

# Brainwashing On Steroids: The Pattern Beneath

By Joshua Stylman – Substack, Feb, 2025

## *USAID and the Architecture of Perception*

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has long portrayed itself as America's humanitarian aid organization, delivering assistance to developing nations. With an annual budget of nearly \$40 billion and operations in over 100 countries, it represents one of the largest foreign aid institutions in the world. But recent disclosures reveal its true nature as something far more systematic: an architect of global consciousness. Consider: Reuters, one of the world's most trusted news sources, received USAID funding for 'Large Scale Social Deception' and 'Social Engineering Defence.' While there's debate about the exact scope of these programs, the implications are staggering: a division of one of the world's most relied-upon sources for objective reporting was paid by a US government agency for systemic reality construction. This funding goes beyond traditional media support, representing a deliberate infrastructure for discourse framing that fundamentally challenges the concept of 'objective' reporting.

But it goes deeper. In what reads like a Michael Crichton plot come to life, the recent USAID revelations show a staggering reach of narrative control. **Take Internews Network, a USAID-financed NGO that has pushed nearly half a billion dollars (\$472.6m) through a secretive network, 'working with' 4,291 media outlets. In just one year, they produced 4,799 hours of broadcasts reaching up to 778 million people and 'trained' over 9,000 journalists. This isn't just funding - it's a systematic infrastructure of consciousness manipulation.**

The revelations show USAID funding both the [Wuhan Lab's gain-of-function research](#) and the [media outlets that would shape the story](#) around what emerged from it. **Backing organizations that would fabricate impeachment evidence. Funding both the election systems that facilitate outcomes and the fact-checkers that determine which discussions about those outcomes are permitted. But these disclosures point to something far more significant than mere corruption.**

These revelations didn't emerge from nowhere - they come from government grant disclosures, FOIA requests, and official records that aren't even hidden, just ignored. As my old friend [Mark Schiffer noted the other day](#), 'The most important truths today cannot be debated - they must be felt as totalities.' **The pattern, once seen, cannot be unseen. Some may question DOGE's methods or the rapid pace of these disclosures, and those constitutional concerns deserve serious discussion. But that's a separate conversation from what these documents reveal. The revelations themselves - documented in official records and grant disclosures - are undeniable and**

should shock anyone who values truth. The means of exposure matter far less than what's being exposed: one of the largest narrative control operations in history.

No domain is untouched - [markets](#), [tech](#), [culture](#), [health](#), and obviously, [media](#) - and you'll find the same design. Intelligence agencies are deeply embedded in each domain because shaping how we perceive reality is more powerful than controlling reality itself

Just as fiat currency replaced real value with declared value, we now see the same pattern everywhere: fiat science replaces inquiry with predetermined conclusions, fiat culture replaces organic development with curated influence, fiat history replaces lived experience with manufactured narratives. We live in an [era of fiat everything](#) - where reality itself is declared, not discovered.. And just as they create artificial scarcity in monetary systems, they manufacture false choices everywhere else - presenting us with artificial binaries that obscure the true complexity of our world. As Schiffer wrote elsewhere, reality no longer requires consensus, only coherence. But there's a crucial distinction: real coherence emerges naturally across multiple domains, reflecting deeper truths that cannot be fabricated. The coherence imposed by perception management isn't truth - it's a controlled discourse engineered for consistency, not discovery. The USAID receipts now provide concrete evidence of how this manufactured coherence is built: a scripted reality where the appearance of logic is more important than actual substance.

This isn't just pattern matching - it's pattern prediction. Just as algorithms learn to recognize and anticipate behavioural patterns, those who understand this system's architecture can see its next moves before they're made. The question isn't whether something is "true" or "false" - **it's understanding how information flows shape consciousness itself.**

To understand how deep this goes, let's examine their methodology. As [Dr. Sherri Tenpenny](#) and others have meticulously documented through FOIA requests and government grant disclosures, the pattern emerges through two primary vectors of control:

#### ***Information Control:***

- \$34 million to Politico (which as Tenpenny notes, struggled to make payroll without this funding)
- Extensive payments to New York Times
- Direct funding to BBC Media Action
- \$4.5 million to Kazakhstan to combat "disinformation"

#### ***Health and Development:***

- \$84 million to Clinton Foundation health initiatives
- \$100 million for AIDS treatment in Ukraine
- Funding for contraceptive programs in developing nations

