

Nuclear Weapons in Pop Culture

Part 1 – Introduction*

- What is pop culture
- The approaches to researching pop culture in relation to politics and IR and the development of this field
- Nuclear weapons and the relevance of the topic in today's world
 - o The NW states, important milestones

*Since I will be recording the interview earlier than my part, the introduction can be altered afterwards (based on what we manage to cover with Rhys)

Part 2 – The interview

Introduction of the podcast guest – Rhys Crilley

Topic 1: Politics and pop culture

- What is the relationship between politics and pop culture?
 - o Does politics influence pop culture or is it vice versa?
- Why should IR researchers focus on pop culture?
- How much does pop culture shape the opinion of the public (and potentially of the politicians in decision-making positions)?

Topic 2: The portrayal of nuclear weapons and nuclear threat in pop culture

- How would you describe the portrayal of nuclear weapons in pop culture?
 - o What are the milestones of NW in relation to culture?
 - o How has their portrayal developed? How important was the end of the Cold War in this matter?
- What is the biggest misconception people have about NW? Can we trace it back to pop culture?
- Has pop culture somehow framed the debate regarding disarmament/nuclear weapons?

Topic 3: Social media and nuclear weapons

- What is the role of social media in setting the NW agenda?
- How relevant is Twitter in that, especially regarding the tweets made by Donald Trump during his Presidency?

Topic 4: Nuclear weapons in pop culture and gender

- How gendered is the way we see nuclear weapons portrayed in pop culture?
- In your opinion, does it influence the number of women who are/were involved in drafting policies regarding nuclear weapons?