did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb is a question that has intrigued historians, scientists, and ethicists for decades. J. Robert Oppenheimer, often called the "father of the atomic bomb," played a pivotal role in the development of nuclear weapons during World War II as part of the Manhattan Project. The ethical and moral implications of his work have sparked ongoing debate about whether he regretted his involvement in creating such a destructive force. This article explores Oppenheimer's personal reflections, public statements, and the broader context of his scientific and political career. It also examines the psychological and philosophical dimensions of his feelings toward the bomb's devastating impact. By understanding Oppenheimer's perspective, we gain insight into the complex relationship between scientific innovation and moral responsibility. The article is structured into key sections that discuss his role in the Manhattan Project, his reactions post-war, and his legacy in the discourse surrounding nuclear weapons.

- Oppenheimer's Role in the Manhattan Project
- Oppenheimer's Reactions After the Bombing
- Ethical and Moral Reflections
- Public Statements and Interviews
- Legacy and Historical Interpretations

Oppenheimer's Role in the Manhattan Project

J. Robert Oppenheimer was appointed scientific director of the Manhattan Project in 1942, tasked with overseeing the development of the first atomic bomb. His leadership united some of the greatest scientific minds of the time, working under intense secrecy and pressure to produce a weapon that could potentially end World War II. Oppenheimer's expertise in theoretical physics and his organizational abilities were crucial to the project's success. The Manhattan Project culminated in the Trinity test in July 1945, the first detonation of a nuclear device.

Scientific Contributions and Leadership

Oppenheimer was instrumental in coordinating complex scientific efforts, including nuclear fission research, bomb design, and material production. His ability to bridge theoretical science and practical engineering helped accelerate the bomb's development. Despite initial doubts about the feasibility of an atomic weapon, Oppenheimer's vision and determination helped overcome technical and logistical challenges.

Context of World War II

The urgency of the Manhattan Project was driven by fears that Nazi Germany might develop nuclear weapons first. This geopolitical context heavily influenced Oppenheimer and his colleagues, who saw their work as a necessary means to end the war swiftly and save lives. The project was shrouded in secrecy, and many participants did not fully comprehend the bomb's future implications until after the war.

Oppenheimer's Reactions After the Bombing

After the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, Oppenheimer's feelings became more complex and conflicted. The unprecedented destruction and loss of life caused him to reflect deeply on the consequences of his work. His reaction was not simply regret but a nuanced mixture of pride, sorrow, and anxiety over what the bomb represented for humanity.

Immediate Emotional Response

Oppenheimer famously quoted the Bhagavad Gita, saying, "Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds," upon witnessing the Trinity test explosion. This statement reflects his profound awareness of the bomb's destructive power and the moral burden he carried. After the war, he expressed ambivalence about the bomb's use, recognizing both its strategic importance and its catastrophic consequences.

Concerns Over Nuclear Proliferation

Oppenheimer increasingly worried about the future of nuclear weapons and global security. He advocated for international control of atomic energy and opposed the development of the hydrogen bomb, fearing an arms race that could lead to global annihilation. His post-war stance highlighted his awareness that the atomic bomb had introduced a new and dangerous era in warfare.

Ethical and Moral Reflections

The question of whether Oppenheimer regretted making the atomic bomb inevitably leads to discussions of ethics and moral responsibility in science. Oppenheimer's reflections reveal a scientist grappling with the profound implications of his creation and the limits of scientific neutrality.

Scientific Responsibility and Moral Dilemmas

Oppenheimer's experience underscores the tension between scientific advancement and ethical considerations. While initially motivated by the wartime imperative, he later acknowledged the moral complexities of creating weapons of mass destruction. His reflections have become a case study in the responsibilities scientists hold toward society and the consequences of their work.

Statements on Regret and Responsibility

Oppenheimer never explicitly stated outright regret in simple terms but expressed a deep sense of responsibility and sorrow. He lamented the loss of innocent lives and the ushering in of a nuclear age. His nuanced perspective reflects the difficulty of reconciling scientific achievement with humanitarian concerns.

Public Statements and Interviews

Over the years, Oppenheimer made several public statements and gave interviews that shed light on his feelings about the atomic bomb and his role in its creation. These remarks provide valuable insight into his evolving views.

Notable Quotes and Speeches

- "In some sort of crude sense which no vulgarity, no humor, no overstatement can quite extinguish, the physicists have known sin; and this is a knowledge which they cannot lose."
- "The atomic bomb made the prospect of future war unendurable."
- "I carry no weight on my conscience... I carry a great weight on my conscience." (Reflecting his contradictory feelings)

These statements illustrate Oppenheimer's internal conflict and the complexity of his emotions regarding the bomb's creation and use.

Interactions with Government and Military

Oppenheimer's relationship with U.S. government agencies became strained after the war due to his opposition to certain nuclear policies and his past political associations. His security clearance was revoked in 1954, reflecting the political tensions surrounding his views and the atomic bomb's legacy. These events further complicated public perceptions of his feelings about the weapon.

Legacy and Historical Interpretations

Oppenheimer's legacy is inseparable from the atomic bomb and the ethical debates it sparked. Historians and scholars continue to analyze his statements, actions, and the broader impact of his work on science and society.

Historical Perspectives on Regret

Many historians argue that Oppenheimer's feelings cannot be reduced to simple regret or pride.

Instead, he embodied the contradictions of a scientist caught between the pursuit of knowledge, national security, and moral responsibility. His legacy invites ongoing reflection on the consequences of scientific innovation.

