

**WORKING TOWARD PEACE BY PROVIDING
CIVILIAN SERVICES FOR MILITARY
PERSONNEL - CONCEPTUAL AND
PRACTICAL FINDINGS**

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PRESENTER DISCLOSURES

**The following personal financial relationships with
commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed
during the past 12 months:**

None.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

To understand the experiences of active duty GIs who seek physical and mental health services in the civilian sector.

To consider theories of terror versus theories of exploitation under conditions of stagnation and anomie.

To examine the problems of futile narratives and double agency.

To discuss new public health strategies focusing on the current roots and outcomes of war.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

The health and mental health problems of military personnel have emerged as a public health epidemic.

We attempted

to identify social variables that mediate health and mental health disorders among active duty GIs and

to assess whether civilian services offered a viable alternative to military services.

BOOK IN PROGRESS?

I welcome your perspectives.

Part 1. War As a Kind of Hell

Chapter 1. When More Soldiers Commit Suicide Than Die in Battle

What war accomplishes in the post-9/11 era

The "party line": theories of terror

The non-party line: theories of exploitation

- Further on the non-party line: theories of economic stagnation and anomie

A futility of narrative

How medical and mental health services relate to the futility of narrative

Chapter 2. The Trauma of No Narrative

Violence without meaning

Hazards of not identifying the enemy

Killing women and children

Torture and dehumanizing people who may or may not be enemies

Friendly fire of different kinds

Chapter 3. Effects from the Trauma of No Narrative

PTSD

Depression

Suicidality

- Suicide watch

Homicidality

Substance Abuse

Going drugged into battle

Chapter 3. Effects from the Trauma of No Narrative (continued)

The changing story of sequential deployments

- Where is home? Who is family?

Family violence

Criminality

Homelessness

- Unemployment

Chapter 4. The Eroticism of No Narrative for Warriors

(acknowledgment:
Theodore Nadelson,
Trained to Kill: Soldiers at War)

- Military Sexual Trauma

- The Dance of Homophobia

Chapter 5. Military Health Professionals and Their Discontents

Double agency

Hippocratic contradictions

Over-medication

Breaches in confidentiality

The impact of educational debt

- Harassment by superiors for trying to serve patients

Variations on the theme of Dr. Nidal Malik Hasan

Part 2. War As a Kind of Heaven

Chapter 6. Who benefits from such wars?

Military industrial complex

Medical industrial complex

Chapter 7. Socially constructing the justifications for profits and power

Wars on terrorism: Naming the terrorist

Wars to protect human rights: Searching for the humanitarian angle

Wars on drugs: Nurturing addiction

Wars on elected governments that don't agree: Protecting "democracy"

- Wars for oil, water, and other depleting resources:
Protecting "trade"

Part 3. War As Nowhere Else to Go

Chapter 8. Nowhere Else to Go for the Poor and Marginalized

Lack of jobs

Lack of educational opportunities

Gender inequality

- Income inequality

- Ethnic minorities

Chapter 9. Nowhere Else to Go for an Economy and a Polity

- Disaster capitalism

- End of empire

- A theory of war at the twilight of capitalism and empire as we have known them

Part 4. Paths to Peace and Health

Chapter 10. Diagnosis and Treatment in the Civilian Sector

Chapter 11. Treating the Victims of War Versus Primary Prevention of War

Chapter 12. Converting from the War Economy and Polity

Chapter 13. A New Narrative

