

## Annotated Bibliography

Lankov, Andrew. *The Real North Korea: Life and Politics in the failed Stalinist Utopia*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013. Print

This book by Andrew Lankov discusses the lifestyles of the rich who live in cities such as Pyongyang and Gaeseong, and compare it to the poor who live in the more rural areas. While many people think of North Korea as an extremely poor country as a whole, they will be surprised to find out that the cities of Pyongyang and Gaeseong are actually fairly modern, according to the country's standards. The people living there consist of government officials, military generals, doctors, and scientists who aid in the country's research. They can have access to things such as the Internet, and rare foods such as foreign snacks and alcohol. Compared to those people, the poor who live in rural cities have access to nothing. Countless numbers of people die each day from malnutrition and dehydration, and children can often be found wandering the streets, in search of something to eat. The book also discusses how the country has "progressed," or just completely stopped moving forward ever since the end of Kim Il Sung's regime.

Andrew Clapham, *Human Rights: A Very Short Introduction*. 2nd New York. Oxford University Press, 2016.

This book by Andrew Clapham gives students, or anyone interested in the topic of human rights a quick overview, and some knowledge to start off with. For my topic in particular, I'll be examining the chapter that discusses the freedom of speech. While North Korea says that it gives people the freedom of speech, and have given many "testimonies" of people, most of them are all false. The country does not, in fact, have the freedom of speech, and everything people say and do are closely examined and monitored. If people say something wrong, even if it's one word,

that the government finds offensive, then those people will immediately have to put their lives on the line.

Bernal, Ángela Gallardo. "Inside North Korea RT Documentary | North Korea's Successful Brainwashing via Propaganda." *YouTube*. Youtube, 5 July 2017, Web. 6 Oct. 2017.

This documentary discusses the success in North Korea's propaganda that is used to brainwash its people. It is filmed mainly in Pyongyang, the capital city, and shows the different types of luxuries that are provided to the rich. There are shopping malls, grocery stores with foreign goods, and exquisitely decorated hospitals where patients can receive the greatest of care. The film takes us to a daycare in Pyongyang where children, between ages three to five, learn about the life of Kim family, and how they need to "bomb and kill those capitalist Americans." While we aren't entirely sure if all this is actually working in brainwashing the people of North Korea, it is acknowledging that the Kim family is trying its hardest to have people live in the utopia that they have created.

Roy, Denny. "Misunderstanding North Korea." *Asia Pacific* 133. (2017). Web.

This article discusses the main misunderstandings that foreigners have about North Korea. The article says that the Pyongyang regime is not crazy, as many people seem to label it. It may look that way to the outside, but it was all thought out very meticulously. Second, the regime will not bargain its nuclear weapons. The American and South Korean government mention that they will compromise or bargain with the North Korean government, but that isn't going to happen. Third, there is no military option in North Korea. All males are required to serve in the military for many years. The article says that quickest way to defeat North Korea would be to destroy the country's military. Lastly, China is not going to solve the problem. While China and North Korea have relied on each other for many years, there has been much tension between the two

countries. There have been no efforts on China's side trying to solve the problem, and they are simply trying to push the responsibility to the United States and South Korea.

Woo, Jongseok. "Songun Politics and the Political Weakness of the Military in North Korea: An Institutional Account." *Problems of Past Communism* 63 (2016): 253-262. Print

This journal article talks about the weakness of the military in North Korea. It's a surprising fact to many people because North Korea is an extremely military-based country. Not only that, numerous documentaries and books show military parades with soldiers marching and tanks driving through the streets. Foreigners would be shocked to find out that the military, unless a high ranking officer, or a retired general from either Kim Il Sung's or Kim Jong Il's regime, holds absolutely no power. Even those people do not have any power; they are merely rewarded for their services to the regime. Soldiers are also malnourished, and usually not treated in the greatest way. It is only the leader, or Kim Jong Un, who holds absolute power over the military and all of North Korea. And while there are three main institutions who make up the Korean People's Army (KPA), only Kim Jong Un has complete power over them. The three main institutions are the General Political Department, the Central Military Commission, and the National Defense Commission.

Suh, Bo-Hyuk. Controversies over North Korean Human Rights in South Korean Society. *Asian*

*Perspective* 31 (2007): 23-46. Web

Many countries are aware of the numerous human rights violations in North Korea. Even South Korea is aware of this fact. Majority of the people living in South Korea believe that its government must work to unite the country, and save the people who are living in the North. However, there is no work in progress of the efforts to try and unify the country. With so much tension going on between the two countries, and between North Korea and the United States, the

efforts of unifying the two countries have been temporarily put aside. In dealing with North Korea's human rights issues, the South Korean government mainly discussed compromising, and meeting with Kim Jong Un personally to discuss the matters within the country. The present main focus of the South Korean government is to protect the rights and safety of its own people.

# FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN NORTH KOREA, AND PROPAGANDA

Christine Yi

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY [yic5@montclair.edu](mailto:yic5@montclair.edu)

## Lesson Plan Overview

**Unit Topic:** Freedom of Speech and Propaganda in DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)

**Rationale:** North Korea has always been portrayed as a mysterious country to its foreign neighbors. With President Trump's and Kim Jong Un's militant threat of a "sea of fire," people are starting to gain an interest about the secretive country. The purpose of this lesson plan is to inform students about the lack of freedom of speech in North Korea, and how state-sponsored propaganda plays a role in limiting freedom of speech.

### Standards:

- RH.9-10.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social science
- 11-12.4 (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including analyzing how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term over the course of a text
- 6-8.7 Integrate visual information with other information in print and digital texts

**Essential Question:** How does the North Korean government use its propaganda to "brainwash" citizens and how does this relate to the freedom of speech?

### Objectives:

After this lesson, students will be able to

- give the correct definition of the freedom of speech and propaganda
- recognize and understand how North Korea uses propaganda to limit freedom of speech
- give examples of the types of propaganda the North Korean government uses to manipulate citizens

### Lesson Opener/Anticipatory Set/ Lead-In/Do Now :

- Instructor introduces themselves, and the topic that will be presented throughout the class.
- Ask students to take out a sheet of paper and write up to five facts that they know about "North Korea". Discuss with students why they picked that particular term or phrase. (5+ minutes)
- Briefly give the class an introduction about North Korea using a powerpoint presentation (5-7 minutes) and have students write down seven facts that they learned from the ppt presentation. Define propaganda and freedom of speech in basic terms.

### Step by Step Procedures:

**Activity 1 (10+ minutes):** Through this activity, students will explore the different types of propaganda that North Korea uses. After completing one text analysis together as a class, (poster will be projected on ppt.), have students walk around the classroom, and examine the North Korean propaganda posters that are posted throughout the room (4-5 pictures). On a sheet of paper, have them write down a description of what they see in the posters, and list three details they find interesting. As students are looking at the posters, instructor should emphasize that these are used as propaganda, and for students to think about a potential meaning or direction in these posters. When they return to their seats, have a discussion on what they picked and what pictures they found interesting. Discuss the central theme or message of each poster, and how this message is intended to influence North Korean citizens.

**Activity 2 (10+ minutes):** Since the class is discussing the lack of freedom of speech in North Korea, it is crucial that the students know the definition of the freedom of speech. Through this activity, students

will distinguish the United States' and the United Nations' definition of freedom of speech. On a handout, give students the United Nation's definition of freedom of speech and the United States definition of the freedom of speech, which is written on the Bill of Rights. After reading it aloud together as a class, have students get into groups of 3-4 (pull groups depending on time limit), and compare the similarities and differences of the two definitions if there are any, for a duration of about 2-3 minutes. Have one student from each group write on the board one similarity or difference that their group found. Discuss with the entire class. **What is the relationship between propaganda and freedom of speech?**

**Activity 3 (10+ minutes):** Through this activity, students will be able to examine the tones and body language of the North Korean people, and answer this question: Does North Korea not have freedom of speech? Watch clip from documentary "Inside North Korea" (24:56 – 27:33) and have them take notes of what they see while watching. Discuss as a class what they saw in the clip of the documentary. Then have them get into pairs, and answer on one sheet of paper these questions.

- Who do you think the shopping malls and the renovated hospital was built for? Did it look like there were a lot of people there?
- What did you notice about the expressions or the tone of the staff who were speaking to the camera crew?
- What kind of image do you think North Korea is trying to portray by allowing the camera crew to take certain footages?

Give about 5-6 minutes to answer questions. Discuss with entire class about their answers, and what they found interesting about the clip. Papers will be collected but not graded.

#### **Lesson Closure/Closing Activity:**

Return to the definitions of freedom of speech by the United Nations and the United States. And ask this question: What do you think are the best policies for the United States and the United Nations in regards to North Korea? (sanctions, military action, diplomacy, education, etc.) It will be answered in the form of an open discussion with students. Instructor writes down some of the responses on the board.