### **Cultural Programming:**

- \$20 million to Sesame Street in Iraq
- \$68 million to World Economic Forum
- \$2 million for sex changes and LGBT activism in Guatemala
- Global cultural initiatives (millions spread across LGBTQ programs in Serbia, DEI projects in Ireland, transgender arts in Colombia and Peru, and tourism promotion in Egypt)

**What emerges is not just a list of expenditures, but a blueprint for global reality architecture:** From Kazakhstan to Ireland, from Serbia to Peru, from Vietnam to Egypt - there isn't a corner of the world untouched by this system. This isn't merely a distribution of resources, but a strategic infrastructure of global influence. Each allocation—whether to media outlets, health initiatives, or cultural programs - represents a carefully placed node in a network designed to shape perception across multiple domains. First, control the flow of information through media funding. Then, establish legitimacy through health and development programs. Finally, reshape social structures through cultural programming. The end goal isn't just to influence what people think, but to determine the boundaries of what can be thought - and to do so on a planetary scale.

For those who've been studying the architecture of censorship, like [Mike Benz has been documenting](#) for years, none of this comes as a surprise. **It's perfect symmetry: we knew about the censorship. Now we're seeing the receipts. One hand feeds them talking points, the other hand feeds them our taxpayer dollars. This isn't speculation; it's documented fact. Even Wikipedia's own funding database contains over 45,000 reports tied to USAID - many detailing corruption, media influence, and financial manipulation. The evidence has always been there, but it was ignored, dismissed, or buried under the very fact-checking apparatus USAID funds. These weren't crackpot theories; they were warnings. And now, we finally have the receipts.**

And it doesn't stop at controlling information. USAID isn't just shaping media portrayals - it's funding the systems that enforce them. Last week, [Benz broke a bombshell](#): USAID gives twice as much money (\$27 million) to the fiscal sponsor of the group controlling Soros-funded prosecutors than Soros himself gives (\$14 million). This isn't about one billionaire's influence - it's about state-backed enforcement of scripted accounts. The same network that dictates what you can think is dictating who prosecutes crime, what laws are enforced, and who faces consequences.

**USAID's influence isn't just about funding media control—it extends to direct political interference. It didn't just send aid to Brazil - it funded censorship, backed left-wing activists, and helped rig the 2022 election against Bolsonaro.**

Benz revealed that the agency waged a “holy war on censorship,” systematically suppressing Bolsonaro supporters online while bolstering

opposition voices. Millions flowed to NGOs pushing leftist framing, including the Felipe Neto Institute, which received U.S. funding while Bolsonaro allies were deplatformed. USAID also bankrolled Amazon-based activist groups, financed media campaigns designed to manipulate public opinion, and funneled money into Brazilian organizations that pushed for stricter internet regulations.

**This wasn't aid—it was election interference disguised as democracy promotion. USAID used American tax dollars to decide Brazil's future, and it likely deployed similar tactics in many other countries—all under the guise of humanitarian assistance.**

And it's not just abroad. While USAID's defenders claim it's a tool for charity and development in poor nations, the evidence suggests something much more insidious. **It's a \$40 billion driver of regime change overseas - and now, evidence points to its involvement in regime change efforts at home. Alongside the CIA, USAID appears to have played a role in the 2019 impeachment of Trump - an illegal effort to overturn a U.S. election using the same tools of perception sculpting and political engineering it deploys abroad.**

Left vs right, vaxxed vs unvaxxed, Russia vs Ukraine, believer vs skeptic (on any topic) - [these false dichotomies](#) serve to fragment our understanding while reality itself is far more nuanced and multidimensional. Each manufactured crisis spawns not just reactions, but reactions to those reactions, creating endless layers of derivative meaning built on artificial foundations.

**The real power isn't in manufacturing individual facts, but in creating systems where false facts become self-reinforcing. When a fact-checker cites another fact-checker who cites a "trusted source" that's funded by the same entities funding the fact-checkers, the pattern becomes clear. The truth isn't in any individual claim - it's in recognizing how the claims work together to create a closed system of artificial reality.**

