

in the narrative, was living in a world where he was only granted private time in the most rudimentary sense.

However, he was not permitted to have a private thought either. Winston is inundated with the overpowering realization that the world in which he lives is barely livable as his ideas take a more sinister shape in his mind. Everything in society was able to recognize even the tiniest hints of illegality, even if it was only a "thought crime." It was a dystopian society.

This work, published in 1949, would seem to bear a stronger connection to those times than to the governments of Stalin or Mussolini. And it actually does. Everything is there: the totalitarian control of the people, the authoritarian desire to perpetually be at war, and the unshakable expectation of compliance.

1984 has seen a significant increase in sales in recent years. Of course, sales are prohibited in some nations, and I'll leave it to you to figure out which ones. But, more importantly, why have sales just exploded? Is the moment that Orwell predicted here?

The Snowden revelations of 2013 received perhaps the greatest attention in recent memory for extensive spying. Edward Snowden, a former NSA computer security specialist, disclosed documents revealing that the NSA had primarily overreached and misused its powers granted in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks.