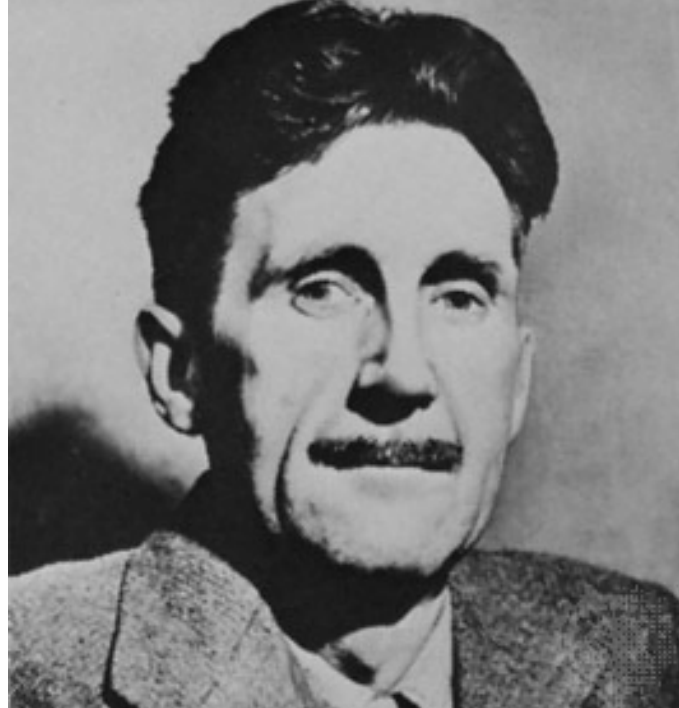
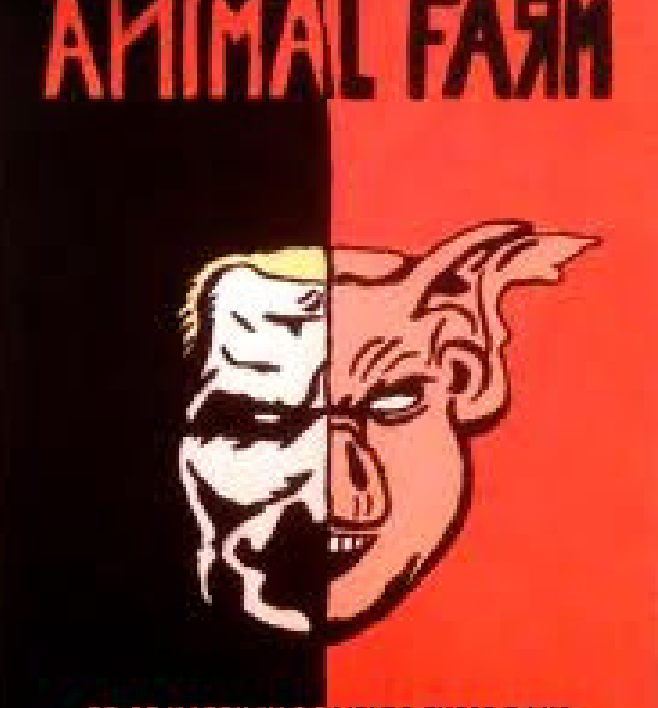


# Context

Key figures and political ideologies





**"If liberty means anything at all,  
it means the right to tell people  
what they do not want to hear"**

# George Orwell

*A Socialist*

1903-1950

George Orwell is a pseudonym for Eric Blair

He is a British novelist and essayist.

Critic of Capitalism and Communism

He fought in the Spanish revolution for the  
republicans against communism.

