

Two Minutes Hate, At Least

The mindset is prevailing, I fear, that if a person isn't actively part of the multitudes condemning, blasting and otherwise speaking negatively about something, then the person must be one of "them" or at least a sympathizer. Once upon a time, the requirement involved shouting at the top of one's lungs. Now it's a certain percentage of one's social media presence.

Then I was struck by a parallel. The novel *1984* depicts a "Two Minutes Hate" that everyone must participate in, screaming against images of "enemies." It is no less absurd that today everyone is expected to join in denouncing this and that, for two days and maybe even two weeks.