

Lies

Throughout human history, after every advance in communication technology there was a period of dishonesty, often followed by catastrophe. It was the invention of the printing press that enabled the spread of the conspiracy theories that resulted in witch hunts and a variety of religious wars. With the invention of radio, movie theaters, and loudspeakers that could draw huge crowds, for the first time one person could lie to millions of naive people in real time. Radio was most of what enabled Hitler.

With the introduction of the internet, the proliferation of dishonesty has exponentially exploded. Control of the internet, whether by dictatorship or algorithm, enables a kind of mind control on a scale new to human consciousness. All around the world, all autocrats and outright dictatorships are dependent on control of people's perspectives. It's the primary weapon in the war on democracy, and we're not even close to dealing with it.

In the long evolution of the human brain, adrenaline is not directly controlled by the frontal cortex, but the frontal cortex can trigger the emotions that are needed to produce adrenaline. Unfortunately, the frontal cortex is easily deceived. With today's technology, we can communicate faster than we can think. This enables lies and misconceptions to bypass reason and go directly to fear and outrage; the primary tools of con artists and cult leaders.