Impact on Nuclear Policy and Ethics

Oppenheimer's post-war advocacy for arms control and his warnings about nuclear proliferation influenced early Cold War policies and the global discourse on disarmament. His life and work remain a powerful reminder of the ethical dimensions of scientific discovery and technological power.

Summary of Key Points

- Oppenheimer played a central role in developing the atomic bomb during WWII.
- He experienced complex emotions, including sorrow and ambivalence, following the bomb's use.
- His reflections highlight the ethical dilemmas faced by scientists involved in weapons development.
- Public statements reveal a nuanced perspective rather than outright regret.
- His legacy continues to influence discussions on nuclear ethics and policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

Did J. Robert Oppenheimer express regret for creating the atomic bomb?

Yes, Oppenheimer expressed deep ambivalence and regret about the destructive power of the atomic bomb after witnessing its effects and during the subsequent arms race.

What famous quote reflects Oppenheimer's feelings about the atomic bomb?

Oppenheimer famously quoted the Bhagavad Gita, saying, "Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds," reflecting his complex emotions about the bomb's devastation.

Did Oppenheimer oppose the use of atomic bombs on civilian

populations?

Oppenheimer had reservations about using atomic bombs on cities and later supported international control of nuclear weapons to prevent future use on civilians.

How did Oppenheimer's views on nuclear weapons change after World War II?

After World War II, Oppenheimer became an advocate for arms control and expressed concern over the nuclear arms race and proliferation.

Was Oppenheimer involved in political controversies because of his stance on the atomic bomb?

Yes, his opposition to the hydrogen bomb and his calls for nuclear regulation led to political scrutiny and the revocation of his security clearance during the Red Scare.

Did Oppenheimer's regret impact his scientific career?

His regret and political struggles affected his career, limiting his government advisory roles but he continued to contribute to physics and science policy.

Did Oppenheimer ever publicly apologize for his role in developing the atomic bomb?

Oppenheimer never issued a formal public apology, but his statements and actions indicated moral conflict and a desire to prevent further nuclear warfare.

How do historians interpret Oppenheimer's regret about the atomic bomb?

Historians view Oppenheimer's regret as a reflection of the moral dilemmas faced by scientists who create weapons of mass destruction.

Did Oppenheimer advocate for nuclear disarmament?

Oppenheimer supported international control of nuclear weapons and arms control efforts, though he was cautious about complete disarmament due to geopolitical tensions.

Additional Resources

1. American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer
This comprehensive biography by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin explores the life of J. Robert
Oppenheimer, the father of the atomic bomb. The authors delve into his scientific achievements as
well as his moral and emotional struggles after the bomb's use on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The
book provides insight into Oppenheimer's complex feelings of regret and responsibility.

2. J. Robert Oppenheimer: A Life

Written by Abraham Pais, this biography offers a detailed look at Oppenheimer's scientific career and personal life. It examines his role in the Manhattan Project and his reflections on the consequences of the atomic bomb. The book sheds light on his internal conflicts and the regret he experienced in the aftermath of the bombings.

- 3. The Ruin of J. Robert Oppenheimer: And the Birth of the Modern Arms Race
 By Priscilla J. McMillan, this book focuses on Oppenheimer's post-war life, particularly his political
 downfall and the security hearings that questioned his loyalty. It highlights his growing remorse
 over the atomic bomb and his efforts to control nuclear weapons. The narrative reveals the personal
 and ethical dilemmas he faced.
- 4. Oppenheimer: Portrait of an Enigma

Peter Goodchild's biography offers an intimate portrait of Oppenheimer, emphasizing his psychological and philosophical struggles. The book discusses how Oppenheimer grappled with the consequences of his work on the atomic bomb and his moral doubts. It explores the tension between his scientific ambitions and his ethical concerns.

- 5. 109 East Palace: Robert Oppenheimer and the Secret City of Los Alamos
 By Jennet Conant, this book provides a vivid account of the Manhattan Project's secret laboratory in
 Los Alamos. While focusing on the community and environment, it also touches on Oppenheimer's
 leadership and his evolving feelings about the bomb's impact. The book gives context to his mixed
 emotions and regret.
- 6. The Day After Trinity: J. Robert Oppenheimer and the Atomic Bomb Robert Jungk's narrative recounts the development of the atomic bomb and Oppenheimer's role as its scientific director. It includes reflections on his reactions after the bombings and his public statements expressing regret. The book highlights the profound ethical questions Oppenheimer faced.
- 7. Oppenheimer's Ghost: The Story of the Atomic Bomb and the Man Who Built It
 This book examines the legacy of Oppenheimer and the atomic bomb, focusing on the scientist's
 personal remorse and the broader consequences of nuclear weapons. It discusses how
 Oppenheimer's regret influenced later debates on nuclear policy and disarmament. The narrative
 captures the enduring impact of his conflicted conscience.
- 8. Day of Judgment: The Atomic Bomb and the Shaping of Modern American Fear
 By Daniel G. Dupont, this book explores the cultural and political aftermath of the atomic bomb, including Oppenheimer's role as a cautionary figure. It analyzes his expressions of regret and his warnings about the dangers of nuclear proliferation. The book situates his remorse within the larger context of Cold War anxieties.
- 9. Oppenheimer and the Atomic Bomb: The Moral Reckoning
 This collection of essays edited by Robert S. Norris gathers perspectives on Oppenheimer's ethical struggles and his legacy. Contributors discuss whether Oppenheimer regretted building the bomb and how his reflections shaped nuclear ethics. The volume offers a nuanced exploration of his moral dilemmas and regret.

