

David Perlmutter examines concerns over the interplay of pictures in the press, elite decision-making and public opinion on foreign policy. His focus is on certain celebrated, indelible images that, it is said, sum up famous events, provoke moral outrage, mobilize public opinion, and spur government action: the icons of outrage. Discourse elites thrust greatness upon such images as well as frame their meaning and interpretation. The public only plays a marginal role in making icons; ordinary readers and viewers are, however, often resistant or indifferent to elite interpretation and pretensions of outrage. To explore these ideas, Professor Perlmutter offers a series of case studies in crises in American foreign policy and the images that came to define and affect them: the Tet offensive in 1968, the Tiananmen events of 1989, and the Somalia intervention of 1992-1994. In each case, icons became sites of political struggle and argumentation, tools of policy rather than masters of it. Actual effects on public opinion are rarely found. Presidents, diplomats, pundits, and journalists, when confronting news images, apply a first person effect, projecting onto all of America or even the whole world their personal reaction to an icon. As Perlmutter shows, the influence of icons of outrage lies in their ability to focus debate, not in any power of visual determinism. He concludes that rather than worrying about how pictures affect policy, more attention should be paid to how politicians manage, frame, and spin images to win support for policies. A provocative study for students, scholars, and the public concerned with visual communication, the mass media, and current international affairs.

Animal, Stoicism Today: Selected Writings (Volume Two), 2 Minutes and Under: Character Monologues for Actors (Monologue Audition Series.), Journal of Physical Activity and Health: Issue 2, 2009, Amazing circle mazes, The Bible Readers Guide, Brodies Notes on John Fowles French Lieutenants Woman, Group Bullying: Exclusion and Ganging Up (Stand Up: Bullying Prevention (Powerkids)), SLAIN BY THE DOONES and Other Stories, Assyrian Discoveries: An Account Of Explorations And Discoveries On The Site On Nineveh, During 1878 And 1874,

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