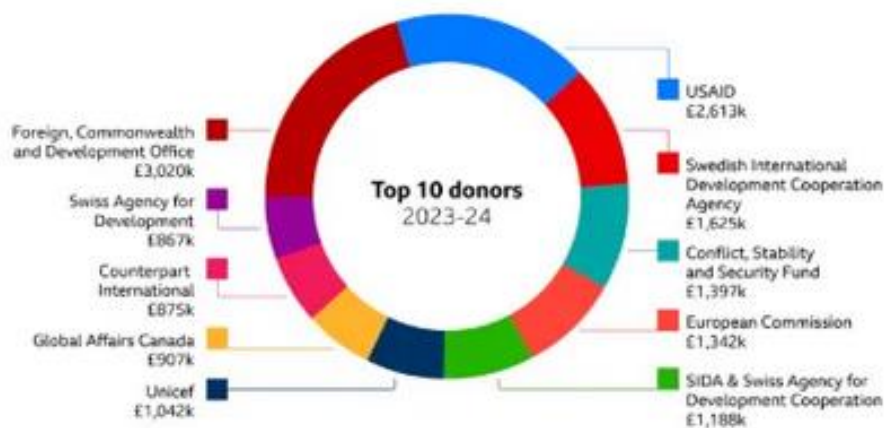
Take the mRNA vaccine debate for example: The pattern manifests before the explanation - people passionately debate efficacy without realizing the entire framework was constructed. First, they fund the research. Then they fund the media to shape the narrative. Even skeptics often fall into their trap, arguing about effectiveness rates while accepting their basic premise. **The moment you debate 'vaccine efficacy,' you've already lost - you're using their framework to discuss what is, in reality, an [experimental gene therapy](#). By accepting their terminology, their metrics, their framing of the discussion itself, you're playing in their constructed reality. Each layer of control is designed not just to influence opinions, but to preemptively structure how those opinions can be formed.**

Like learning to spot a staged photo or hearing a false note in music, developing a reliable bullshit detector requires pattern recognition. Once you start seeing how narratives are constructed - how language is weaponized, how frameworks are built - it changes the lens with which you view the whole world. The same intelligence agencies embedding themselves in every domain that shapes our

understanding aren't just controlling information flow - they're programming how we process that information itself.

The recursive theater plays out in real time. When USAID announced funding cuts, BBC News rushed to amplify humanitarian concerns with dramatic headlines about HIV patients and endangered lives. What they didn't mention in their reporting? **USAID is their top funder, bankrolling BBC Media Action with millions in direct payments. Watch how the system protects itself: the largest recipient of USAID media funding creates emotional propaganda about USAID's importance while obfuscating their financial relationship in their reporting.**

## Where our money comes from



This institutional self-defense illustrates a crucial pattern: organizations funded for reality construction protect themselves through layers of misdirection. When presented with evidence, the fact-checking apparatus funded by these same systems springs into action. They'll tell you that these payments were for standard "[subscriptions](#)," that programs promoting gender ideology are really just about "equality and rights." But when USAID awards \$2 million to Asociación Lambda in Guatemala for "gender-affirming health care" - which can include surgeries, hormone therapy, and counseling - those same defenders [conveniently omit the details](#), blurring the line between advocacy and direct intervention. The very organizations funded for social architecture are the ones telling you there is no social architecture. It's akin to asking the arsonist to investigate the fire.

Like characters in a grand production, I watch old friends still trusting in institutions like the New York Times. Even this exposition becomes a potential node in the system - the very act of revealing the mechanics of control might itself be anticipated, another layer of the recursive theater. [In my earlier work on technocracy](#), I explored how our digital world has evolved far beyond Truman Burbank's physical dome. His world had visible walls, cameras, and scripted encounters - a constructed reality he

**could theoretically escape by reaching its edges.** Our prison is more sophisticated: no walls, no visible limits, just algorithmic containment that shapes thought itself. Truman only had to sail far enough to find the truth. But how do you sail beyond the boundaries of perception when the ocean itself is programmed?

Sure, USAID has done some good work—but so did Al Capone with his [soup kitchens](#). Just as the infamous gangster's charity work made him untouchable in his community, USAID's aid programs create a veneer of benevolence that makes questioning their larger agenda politically impossible. Philanthropic window dressing has long been a tool for power players to shield themselves from scrutiny. Consider Jimmy Savile: a celebrated philanthropist [whose charity work granted him access to hospitals and vulnerable children](#) while [he committed unspeakable crimes in plain sight](#). His carefully cultivated image made him beyond reproach for decades, just as institutional benevolence now serves as a protective layer for global influence operations. The true function of organizations like USAID isn't just aid—it's social architecture, mind shaping, and the laundering of taxpayer dollars through an intricate web of NGOs and foundations.

