

# The Age of Musterbation

by **G. Murphy Donovan** (February 2015)

“A nation of sheep will beget a government of wolves.” – E. R. Murrow

Media icons are often given credit for thoughts that originated with their betters. The “nation of sheep” metaphor is an example. Thomas Jefferson addressed the subject in response to the *Federalist Papers*, long before Edward R. Murrow. And before that, herd similes might be traced to the *Old* and *New Testaments*. William J. Lederer wrote a [book](#) on the subject in 1961, a follow up to the best-selling *Ugly American* (1958). [more>>>](#)