

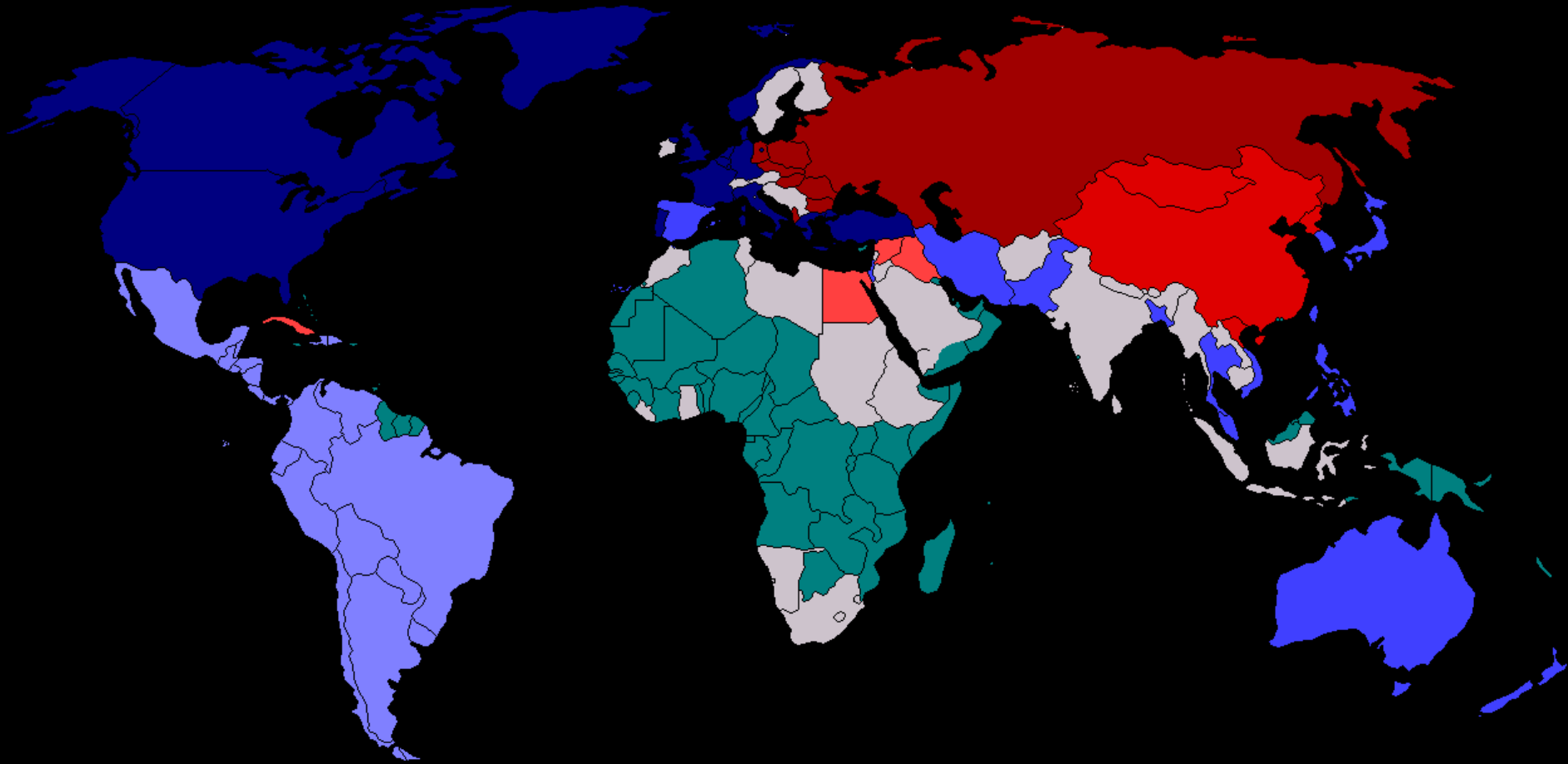
Star Trek and the Cold War

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The Cold War



Themes: War



Viet Cong base camp after an attack
(Wikimedia Commons)



Pershing missile battery
(pershingmissile.org, from
collection of Tex Chellete)

Themes: The End of the World



Castle Romeo H-bomb explosion, March 27, 1954 (Wikimedia Commons)