Did Oppenheimer Regret Making The Atomic Bomb

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Did Oppenheimer Regret Making the Atomic Bomb? Unpacking the Complex Legacy of a Scientific Titan

The blinding flash, the earth-shattering boom, the mushroom cloud – the images of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are etched into the collective human consciousness. J. Robert Oppenheimer, the brilliant physicist who spearheaded the Manhattan Project, became inextricably linked to these devastating events. But did the "father of the atomic bomb" ever regret his creation? This question, fraught with moral complexity and historical nuance, continues to fuel debate. This indepth exploration delves into Oppenheimer's life, his motivations, his post-war reflections, and the enduring ethical questions his legacy raises. We will examine the evidence to understand the depth and complexity of his feelings, separating fact from fiction and myth.

The Weight of Creation: Oppenheimer's Pre-War Beliefs and the Manhattan Project

Oppenheimer, a brilliant and intellectually restless physicist, was driven by a deep curiosity about the fundamental workings of the universe. Before the war, his political leanings were left-leaning, and he held a complex view of scientific progress. He wasn't inherently warmongering; rather, he was fascinated by the possibilities of scientific discovery. However, the looming threat of Nazi Germany's potential to develop atomic weapons first forced a dramatic shift in his perspective. He saw the project not just as a scientific challenge but as a crucial race against time to prevent a far more catastrophic outcome – a world dominated by a hostile, nuclear-armed power. This crucial context is essential to understanding his actions and subsequent reflections. He believed he was acting for the greater good, even if the specific actions were morally ambiguous.

The Trinity Test and its Impact: The Dawn of the Nuclear Age

The Trinity test, the first detonation of a nuclear weapon in New Mexico, profoundly impacted Oppenheimer. While he famously quoted the Bhagavad Gita ("Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds"), the exact sentiment and its implications remain a subject of scholarly debate.

It wasn't simply a triumphant moment; accounts suggest he was deeply affected by the raw power unleashed, the implications of which were immediately clear to him. This wasn't just a scientific achievement; it was a watershed moment in human history, forever altering the trajectory of warfare and international relations. This experience undoubtedly contributed to his later reflections on the bomb's creation.

Post-War Disillusionment and the Atomic Bomb's Moral Fallout

Following the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Oppenheimer's initial belief that the use of the atomic bomb had saved American lives and shortened the war began to erode. He witnessed firsthand the unimaginable destruction caused by his creation. The sheer scale of death and suffering, coupled with growing awareness of the long-term consequences of nuclear weapons, led to a significant shift in his thinking. His later advocacy for international control of atomic weapons and his vocal opposition to the development of the hydrogen bomb demonstrate a growing remorse and concern over the destructive potential of uncontrolled nuclear proliferation.

Oppenheimer's Testimony Before the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC)

Oppenheimer's later struggles with the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) further shaped his public image and complicated the narrative surrounding his regrets. His past associations with communists, though not evidence of disloyalty, were used against him, leading to the revocation of his security clearance. This experience likely intensified his feelings of alienation and perhaps even contributed to a sense of personal failure, compounding any existing regret over his involvement in the Manhattan Project. The injustice he experienced in the HUAC hearings further cemented his image as a complex and tragic figure.

The Evolving Narrative: Fact vs. Fiction and the Legacy of Regret

The narrative surrounding Oppenheimer's regret is often oversimplified. It wasn't a simple "yes" or "no" answer. His feelings evolved over time, influenced by the changing political landscape, the horrific consequences of the bombings, and his personal struggles. It's crucial to approach historical accounts with critical analysis, separating established fact from later interpretations and myths that have grown around his story. His personal letters and later statements reveal a nuanced understanding of his role, acknowledging both the necessity of his work in the context of the war and his profound unease about the weapon's potential for devastation.

The Enduring Ethical Question: Was the Bomb Necessary?

Oppenheimer's regret, or lack thereof, is inextricably linked to the larger ethical debate about the necessity of using the atomic bomb. This continues to be a highly contentious subject among historians and ethicists. Was it truly necessary to use atomic weapons to end World War II, or were there other options that could have been explored? The answer remains elusive, heavily reliant on different interpretations of the historical context and available evidence. This question itself highlights the weight of the decisions made during the Manhattan Project and its continuing relevance to contemporary discussions about nuclear weapons.

Conclusion: A Legacy of Complexity and Ongoing Debate

J. Robert Oppenheimer's legacy is one of immense complexity. He was a brilliant scientist whose work irrevocably changed the world. While the extent to which he regretted his involvement in the Manhattan Project remains a matter of ongoing scholarly discussion, it's clear that the experience profoundly impacted him. His later actions and statements suggest a deep concern about the implications of nuclear weapons and a commitment to preventing their further proliferation. His story serves as a stark reminder of the ethical dilemmas inherent in scientific advancement and the enduring responsibility of scientists to consider the consequences of their work.

Article Outline: Did Oppenheimer Regret Making the Atomic Bomb?

- I. Introduction: Hooks the reader with a compelling statement about Oppenheimer's legacy and outlines the article's scope.
- II. Oppenheimer's Pre-War Beliefs and the Manhattan Project: Explores his motivations and the context of his involvement.
- III. The Trinity Test and its Impact: Discusses the emotional and intellectual impact of witnessing the first nuclear explosion.
- IV. Post-War Disillusionment and the Atomic Bomb's Moral Fallout: Examines the evolution of his views in the aftermath of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- V. Oppenheimer's Testimony Before HUAC: Analyzes the impact of his political persecution on his public image and personal reflections.
- VI. The Evolving Narrative: Fact vs. Fiction: Separates established fact from myths and exaggerations surrounding his regret.

