

"WHERE HAVE ALL THE SOLDIERS GONE?"

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Human beings have finally gotten tired of war. The question: What should peace look like? (And, what should education for peace look like?)

1. The Great Disillusionment :

20th Century:

- 275 wars and 115 million deaths in battle.
- 3150 deaths per day or about 130 deaths per hour, 24 hours a day throughout the entire century.
- Add civilian deaths = 250 million, or almost 7,000 people a day, 300 people per hour.
- Comparative figures--proportion of people killed by war relative to total population:
 - ♦ 18th-century: five deaths per thousand
 - ♦ 19th century: six deaths per thousand.
 - ♦ 20th century: 46 deaths per thousand [i.e. almost eight times higher than the previous century.]

Post 1945:

- Number of wars between "developed" states--zero.

- Wars between "developed" and "less developed" states--Korean War (1950–53), Vietnam War, (1965–75), Soviet Union's war in Afghanistan (1979–89), USA invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq (2002-)

- Civil Wars: War in Afghanistan, Boko Haram insurgency (Nigeria), Syrian Civil War, Iraqi Civil War, Israeli–Palestinian conflict, War in Somalia, War in Darfur, War in North West Pakistan, Mexican Drug War (110,000 killed), Libyan Civil War, Yemeni Crisis, South Sudanese Civil War, War in Donbass

2. The Great Defection [James Sheehan, Where Have All the Soldiers Gone?]:

Popularity of the conscription/draft: United States--90% supported, December 1965, 79% in August 1966, 50% percent by May 1968.

Recruitment problems: 2004-2005, 10% shortfall in recruiting goals; from 2001-2005, 40% decline in African-American enlistments.

3. The Hidden Costs of War:

"The Irritable Heart" (PTSD): Vietnam War--31% of male veterans, 27 of female veterans had PTSD some time in their lives; Afghanistan/Iraq War--20% rate so far. Suicides--2013: 22 veterans per day, one every 65 minutes. 6,5000 veterans killed themselves in 2012.

The human cost of killing--the "Marshal Effect"; D Grossman, On Killing: The Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill in War.

4. Does War Work?

"Unconquerable world" thesis: name one example since 1945 when an outside county has successfully defeated a local insurgency. (Afghanistan--population 8% that of the USA.)

Size of American military budget--2013: 582 billion dollars (China: China, 132 billion, Russia, 68 billion.) (Iran, 9 billion dollars)

5. Tasks for the future #1: What does war look like?

The specter of "alienated war" = hide war's true costs: cost of Iraq War = 4-6 trillion dollars.. (Compare Obama-care: 1.2 trillion from 2016-2025.)

6. Task for the future #2: What does peace look like?

"Negative" and "positive" peace--peace and/or justice?

What is justice/human rights: economic security? environmental security?

Education for a global community.