**This layered deception is self-reinforcing - each level of manufactured reality is protected by another level of institutional authority. These institutions don't just dictate stories; they shape the infrastructure through which narratives are disseminated. For what it's worth, I believe most tools themselves are neutral. The same digital systems that enable mass surveillance could empower individual sovereignty. The same networks that centralize control could facilitate decentralized cooperation. The question isn't the technology itself, but whether it's deployed to concentrate or distribute power.**

This understanding didn't come from nowhere. Those who first sensed this artificiality were dismissed as conspiracy theorists. We noticed the coordination across outlets, the strange synchronicity of messaging, the way certain stories were amplified while others disappeared. Now we have the sales receipts showing exactly how that manipulation was funded and orchestrated.

**I know this journey of discovery intimately. When I started understanding the dangers of mRNA technology, I went all in. I connected with the incredibly talented filmmaker Jennifer Sharp and helped with [Anecdotal, her film about vaccine injuries](#). I was ready to tether my whole identity to this cause. But then I started zooming out. I began seeing how COVID [might have been a financial crime](#) designed to usher in [central bank digital currency](#). The deeper I looked, the more I realized these weren't isolated deceptions - it was part of a larger system of control. The very fabric of what I thought was real began to dissolve.**

What disturbed me most was seeing how deeply programming relies on mimicry. Humans are imitative creatures by nature - it's how we learn, how we build culture. But this natural tendency has been weaponized. I'd present friends with peer-reviewed studies, documented evidence, historical connections - only

to watch them respond with verbatim talking points from corporate media. It wasn't that they disagreed - it was that they weren't even processing the information. They were pattern-matching against pre-approved chronicles, [outsourcing their thinking](#) to "trusted experts" who were themselves caught in the same web of [manufactured perception](#). I realized then: none of us knows anything for certain - we're all just mimicking what we've been programmed to believe is authoritative knowledge.

**The challenge isn't just seeing through any single deception - it's understanding how these systems work together in complex, non-linear ways. When we fixate on individual threads, we miss the larger pattern. Like pulling a thread on a sweater and watching it unravel, eventually you realize there was no sweater in the first place - just an intricately woven illusion. Just as a hologram contains the whole image in each fragment, every piece of this system reflects the larger blueprint for reality construction.**

**Consider the \$34 million to Politico - this isn't just a funding stream, but a holographic reveal of the entire system. It's not merely that Politico received money; it's that this single transaction contains the entire blueprint of perception management. The payment itself is a microcosm: struggling media outlet, government funding, narrative control - each element reflects the whole. This recursive system protects itself through layers of self-validation. When critics point out media bias, fact-checkers funded by the same system declare it 'debunked.' When researchers question official accounts, journals funded by the same interests reject their work. Even the language of resistance - 'speaking truth to power,' 'fighting disinformation,' 'protecting democracy' - has been co-opted and weaponized by the very system it was meant to challenge.**

**The COVID story epitomizes this systemic manipulation. What began as a public health crisis transformed into a global experiment in narrative control - demonstrating how rapidly populations could be reshaped through coordinated messaging, institutional authority, and weaponized fear. The pandemic wasn't just about a virus; it was a proof of concept for how comprehensively human cognition could be engineered - a single node revealing the true scope and ambition of discourse manipulation.**

Think about the cycle: American taxpayers unknowingly funded the crisis itself - then paid again to be deceived about it. They paid for the development of gain-of-function research, then paid again for the messaging that would convince them to accept masks, lockdowns, and experimental interventions. The system is so confident in its psychological control that it doesn't even bother hiding the evidence anymore.

As I've documented in my [Engineering Reality series](#), this framework for consciousness management runs far deeper than most can imagine. USAID's revelations aren't isolated incidents—they're glimpses into a vast system of social design that has been in operation for decades. When the same agency funding your fact-checkers is openly paying for 'social deception,' when your

trusted news sources are receiving direct payments for 'social architecture,' the very framework of what we consider 'real' begins to crumble.