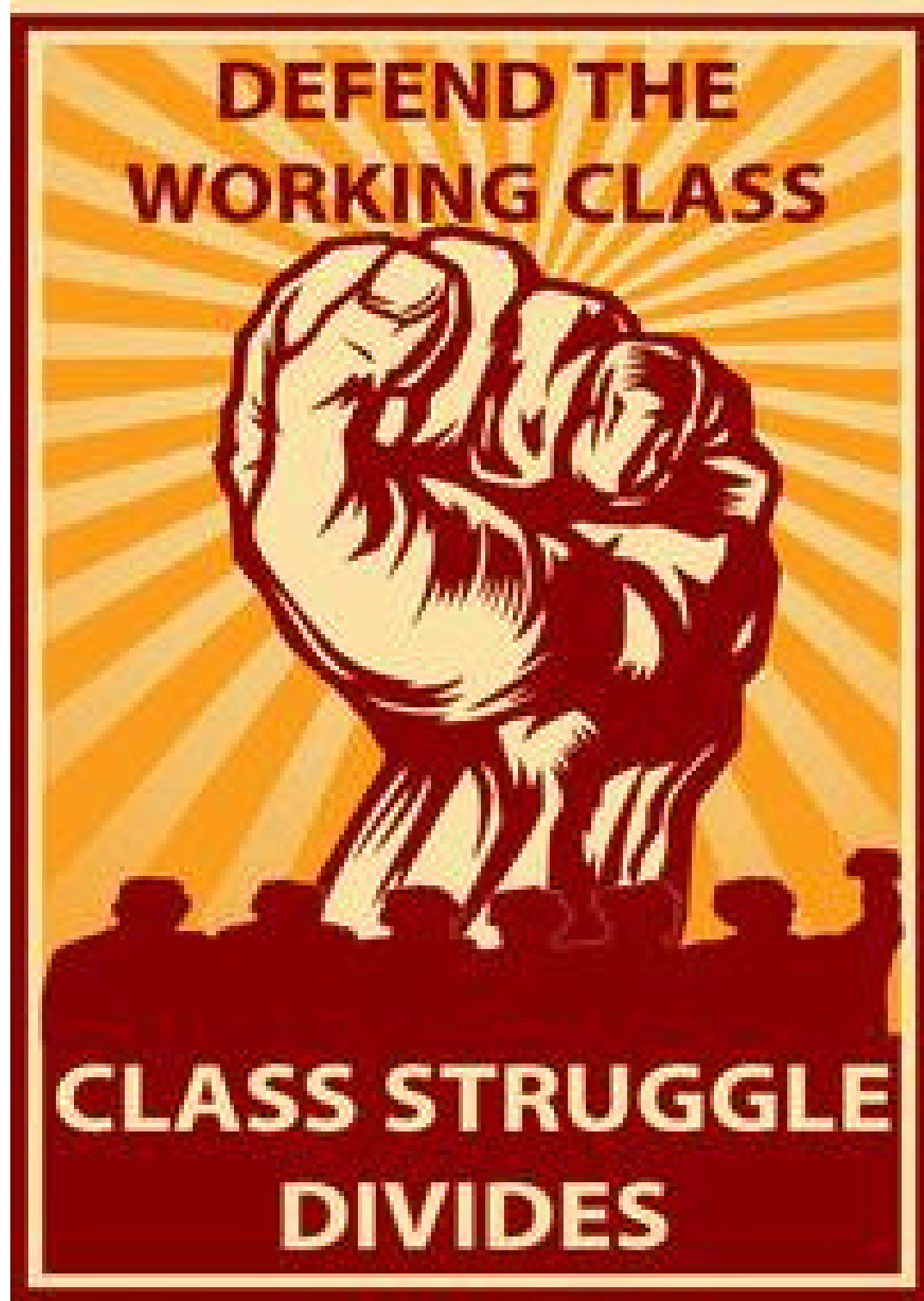
His two most highly regarded works are

*Animal Farm* and *1984*

# Marxism

- Economic and social system based on the theories and teachings of Karl Marx.
- Theorised to oppose capitalist production lines where the working class would labour to create products whilst the ownership class would receive all the rewards and profits from the products produced.

***A Socialist*** system in which the dominant feature is public ownership of production, distribution, and exchange





# The Russian Revolution

**"Let the ruling classes tremble at a communistic revolution...Workers of the world unite!"**

- Began in Russian in 1917
- Civil unrest and chronic food shortages sparked a revolt that forces the abdication of Nicholas II, the last Russian Tsar (Emperor)
- Abolished Russian capitalism and established a Soviet government based on socialism
- Lenin becomes the dictator of the first marxists state in the world

## Trotsky

A great orator and thinker

Trotsky plays an important organisational and military role in the revolution.  
He is injured in battle.

Trotsky and Stalin fight for control of the Soviet Party.

Trotsky is banished and classified as an 'enemy of the state'

1917

Stalin play a political role in the revolution

1924  
Lenin dies

1927

Stalin politically outflanks Trotsky and becomes the dictator of the Soviet Union

## Stalin

A great politician; ruthless in his pursuit of power





- 1878-1953
- Dictator of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) from 1929-1953
- Ruled by terror
- Stalin is Russian meaning 'Man of Steele'
- He was responsible for the deaths of 20 million people during his ruling.

**A politician and political leader  
of the Soviet Union (Russia)**

**Joseph  
Stalin**

*A Socialist*

# Life under Stalin in the USSR

- All media is censored and controlled by the government
- History was re-written and recreated to show Stalin in a positive light
- Religion is brutally attacked as Stalin believes it to be "the opium of the masses". Stalin was the only God allowed to be worshiped
- "Show trials" are regularly held to discredit and denounce anti-Stalinists as 'enemies of the state'. These enemies are banished, sent to forced labour camps or executed

