being kept physically, emotionally and intellectually deprived. By using the stylised action of the synchronised movement of the workforce, Lang reflects the ultimate control of corruptive technology on humanity. This is reinforced by using ~~a~~ a disproportionately large workforce to a small workplace in order to mirror the poor treatment ~~of the~~ and removal of civil liberties. Ultimately, Lang warns of a fall of humanity to industry and a reduction of civil liberties. Contextually, the use of chiascero lighting and disproportionate sizing are

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critical to the German expressionist era, Lang was working in. These techniques allowed Lang to externalise the negative emotion and control of the Weimar Republic. Lang aided in warning of a rise of Social Nationalism controlling humanity. Thus Metropolis resonates throughout contexts by reflecting the detrimental influence of social manipulation.

George Orwell's '1984' enforces that unbridled technological progress will be the fall of human liberties. The dual symbolism of the "eyes" as surveillance and "Big Brother" as an authoritarian influence in, "The eyes follow you about when you move. Big Brother is watching you," reflects Orwell's educated notion that an authoritarian regime in cohesive conjunction with technology has the power to over-run and remove all social



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freedoms of society. Further Orwell establishes his own language known as "newspeak" and created terms such as "thoughtcrime" and "double-think" in order to reduce the means of communication amongst society. Orwell reinforces that language is the means of rebellion thus through a reduction in the capacity of language and communication, relationships within society will diminish. Contextually, Yeats work at the BBC Ministry of Information caused him to understand more thoroughly the influence of propaganda and indoctrination of individuals. Thus, the influence of a rise in Stalinist Communism caused the questioning of the capabilities of authoritarian control. Although Lang also accepts the dangers of technological progress, Lang warns of a fall to industry whereas Orwell predicts a fall to

technology. However, as both composers dually understand the complete control and power of rising regimes focused on manipulation, they simultaneously and ultimately reflect the danger of any kind of social power. Thus Orwell effectively portrays the detrimental results of technologic power and authoritarian control on civil liberties.

Langs, 'Metropolis' also represents the ability for the subjugation of an individual from society. Lang establishes this through the uses of the messianic figure of robot Maria. The scene in which Frederica falls into delirium centres around the capabilities of technology to manipulate humanity. The music ~~repeats~~ repeats the same ~~of~~ rhythm before it crescendos as Maria is revealed. Simultaneously,

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Seven men surrounding Maria are personified as the seven deadly sins. This is representative of the corruptive power of ~~the~~ technology to subjugate society. However this is ~~the~~ contrasted in the scene in which the robot is destroyed. The heavy use of <sup>dark</sup> makeup exentuate Maria's eyes to reinforce the motif of the eyes as a system of control and ~~more~~ surveillance. However, Lang centres Maria in the middle of a mass of people where the stylised acting of the individual, ~~the~~ Freder causes the representation of Freder as an individual amongst the mass. Thus, Lang contextually portrays the use of social nationalism in the inter-war period and the ~~dark~~ subjugation nationalism causes. Lang reflects that throughout history, religious groups and individuals have been



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Subjugated as a means to control. Therefore, Lang establishes that social manipulation has reduced civil liberties ~~among~~ <sup>all</sup> of individuals amongst all social contexts.

Lastly, 1984 reflects that total control and manipulation can cause the rebellion of an individual from the state. Propaganda and indoctrination is a means of manipulating society into the beliefs of a totalitarian ideology. The repetition of the paradoxical slogans, "War is Peace. Freedom is Strength. Ignorance is Flattery" forces the indoctrination of compliant social groups to follow the manipulation of totalitarian groups. Orwell further establishes the notion of "Room 101" as the "worst thing in the world" in order to reflect the punishment of rebellion. "Room 101" is essential in conveying the

ability of authoritarian groups to punish individuals and subjugate them from society. ~~Orn~~ Winston and Julia's love affair is also used as a means to establish the social manipulation of civil liberties such as love. By not establishing the novel as 'romance' or a 'love story', Orwell highlights it as simply an act of rebellion caused by the strict control of authority. ~~The~~ Although Lang reflects ~~the~~ rebellion <sup>from</sup> ~~of~~ the state, Langs work is a prediction of the fall of society, providing no answers to the questionable impact of control. Whereas, Orwell serves to comment and warn society of the prevalence of ~~socet~~ technology in controlling ~~the~~ social freedoms. Ultimately, however, it ~~is~~ the similarity of the effects of control causing

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rebellion that both composers convey. Contextually for Orwell, the interwar period of his composition influenced him to recollect the events of WW2. By living through WW2 destruction, Orwell questions the inherent 'rightness' of any form of propaganda and indoctrination. Thus Orwell comments that complete social control leads to reduced civil liberties and thus rebellion.

Though both texts have distinctive differences in their composition and approach ultimately, their purpose in warning of the power of control in ~~an~~ manipulating social freedoms is the reason ~~for~~ for their ability to warn and resonate amongst contexts.

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