#### **Materials and Equipments Needed:**

- Projector and related cables (HDMI etc.)
- White or chalkboard

**Assignment:** In one paragraph, write whether or not the freedom of speech is important to you. Have you ever really thought about it? Imagine we weren't allowed to say the things that we normally are allowed to say. How would that make you feel?

**Assessment:** Have an open discussion with students, and see how their viewpoints of the freedom of speech have changed. Is it really important to have the right to say what we want? Is North Korea the only country that lacks the freedom of speech?

#### **Modifications for diverse learners**

(After watching video) Answer on a separate sheet of paper (in pairs).

- Who do you think the shopping malls and the renovated hospital was built for? Did it look like there were a lot of people there?
- What did you notice about the expressions or the tone of the staff who were speaking to the camera crew?
- What kind of images do you think North Korea is trying to portray by allowing the camera crew to take certain footages?

(Handed out prior) United States Constitution Bill of Rights

1<sup>st</sup> Amendment: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people"

United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 19: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."



## Teaching Kit

- Novel, “Every Falling Star” by Sungju Lee and Susan McClelland. Paperback **\$8.86**  
([https://www.amazon.com/Every-Falling-Star-Survived-Escaped/dp/1419727613/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846348&sr=8-1&keywords=every+falling+star+by+sungju+lee](https://www.amazon.com/Every-Falling-Star-Survived-Escaped/dp/1419727613/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846348&sr=8-1&keywords=every+falling+star+by+sungju+lee))
- Documentary “Inside North Korea.” Buy **\$14.99**  
([https://www.amazon.com/Inside-North-National-Geographic-Channel/dp/B004HFKPOK/ref=sr\\_1\\_13?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846094&sr=8-13&keywords=north+korea](https://www.amazon.com/Inside-North-National-Geographic-Channel/dp/B004HFKPOK/ref=sr_1_13?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846094&sr=8-13&keywords=north+korea))
- Book “Complete Guide to North Korea (DPRK).” Paperback **\$18.99**  
([https://www.amazon.com/Complete-Guide-North-Korea-Jong/dp/1549832719/ref=sr\\_1\\_37?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846616&sr=8-37&keywords=north+korea](https://www.amazon.com/Complete-Guide-North-Korea-Jong/dp/1549832719/ref=sr_1_37?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846616&sr=8-37&keywords=north+korea))
- Documentary “DPRK: Land of Whispers.” Buy **\$4.99**  
([https://www.amazon.com/DPRK-Whispers-North-Travel-Documentary/dp/B071X5M2H8/ref=sr\\_1\\_82?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846798&sr=8-82&keywords=north+korea](https://www.amazon.com/DPRK-Whispers-North-Travel-Documentary/dp/B071X5M2H8/ref=sr_1_82?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846798&sr=8-82&keywords=north+korea))
- 25 Stamps from North Korea, **\$6.66**  
([https://www.amazon.com/25-North-Korea-L232-Stamps/dp/B01M6UQ3N1/ref=sr\\_1\\_84?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846920&sr=8-84&keywords=north+korea](https://www.amazon.com/25-North-Korea-L232-Stamps/dp/B01M6UQ3N1/ref=sr_1_84?ie=UTF8&qid=1509846920&sr=8-84&keywords=north+korea))
- Map Poster of North Korea 17” x 22”, **\$18.99**  
([https://www.amazon.com/Map-Poster-North-Korea-17/dp/B075J1PR5K/ref=sr\\_1\\_11?ie=UTF8&qid=1509847072&sr=8-11&keywords=north+korea+map](https://www.amazon.com/Map-Poster-North-Korea-17/dp/B075J1PR5K/ref=sr_1_11?ie=UTF8&qid=1509847072&sr=8-11&keywords=north+korea+map))
- DVD “Frontline: Secret State of North Korea.” **\$19.06**  
([https://www.amazon.com/Frontline-Secret-State-North-Korea/dp/B00HUTPKG8/ref=sr\\_1\\_141?ie=UTF8&qid=1509847170&sr=8-141&keywords=north+korea](https://www.amazon.com/Frontline-Secret-State-North-Korea/dp/B00HUTPKG8/ref=sr_1_141?ie=UTF8&qid=1509847170&sr=8-141&keywords=north+korea))
- Book “Free Speech: A Very Short Introduction.” Paperback **\$9.99**  
([https://www.amazon.com/Free-Speech-Short-Introduction-Introductions/dp/0199232350/ref=mt\\_paperback?\\_encoding=UTF8&me=\)](https://www.amazon.com/Free-Speech-Short-Introduction-Introductions/dp/0199232350/ref=mt_paperback?_encoding=UTF8&me=)))

**Total = \$99.09**