VII. The Enduring Ethical Question: Was the Bomb Necessary?: Explores the ongoing debate surrounding the necessity of using atomic weapons.

VIII. Conclusion: Summarizes the key arguments and reiterates the complexity of Oppenheimer's legacy.

FAQs

- 1. Did Oppenheimer directly apologize for creating the atomic bomb? There is no record of a direct, formal apology. However, his later actions and statements indicate deep concern and remorse.
- 2. Was Oppenheimer a pacifist? No, Oppenheimer was not a pacifist before the war. His views evolved significantly after witnessing the devastation caused by the bomb.
- 3. What role did the Cold War play in Oppenheimer's later views? The escalating Cold War tensions and the arms race undoubtedly intensified his concerns about nuclear proliferation.
- 4. Did Oppenheimer believe the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was justified? His views on the justification shifted over time. Initially, he believed it shortened the war; later, he expressed deep reservations.
- 5. What was the Bhagavad Gita quote's significance in Oppenheimer's life? The quote reflects the profound emotional impact of the Trinity Test and the realization of the destructive power he had unleashed.
- 6. What impact did the HUAC hearings have on Oppenheimer's life? The hearings damaged his reputation and led to the loss of his security clearance, adding to his feelings of alienation.
- 7. How did Oppenheimer's scientific achievements contribute to his regret? The very brilliance that led to the creation of the bomb also heightened his awareness of its destructive potential.
- 8. Did Oppenheimer's personal life influence his feelings about the bomb? His complex personality and personal struggles undoubtedly played a role in shaping his reflections.
- 9. Is there a definitive answer to whether Oppenheimer regretted the bomb? There is no single, simple answer. His feelings were complex and evolved over time, making a definitive statement difficult.

Related Articles:

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competing groups of scientists, what historian Alex Wellerstein calls a new regime of secrecy was put into place. It was unlike any other previous or since. Nuclear secrets were given their own unique legal designation in American law (restricted data), one that operates differently than all other forms of national security classification and exists to this day. Drawing on massive amounts of declassified files, including records released by the government for the first time at the author's request, Restricted Data is a narrative account of nuclear secrecy and the tensions and uncertainty that built as the Cold War continued. In the US, both science and democracy are pitted against nuclear secrecy, and this makes its history uniquely compelling and timely--

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under J. Robert Oppenheimer where the world's best scientists raced to invent the atomic bomb and win World War II. In 1943, J. Robert Oppenheimer, the brilliant, charismatic head of the Manhattan Project, recruited scientists to live as virtual prisoners of the U.S. government at Los Alamos, a barren mesa thirty-five miles outside Santa Fe, New Mexico. Thousands of men, women, and children spent the war years sequestered in this top-secret military facility. They lied to friends and family about where they were going and what they were doing, and then disappeared into the desert. Through the eyes of a young Santa Fe widow who was one of Oppenheimer's first recruits, we see how, for all his flaws, he developed into an inspiring leader and motivated all those involved in the Los Alamos project to make a supreme effort and achieve the unthinkable.

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in secret wartime laboratories to create the world's first atomic bomb. At one such place hidden away in the mountains of northern New Mexico-Los Alamos-they would crack the secret of the nuclear chain reaction and construct a device that incinerated a city and melted its victims so thoroughly that the only thing left was their scorched outlines on the sidewalks. During the war, few of the atomic scientists questioned the wisdom of their desperate endeavor. But afterward, they were forced to deal with the sobering legacy of their creation. Some were haunted by the dead of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and would become anti-nuclear weapons activists; others would go on to build bigger and even deadlier bombs. Some would remain friends; others would become bitter rivals and enemies. In explaining their lives and their struggles, Brian VanDeMark superbly illuminates the ways in which these brilliant and sensitive men came to terms with their horrific creation. The result is spectacular history and a moral investigation of the highest order.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: The Ash Garden Dennis Bock, 2002-01-08 Emiko Amai is six years old in August 1945 when the Hiroshima bomb burns away half of her face. To Anton, a young German physicist involved in the Manhattan Project, that same bomb represents the pinnacle of scientific elegance. And for his Austrian wife Sophie, a Jewish refugee, it marks the start of an irreparable fissure in their new marriage. Fifty years later, seemingly far removed from the day that defined their lives, Emiko visits Anton and Sophie, and in Dennis Bock's powerfully imagined narrative, their histories converge.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Big Science Michael Hiltzik, 2015 A heroic time -- South Dakota boy -- I'm going to be famous -- Shims and sealing wax -- Oppie -- The deuton affair -- The cyclotron republic -- John Lawrence's mice -- Laureate -- Mr. Loomis -- Ernest, are you ready? -- The racetrack -- Oak Ridge -- The road to Trinity -- The postwar bonanza -- Oaths and loyalties -- The shadow of the Super -- Livermore -- The Oppenheimer affair -- The return of small science -- The clean bomb -- Element 103.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Oh Pure and Radiant Heart Lydia Millet, 2024-10-22 Transported to the 21st century, Oppenheimer, Leo Szilard, and Enrico Fermi grapple with the legacy of the atom bomb in this "shattering and beautiful" time travel novel (Entertainment Weekly). Oh Pure and Radiant Heart plucks the three scientists who were key to the invention of the atom bomb—J. Robert Oppenheimer, Leo Szilard, and Enrico Fermi—as they watch history's first mushroom cloud rise over the desert on July 16th, 1945 . . . and places them down in modern-day Santa Fe. One by one, the scientists are spotted by a shy librarian who becomes convinced of their authenticity. Entranced, bewildered, overwhelmed by their significance as historical markers on the one hand, and their peculiar personalities on the other, she, to the dismay of her husband, devotes herself to them. Soon the scientists acquire a sugar daddy—a young pothead millionaire from Tokyo who bankrolls them. Heroes to some, lunatics or con artists to others, the scientists finally become messianic religious figureheads to fanatics, who believe Oppenheimer to be the Second Coming. As the ever-growing convoy traverses the country in a fleet of RV's on a pilgrimage to the UN, the scientists wrestle with the legacy of their invention and their growing celebrity, while Ann and her husband struggle with the strain on their marriage, a personal journey married to a history of thermonuclear weapons. "Possesses the nervy irreverence of Kurt Vonnegut and Joseph Heller . . . Can only be described as, well, genius." -Vanity Fair

