Propaganda: Attempts to persuade and manipulate people’s opinions through the misleading, false or selective use of often emotionally charged information

Questions

• What similarity do you see between these posters?
• What effect do you think they are intended to create, and why?
‘Sus au Monstre!’ cover of the edition of Le Petit Journal of 20 September 1914

Source: Gallica, Bibliothèque numérique de la Bibliothèque Nationale de France © Bibliothèque nationale de France

*Le Petit Journal* was a conservative French daily newspaper engaged in anti-German propaganda during World War One. It was in circulation between 1863 and 1944.
‘Attenti! il serpente tedesco è preso!’, Luciano Ramo, 1919 (‘Watch out! The German snake is caught! Now one must rip out the fangs!’)

Source: Biblioteca di Storia Moderna e Contemporanea, part of Europeana Collections 1914-1918
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Italy entered the war in 1915, initially against the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In 1916 the Italians declared war on Germany.
The French Popular Party was an anti-communist party inspired by fascism. It was founded in 1936 and dissolved in 1945.
Death to Fascism, by T.I. Pevzner, T. Shishmareva and V.A. Vlasov, 1941

Source: The Art Institute of Chicago, Windows on the War, Soviet Tass propaganda posters 1941-1945 (see https://www.flickr.com/photos/istorija/6557207849/) © Art Institute Chicago
According to the Marxist-Leninist political theory of the early 20th century, the kulaks (farmers who owned their own land) were class enemies of the poorer peasant population. The label was later broadened in the Soviet Union to include any peasants who resisted handing over their grain following a request from Moscow.
This is the cover of a booklet issued by the Economic League, an organisation founded in the United Kingdom in 1920. Some of the League’s main objectives were to promote the point of view of industrialists and businessmen and to keep track of communist and left-wing organisations and individuals.