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La propagande ou le ravisement de la légitimité démocratique
Propaganda or the Usurpation of Democratic Legitimacy

Abstract: This paper aims at identifying the criteria that allow us to range a document within the category of “propaganda” texts. We would like to see if propaganda depends on a specific communication form that exists in modern times, on the mass media, on modern government styles and on the alternation: immanence / transcendence, choice / arbitrariness, happiness / salvation. We will also try to give a historical and political definition of it (based on legitimacy), we will question the existence of propaganda before 1789 and will set propaganda against democracy : is it necessarily a product of the usurpation of popular sovereignty?