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: The Oppenheimer Alternative Arc Manor, 2023-07-11 On the 75th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb, Hugo and Nebula-winning author Robert J. Sawyer takes us back in time to revisit history...with a twist. While J. Robert Oppenheimer and his Manhattan Project team struggle to develop the A-bomb, Edward Teller wants something even more devastating: a bomb based on nuclear fusion—the mechanism that powers the sun. Teller's research leads to a terrifying discovery: by the year 2030, the sun will eject its outermost layer, destroying the entire inner solar system—including Earth. As the war ends with the use of fission bombs against Japan, Oppenheimer's team, plus Albert Einstein and Wernher von Braun, stay together—the greatest scientific geniuses from the last century racing against time to save our future. Meticulously researched and replete with real-life characters and events, The

Oppenheimer Alternative is a breathtaking adventure through both real and alternate history

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Tales of Research Misconduct Hub Zwart, 2017-09-14 This monograph contributes to the scientific misconduct debate from an oblique perspective, by analysing seven novels devoted to this issue, namely: Arrowsmith by Sinclair Lewis (1925), The affair by C.P. Snow (1960), Cantor's Dilemma by Carl Djerassi (1989), Perlmann's Silence by Pascal Mercier (1995), Intuition by Allegra Goodman (2006), Solar by Ian McEwan (2010) and Derailment by Diederik Stapel (2012). Scientific misconduct, i.e. fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, but also other questionable research practices, have become a focus of concern for academic communities worldwide, but also for managers, funders and publishers of research. The aforementioned novels offer intriguing windows into integrity challenges emerging in contemporary research practices. They are analysed from a continental philosophical perspective, providing a stage where various voices, positions and modes of discourse are mutually exposed to one another, so that they critically address and guestion one another. They force us to start from the admission that we do not really know what misconduct is. Subsequently, by providing case histories of misconduct, they address integrity challenges not only in terms of individual deviance but also in terms of systemic crisis, due to current transformations in the ways in which knowledge is produced. Rather than functioning as moral vignettes, the author argues that misconduct novels challenge us to reconsider some of the basic conceptual building blocks of integrity discourse. Except where otherwise noted, this book is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: The Girls of Atomic City Denise Kiernan, 2014-03-11 This is the story of the young women of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, who unwittingly played a crucial role in one of the most significant moments in U.S. history. The Tennessee town of Oak Ridge was created from scratch in 1942. One of the Manhattan Project's secret cities. All knew something big was happening at Oak Ridge, but few could piece together the true nature of their work until the bomb Little Boy was dropped over Hiroshima, Japan, and the secret was out. The reverberations from their work there, work they did not fully understand at the time, are still being felt today.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Los Alamos Joseph Kanon, 2010-09-22 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • "The suspense novel for all others to beat . . . [a] must read."—The Denver Post WINNER OF THE EDGAR AWARD FOR BEST FIRST NOVEL It is the spring of 1945, and in a dusty, remote community, the world's most brilliant minds have come together in secret. Their mission: to split an atom and end a war. But among those who have come to Robert Oppenheimer 's "enchanted campus" of foreign-born scientists, baffled guards, and restless wives is a simple man in search of a killer. Michael Connolly has been sent to the middle of nowhere to investigate the murder of a security officer on the Manhattan Project. But amid the glimmering cocktail parties and the staggering genius, Connolly will find more than he bargained for. Sleeping in a dead man's bed and making love to another man's wife, Connolly has entered the moral no-man's-land of Los Alamos. For in this place of brilliance and discovery, hope and horror, Connolly is plunged into a shadowy war with a killer—as the world is about to be changed forever. Praise for Los Alamos "A magnificent work of fiction . . . a love story inside a murder mystery inside perhaps the most significant story of the twentieth century: the making of the atomic bomb."—The Boston Globe "Compelling . . . [Joseph Kanon] pulls the reader into a historical drama of excitement and high moral seriousness." —The New York Times "Thrilling . . . Kanon writes with the sure hand of a veteran and does a marvelous job."—The Washington Post Book World