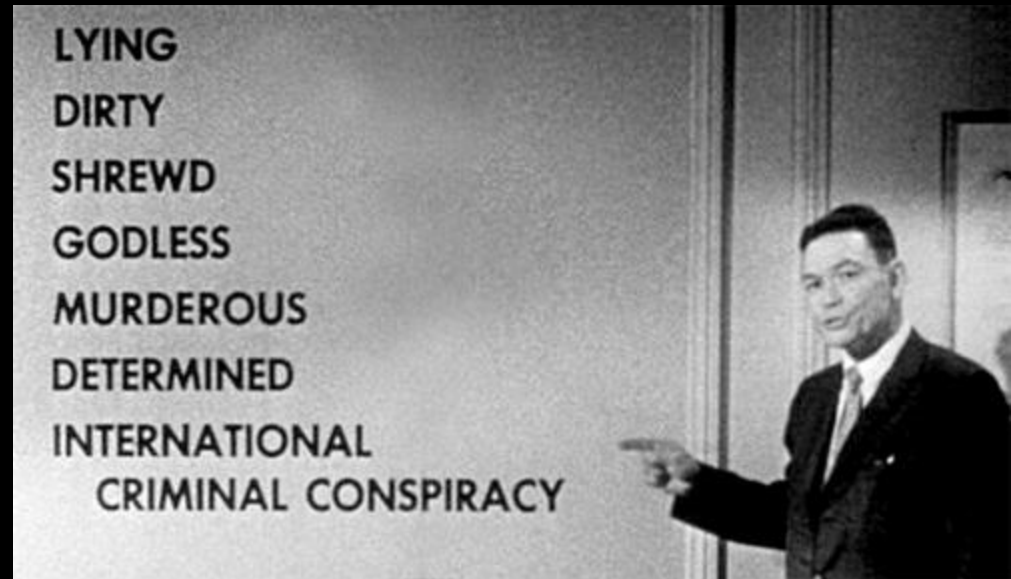


Fallout shelter sign, New York (Wikimedia Commons)

Themes: Patriotism

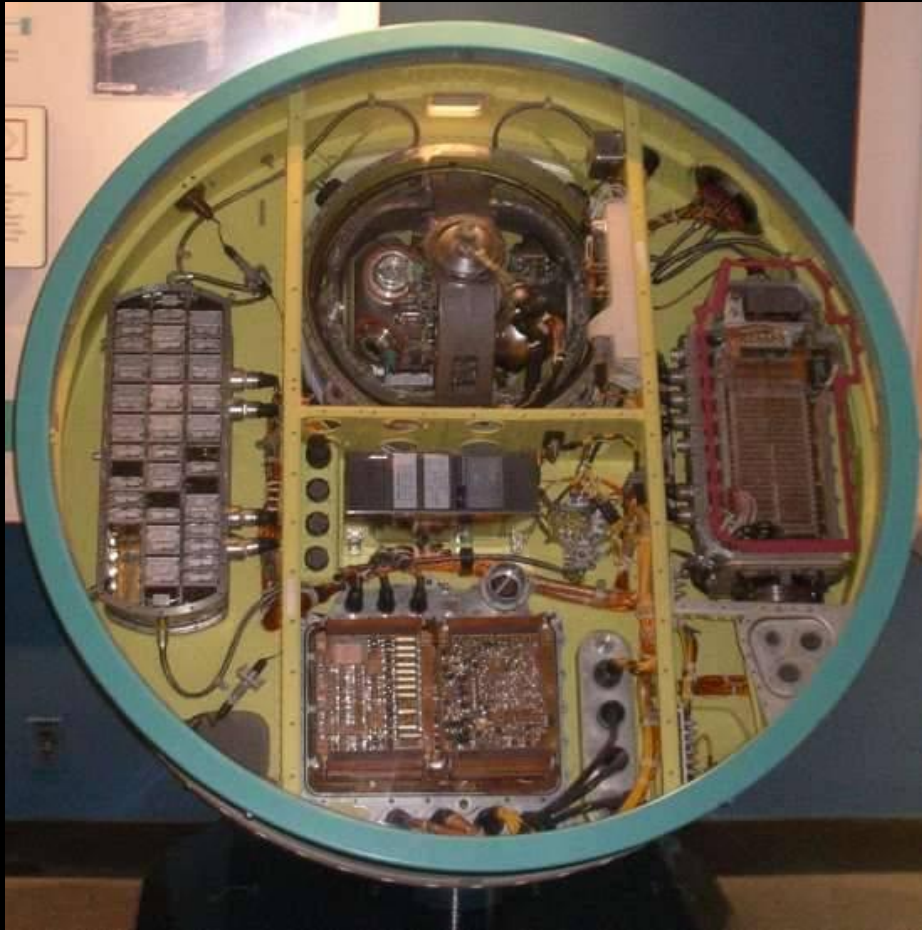


Screen capture from "Patriotism,"
Civil Defense Short Subject Film,
1972. (conelrad.com)



Screen capture from "What is Communism?"
Civil Defense Short Subject Film, 1963.
(conelrad.com)

Themes: Computers



Minuteman III missile guidance computer, c. 1970. (Wikimedia Commons)



IBM System 360/20 computer, c. 1966. (Wikimedia Commons)

Star Trek



U.S.S. Enterprise.
(Memory Alpha, Paramount Television)

Hypotheses

- A significant number of *Star Trek* episodes express the aforementioned themes.
- The expression of themes changed over time to reflect changes in American attitudes.
- The methods of expression can be evaluated using literary analysis.