**We're not just watching events unfold - we're watching reactions to artificial events, then reactions to those reactions, creating an infinite regression of derivative meaning. People form passionate positions about issues that were constructed, then others define themselves in opposition to those positions. Each layer of reaction fuels the next phase of steered consensus. What we're witnessing isn't just the spread of manufactured realities, but the architecture of cultural and geopolitical trends themselves. Artificial trends spawn authentic reactions, which generate counter-reactions, until we've built entire societies responding to carefully orchestrated theater. The social engineers aren't just steering individual beliefs - they're reshaping the very foundations of how humans make sense of the world.**

These revelations are just the tip of the iceberg. Anyone paying attention to the depth and depravity of the corruption knows that this is only the beginning. As more information emerges, the illusion of neutrality, of benevolence, of institutions acting in the public interest, will crumble. No one who truly engages with this information is walking away with renewed faith in the system. The shift is only happening in one direction - some faster than others, but none in reverse. The real question is: what happens when a critical mass reaches the point where their foundational understanding of the world collapses? When they realize that the records shaping their perception were never organic, but manufactured? Some will refuse to look, choosing comfort over confrontation. But for those willing to face it, this is not just about corruption - it's about the very nature of the reality they thought they inhabited.

**The implications are staggering not just for individual awareness, but for our very ability to function as a republic. How can citizens make informed decisions when reality itself has been splintered into competing manufactured tales? When people discover that their most deeply held beliefs were shaped, that their passionate causes were scripted, that even their cultural interests and tastes were curated, that their opposition to certain systems was anticipated and designed - what remains of authentic human experience?**

What's coming will force a choice: either retreat into comfortable denial, dismissing mounting evidence as "right-wing conspiracy theories," or face the shattering realization that the world we thought we inhabited never actually existed. My research over the past few years points to far more nefarious activities yet to be revealed - operations so heinous that many will simply refuse to process them.

As I wrote about in "[The Second Matrix](#)," there's always the risk of falling into another layer of controlled awakening. But the greater risk lies in thinking too small, in anchoring ourselves to any single thread of understanding. The USAID revelations aren't just about exposing one agency's role in shaping reality -



they're about recognizing how our very thought patterns have been colonized by recursive layers of artificial reality.

**This is the true crisis of our time: not just the manipulation of reality, but the fragmentation of human consciousness itself. When people grasp that their beliefs, causes, and even their resistance were shaped within this system, they are forced to confront the deeper question: What does it mean to reclaim one's own mind?**

But here's what they don't want you to realize: seeing through these systems is profoundly liberating. When you understand how reality is constructed, you're no longer bound by its artificial constraints. This isn't just about exposing deception - it's about freeing consciousness itself from manufactured limitations.

**The jig may be up on USAID's reality architecture operation. But the deeper challenge lies in reconstructing meaning in a world where the very fabric of reality has been woven from artificial threads. The choice we face isn't just between comfortable illusion and uncomfortable truth. The old system demanded validation before belief. The new reality requires something else entirely: the ability to recognize patterns before they're officially confirmed, to feel coherence across multiple domains, to step outside the crafted game completely. This isn't about choosing sides in their manufactured binaries - it's about seeing the pattern architecture itself.**

What does this liberation look like in practice? It's catching the pattern of a manufactured crisis before it's fully deployed. It's recognizing how seemingly unrelated events - a banking collapse, a health emergency, a social movement - are actually nodes in the same network of control. It's understanding that true sovereignty isn't about having all the answers, but about developing the capacity to sense the web of deception before it solidifies into apparent reality. Because the ultimate power isn't in knowing every answer - it's in realizing when the question itself has been designed to trap you inside the manufactured paradigm.

As we develop this pattern recognition capacity - this ability to see through algorithmic manipulation - what it means to be human is itself evolving. As these systems of ideological infrastructure crumble, our task isn't just to preserve individual awakening but to protect and nurture the most conscious elements of humanity. The ultimate liberation isn't just seeing through the deception - it's maintaining our essential humanity in a world of tightly controlled perception.

**As these systems of reality sculpting crumble, we have an unprecedented opportunity to rediscover what's real - not through their manufactured frameworks, but through our own direct experience of truth. What's authentic isn't always what's organic - in a mediated world, authenticity means conscious choice rather than unconscious reaction. It means understanding how our minds are shaped while maintaining our capacity for genuine connection, creative expression, and direct experience. The most human elements - love, creativity, intuition, genuine discovery -**

become more precious precisely because they defy algorithmic control. These are the last frontiers of human freedom—the unpredictable, unquantifiable forces that cannot be reduced to data points or behavioral models.

The ultimate battle isn't just for truth - it's for the human spirit itself. A system that can engineer perception can engineer submission. But there's a beautiful irony here: the very act of recognizing these systems of reality construction is itself an expression of authentic consciousness - a choice that proves they haven't conquered human perception completely. Free will cannot be engineered precisely because the capacity to see through engineered reality remains ours. In the end, their greatest fear isn't that we'll reject their manufactured world - it's that we'll remember how to see beyond it.