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Oppenheimer Charles Thorpe, 2008-09-15 At a time when the Manhattan Project was synonymous with large-scale science, physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer (1904-67) represented the new sociocultural power of the American intellectual. Catapulted to fame as director of the Los Alamos atomic weapons laboratory, Oppenheimer occupied a key position in the compact between science and the state that developed out of World War II. By tracing the making—and unmaking—of Oppenheimer's wartime and postwar

scientific identity, Charles Thorpe illustrates the struggles over the role of the scientist in relation to nuclear weapons, the state, and culture. A stylish intellectual biography, Oppenheimer maps out changes in the roles of scientists and intellectuals in twentieth-century America, ultimately revealing transformations in Oppenheimer's persona that coincided with changing attitudes toward science in society. "This is an outstandingly well-researched book, a pleasure to read and distinguished by the high quality of its observations and judgments. It will be of special interest to scholars of modern history, but non-specialist readers will enjoy the clarity that Thorpe brings to common misunderstandings about his subject."—Graham Farmelo, Times Higher Education Supplement "A fascinating new perspective. . . . Thorpe's book provides the best perspective yet for understanding Oppenheimer's Los Alamos years, which were critical, after all, not only to his life but, for better or worse, the history of mankind."—Catherine Westfall, Nature

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Oppenheimer Jeremy Bernstein, 2005-08 As a former colleague of Oppenheimer's, Bernstein has composed a narrative that is both personal and historical, bringing the reader closer to the life and workings of an extraordinary and controversial man.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Decision at Nagasaki Fred J. Olivi, William R. Watson (Jr.), 1999

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Man of the Hour Jennet Conant, 2017-09-19 James B. Conant was a towering figure who stood at the center of the great crises and challenges of the twentieth century. He shaped national policy as a scientist, nuclear pioneer, Cold War statesman, diplomat, and educational reformer for nearly fifty years. As a brilliant young chemist, he supervised the production of poison gas in WWI. As the Nazi threat loomed, he boldly led the interventionist cause in WWII and was tapped by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to be one of the scientific chiefs at the helm of the Manhattan Project, personally overseeing the massive secret effort to develop the atomic bomb. He went on to become one of America's first cold warriors, led the bitter fight to reject the hydrogen bomb, and campaigned tirelessly for the international control of atomic weapons. He continued to exert his influence as President Eisenhower's high commissioner, and then ambassador, to Germany, helping to secure the country's future and strengthen Europe's defenses against Soviet aggression. He achieved national prominence in his twenty-year reign as president of Harvard--the very symbol of the intellectual and social elite--and yet was a champion of meritocracy and open admissions, helping to create the SAT and devoting his later life to improving public schools as the engine of democracy. For all his brilliance, he never understood the depression that ravaged his family but struggled to keep his wife from succumbing, in the process alienating both his sons. With Man of the Hour, Jennet Conant paints a rich, nuanced portrait of a great American leader and visionary, the last of a vanishing breed.--Jacket.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Cat's Cradle Kurt Vonnegut, 2009-11-04 "A free-wheeling vehicle . . . an unforgettable ride!"—The New York Times Cat's Cradle is Kurt Vonnegut's satirical commentary on modern man and his madness. An apocalyptic tale of this planet's ultimate fate, it features a midget as the protagonist, a complete, original theology created by a calypso singer, and a vision of the future that is at once blackly fatalistic and hilariously funny. A book that left an indelible mark on an entire generation of readers, Cat's Cradle is one of the twentieth century's most important works—and Vonnegut at his very best. "[Vonnegut is] an unimitative and inimitable social satirist."—Harper's Magazine "Our finest black-humorist . . . We laugh in self-defense."—Atlantic Monthly

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Trinity: A Graphic History of the First Atomic Bomb Jonathan Fetter-Vorm, 2023-11-14 Trinity, the debut graphic book by Jonathan Fetter-Vorm, depicts the dramatic history of the race to build and the decision to drop the first atomic bomb in World War Two—with a focus on the brilliant, enigmatic scientist, J. Robert Oppenheimer. Succeeds as both a graphic primer and a philosophical meditation. —Kirkus Reviews (starred review) This sweeping historical narrative traces the spark of invention from the laboratories of nineteenth-century Europe to the massive industrial and scientific efforts of the

Manhattan Project, and even transports the reader into a nuclear reaction—into the splitting atoms themselves. The power of the atom was harnessed in a top-secret government compound in Los Alamos, New Mexico, by a group of brilliant scientists led by the enigmatic wunderkind J. Robert Oppenheimer. Focused from the start on the monumentally difficult task of building an atomic weapon, these men and women soon began to wrestle with the moral implications of actually succeeding. When they detonated the first bomb at a test site code-named Trinity, they recognized that they had irreversibly thrust the world into a new and terrifying age. With powerful renderings of WWII's catastrophic events at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Fetter-Vorm unflinchingly chronicles the far-reaching political, environmental, and psychological effects of this new invention. Informative and thought-provoking, Trinity is the ideal introduction to one of the most significant events in history.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: The Curve of Binding Energy John McPhee, 2011-04-01 Theodore Taylor was one of the most brilliant engineers of the nuclear age, but in his later years he became concerned with the possibility of an individual being able to construct a weapon of mass destruction on their own. McPhee tours American nuclear institutions with Taylor and shows us how close we are to terrorist attacks employing homemade nuclear weaponry.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Hiroshima Ronald Takaki, 1996-09-01 The bombing of Hiroshima was one of the pivotal events of the twentieth century, yet this controversial question remains unresolved. At the time, General Dwight Eisenhower, General Douglas MacArthur, and chief of staff Admiral William Leahy all agreed that an atomic attack on Japanese cities was unnecessary. All of them believed that Japan had already been beaten and that the war would soon end. Was the bomb dropped to end the war more quickly? Or did it herald the start of the Cold War? In his probing new study, prizewinning historian Ronald Takaki explores these factors and more. He considers the cultural context of race - the ways in which stereotypes of the Japanese influenced public opinion and policymakers - and also probes the human dimension. Relying on top secret military reports, diaries, and personal letters, Takaki relates international policies to the individuals involved: Los Alamos director J. Robert Oppenheimer, Secretary of State James Byrnes, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, and others... but above all, Harry Truman.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: The Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki United States. Army. Corps of Engineers. Manhattan District, 2021-01-01 The present book is originally a document of detailed expert investigation of the atomic bombing that took place at Hiroshima, Japan, during the final stage of the World War II by the United States. Army. Corps of Engineers. Manhattan District.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Edward Teller Peter Goodchild, 2004 Goodchild unravels the complex web of harsh early experiences, character flaws, and personal and professional frustrations that lay behind the paradox of the father of the H-bomb.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: *Atoms for Peace and War, 1953-1961* Richard G. Hewlett, Jack M. Holl, 2023-09-01 This title is part of UC Press's Voices Revived program, which commemorates University of California Press's mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice, reach, and impact. Drawing on a backlist dating to 1893, Voices Revived makes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print-on-demand technology. This title was originally published in 1989.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: My Commando Operations Otto Skorzeny, 1995 The memoirs of the legendary Skorzeny appear here in its first unabridged English edition. Skorzeny's fame began with the successful raid to free Benito Mussolini from the Gran Sasso, Italy in 1943. His elite commandos surprised Italian guards in a daring daytime raid. Hitler presented Skorzeny with the Knight's Cross for this operation. Not only is this raid explained in minute detail, many of Skorzeny's previously unknown operations in all European and Russian theatres of World War II are given in detailed accounts. Operation Griffin - the innovative use of German Kommandos dressed as American soldiers working behind enemy lines - during the Ardennes Offensive in 1944 is given in-depth coverage, as is Skorzeny's rememberances on the