Methodology

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
1	Title	Episode	Prodno.	Stardate	Original Airdate	Relevant	M	I	C	E	Partiotism	Totalitarianism	Apocalypse / M.A.D.	Other Nuclear Fears	Anti-War	Arms Race	Intervention / Vietnam	Computers	Conspiracy / McCarthy	Total # of Themes		
2	Totals					8	93	143	138	186	4	5	7	3	2	6	9	6	10	5	57	31
3	Where No Man Has Gone Before	1x01	6149-02	1312.4	9/22/1966			2	3	4											0	0
4	The Corgomite Maneuver	1x02	6149-03	1512.2	11/10/1966	1			3	4		1				1					2	1
5	Mudd's Women	1x03	6149-04	1329.8	10/13/1966				4	3											0	0
6	The Enemy Within	1x04	6149-05	1672.1	10/6/1966			4	3	2											0	0
7	The Man Trap	1x05	6149-06	1513.1	9/8/1966			4	3												0	0
8	The Naked Time	1x06	6149-07	1704.2	9/29/1966			4	2	3											0	0
9	Charlie X	1x07	6149-08	1533.6	9/15/1966				4												0	0
10	Balance of Terror	1x08	6149-09	1709.1	12/13/1966	1	3			4		1				1			1	3	1	1
11	What Are Little Girls Made Of?	1x09	6149-10	2712.4	10/20/1966			3	4									1			1	1
12	Dagger of the Mind	1x10	6149-11	2715.1	11/3/1966			4			1										1	1
13	Miri	1x11	6149-12	2713.5	10/27/1966		4	3													0	0
14	The Conscience of the King	1x12	6149-13	2817.6	12/8/1966				3	4											0	0
15	The Galileo Seven	1x13	6149-14	2821.5	1/5/1967				4	3											0	0
16	Court Martial	1x14	6149-15	2947.3	2/2/1967				4									1	1		2	1
17	The Menagerie, Part I	1x15	6149-16A	3012.4	11/17/1966			3	4												0	0
18	The Menagerie, Part II	1x16	6149-16B	3013.1	11/24/1966																0	0
19	Shore Leave	1x17	6149-17	3025.3	12/29/1966		3	4													0	0
20	The Squire of Gothos	1x18	6149-18	2124.5	1/12/1967				4	3											0	0
21	Arena	1x19	6149-19	3045.6	1/19/1967			2	3	4						1					1	1
22	The Alternative Factor	1x20	6149-20	3087.6	3/30/1967	Maybe		4	2	3					1						1	1
23	Tomorrow is Yesterday	1x21	6149-21	3113.2	1/26/1967		3	2		4											0	0
24	The Return of the Archons	1x22	6149-22	3156.2	2/9/1967	Maybe	4				1							1			2	1
25	A Taste of Armageddon	1x23	6149-23	3192.1	2/23/1967		1	4	2	3		1			1	1		1			4	1
26	Space Seed	1x24	6149-24	3141.9	2/16/1967				4												0	0
27	This Side of Paradise	1x25	6149-25	3417.3-	3/2/1967			2	3	4											0	0
28	The Devil in the Dark	1x26	6149-26	3196.1	3/9/1967			4		3											0	0
29	Errand of Mercy	1x27	6149-27	3198.4	3/23/1967	1		3		4	1		1		1		1				4	1

Results

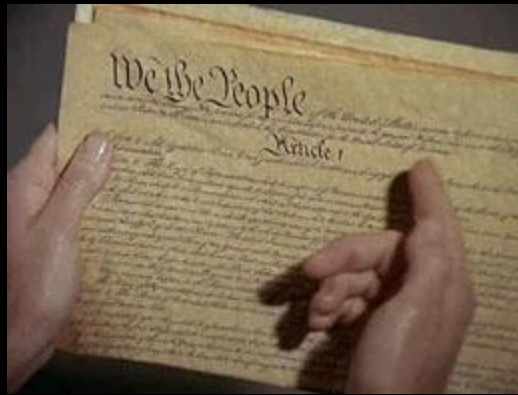
- About 40% of all episodes express Cold War themes.
- About half of those express more than one theme.



The Klingons supply weapons to the enemy in "A Private Little War."
(voyager.cz)

Results

- Trends over time are not apparent.



Kirk reads from the U.S. Constitution in "The Omega Glory". (voyager.cz)

Results

- Literary analysis yields interesting results of questionable relevance
- Typically, themes are expressed in dominant literary elements
- Most episodes are Event-driven
- Fewest are Milieu-driven

Conclusions

- A significant number of *Star Trek* episodes express the aforementioned themes.
- The expression of themes changed over time to reflect changes in American attitudes.
- The methods of expression can be evaluated using literary analysis.

Questions?



EXPENDABILITY

KIRK, SPOCK, MCCOY, AND ENSIGN RICKY ARE BEAMING
DOWN TO THE PLANET. GUESS WHO'S NOT COMING BACK.