Malmedy massacre. Skorzeny also offers his insights into the mysterious Rudolf Hess mission to England in May 1941, and offers a behind the scenes look at German and Russian secret military intelligence, and the workings of Canaris and Gehlen.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Answered Prayers Truman Capote, 2012-05-15 Although Truman Capote's last novel was unfinished at the time of his death, its surviving portions offer a devastating group portrait of the high and low society of his time. • Includes the story La Cote Basque featured in the major FX series Feud: Capote Vs. the Swans. Prose that makes the heart sing and the narrative fly. —The New York Times Book Review Tracing the career of a writer of uncertain parentage and omnivorous erotic tastes, Answered Prayers careens from a louche bar in Tangiers to a banquette at La Côte Basque, from literary salons to high-priced whorehouses. It takes in calculating beauties and sadistic husbands along with such real-life supporting characters as Colette, the Duchess of Windsor, Montgomery Clift, and Tallulah Bankhead. Above all, this malevolently finny book displays Capote at his most relentlessly observant and murderously witty.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Enola Gay Gordon Thomas, Max Morgan-Witts, 2014-07-01 From theNew York Times-bestselling coauthors: A "fascinating . . . unrivaled" history of the B-29 and its fateful mission to drop the atomic bomb on Hiroshima (The New York Times Book Review). Painstakingly researched, the story behind the decision to send the Enola Gay to bomb Hiroshima is told through firsthand sources. From diplomatic moves behind the scenes to Japanese actions and the US Army Air Force's call to action, no detail is left untold. Touching on the early days of the Manhattan Project and the first inkling of an atomic bomb, investigative journalist Gordon Thomas and his writing partner Max Morgan-Witts, take WWII enthusiasts through the training of the crew of the Enola Gay and the challenges faced by pilot Paul Tibbets. A page-turner that offers "minute-by-minute coverage of the critical periods" surrounding the mission, Enola Gay finally separates myth and reality from the planning of the flight to the moment over Hiroshima when the atomic age was born (Library Journal).

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Atomic Fragments Mary Palevsky, 2000-06-29 Scientists Hans Bethe, Edward Teller, Joseph Rotblat, Herbert York, Philip Morrison, and Robert Wilson, and philosopher David Hawkins, responded to Palevsky's personal approach in a way that dramatically expands their previously published statements.--BOOK JACKET.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Fallout Jim Ottaviani, 2001 Written by Jim Ottaviani, with art by various artists.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Flyboys James Bradley, 2003-09-30 Over the remote Pacific island of Chichi Jima, nine American flyers-Navy and Marine pilots sent to bomb Japanese communications towers there-were shot down. Flyboys, a story of war and horror but also of friendship and honor, tells the story of those men. Over the remote Pacific island of Chichi Jima, nine American flyers-Navy and Marine pilots sent to bomb Japanese communications towers there-were shot down. One of those nine was miraculously rescued by a U.S. Navy submarine. The others were captured by Japanese soldiers on Chichi Jima and held prisoner. Then they disappeared. When the war was over, the American government, along with the Japanese, covered up everything that had happened on Chichi Jima. The records of a top-secret military tribunal were sealed, the lives of the eight Flyboys were erased, and the parents, brothers, sisters, and sweethearts they left behind were left to wonder. Flyboys reveals for the first time ever the extraordinary story of those men. Bradley's quest for the truth took him from dusty attics in American small towns, to untapped government archives containing classified documents, to the heart of Japan, and finally to Chichi Jima itself. What he discovered was a mystery that dated back far before World War II-back 150 years, to America's westward expansion and Japan's first confrontation with the western world. Bradley brings into vivid focus these brave young men who went to war for their country, and through their lives he also tells the larger story of two nations in a hellish war. With no easy moralizing, Bradley presents history in all its savage complexity, including the Japanese warrior mentality that fostered inhuman brutality and the U.S. military strategy that justified attacks on

millions of civilians. And, after almost sixty years of mystery, Bradley finally reveals the fate of the eight American Flyboys, all of whom would ultimately face a moment and a decision that few of us can even imagine. Flyboys is a story of war and horror but also of friendship and honor. It is about how we die, and how we live-including the tale of the Flyboy who escaped capture, a young Navy pilot named George H. W. Bush who would one day become president of the United States. A masterpiece of historical narrative, Flyboys will change forever our understanding of the Pacific war and the very things we fight for.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Trinity Fields Bradford Morrow, 2011-02-15 DIVTwo Los Alamos boys forge a friendship in the shadow of their parents' history-changing work developing nuclear weapons/div DIVIn many ways, Los Alamos is an ideal place for best friends Brice McCarthy and Kip Calder to grow up. There's wilderness to explore; brilliant and fascinating people, including their own parents and neighbors; and a booming wartime economy. Still, the town was built for one purpose: to manufacture a weapon capable of total annihilation. As the two boys grow and the United States enters the Vietnam War, the psychic fallout of their parents' deeds pushes Brice and Kip toward opposite sides in the conflict—one, a soldier; the other, an antiwar activist—even as they come to love the same woman./divDIV /divDIVTrinity Fields is a sweeping saga of American life in the atomic age that brilliantly illuminates the soul of a nation./div

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Defense's Nuclear Agency 1947-1997 (DTRA History Series) Defense Threat Reduction Agency, 2003-09 This official history was originally printed in very small numbers in 2002. Defense's Nuclear Agency, 1947-1997 traces the development of the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project (AFSWP), and its descendant government organizations, from its original founding in 1947 to 1997. After the disestablishment of the Manhattan Engineering District (MED) in 1947, AFSWP was formed to provide military training in nuclear weapons' operations. Over the years, its sequential descendant organizations have been the Defense Atomic Support Agency (DASA) from 1959 to 1971, the Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA) from 1971 to 1996, and the Defense Special Weapons Agency (DSWA) from 1996 to 1998. In 1998, DSWA, the On-Site Inspection Agency, the Defense Technology Security Administration, and selected elements of the Office of Secretary of Defense were combined to form the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA).

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: *The Manhattan Project* Francis George Gosling, 1999 A history of the origins and development of the American atomic bomb program during WWII. Begins with the scientific developments of the pre-war years. Details the role of the U.S. government in conducting a secret, nationwide enterprise that took science from the laboratory and into combat with an entirely new type of weapon. Concludes with a discussion of the immediate postwar period, the debate over the Atomic Energy Act of 1946, and the founding of the Atomic Energy Commission. Chapters: the Einstein letter; physics background, 1919-1939; early government support; the atomic bomb and American strategy; and the Manhattan district in peacetime. Illustrated.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Turing's Cathedral George Dyson, 2012 Documents the innovations of a group of eccentric geniuses who developed computer code in the mid-20th century as part of mathematician Alan Turin's theoretical universal machine idea, exploring how their ideas led to such developments as digital television, modern genetics and the hydrogen bomb.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: The Swift Years Peter Michelmore, 1969 did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: War's End Charles W. Sweeney, James A. Antonucci, Marion K. Antonucci, 2018-09-25 On August 9, 1945, on the tiny island of Tinian in the South Pacific, a twenty-five-year-old American Army Air Corps major named Charles W. Sweeney climbed aboard a B-29 Superfortress in command of his first combat mission, one devised specifically to bring a long and terrible war to a necessary conclusion. In the belly of his bomber, Bock's Car, was a newly developed, fully armed weapon that had never been tested in a combat

situation. It was a weapon capable of a level of destruction never before dreamed of in the history of the human race, a bomb whose terrifying aftershock would ultimately determine the direction of the twentieth century and change the world forever. The last military officer to command an atomic mission, Major General Charles W. Sweeney has the unique distinction of having been an integral part of both the Hiroshima and the Nagasaki bombing runs. Now updated with a new epilogue from the co-author, his book is an extraordinary chronicle of the months of careful planning and training; the setbacks, secrecy, and snafus; and the nerve-shattering final seconds and the astonishing aftermath of what is arguably the most significant single event in modern history: the employment of an atomic weapon during wartime. The last military officer to command an atomic mission, Major General Charles W. Sweeney has the unique distinction of having been an integral part of both the Hiroshima and the Nagasaki bombing runs. His book is an extraordinary chronicle of the months of careful planning and training; the setbacks, secrecy, and snafus; and the nerve-shattering final seconds and the astonishing aftermath of what is arguably the most significant single event in modern history: the employment of an atomic weapon during wartime.

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: The Legacy of Hiroshima Edward Teller, Allen Brown, 1975

did oppenheimer regret making the atomic bomb: Inside the Centre Ray Monk, 2013 J. Robert Oppenheimer is among the most contentious and important figures of the twentieth century. As head of the Los Alamos Laboratory, he oversaw the successful effort to beat the Nazis to develop the first atomic bomb - a breakthrough which was to have eternal ramifications for mankind, and made Oppenheimer the 'father of the Bomb'. But his was not a simple story of assimilation, scientific success and world fame. A complicated and fragile personality, the implications of the discoveries at Los Alamos were to weigh heavily upon him. Having formed suspicious connections in the 1930s, in the wake of the Allied victory in World War Two, Oppenheimer's attempts to resist the escalation of the Cold War arms race would lead many to question his loyalties - and set him on a collision course with Senator Joseph McCarthy and his witch hunters.

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