

War essay



**ASSIGN
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Glory is supposed to be wonderful, great and inspiring and do you really think that after countless poets, songs and even films on the damage war does to people that war is still glorious? Posters, advertisements and even books show war to be heroic, amazing and in some ways a holiday. I mean if you were homeless and got told you could be covered for the rest of your life in both health and riches you'd go to war, however let me ask you this. Is it worth watching your friends, family members going through the pain of losing someone close just for you? Is it worth for you at 18 years old to risk your life for troubles that don't affect us? I'll tell you why it isn't.

The definition of war is, a conflict carried on by force of arms, as between nations or between parties within a nation; warfare as by land sea or air. The definition of glory is, high renown or honour, magnificence or great beauty. There is no glory in war; the poets and songwriters are really trying to save the soldiers and society in some way and it's a matter of urgency to expose young naïve recruits to the grim realities of war.

Countries use war as a last resort when all else fails. It seems that by the use of military power they might hope to be able to quiet the weaker countries and make them be guided by them. Some countries go to war when they do not like each other. When one country gets in the way of the others land or economical success. No one seems to be willing to give way or to accept resolutions as offered by third party nations or other bystanders. The phrase “ Action speaks louder than words” does have its place here. What better way to solve a problem other than solving it yourself?

The poem written by Wilfred Owens, 'Dulcem et decorem' makes such a strong impression because of the effectiveness of each line and how successfully they compare with each other. The first line is dedicated to establishing in the reader's mind just how horrendous the soldiers' surroundings were, how hopeless their situation was and how near to death they were. The similes that are used in the poem such as "trudge" and "marched asleep" and "Drunk with fatigue" stresses the fact that the soldiers were no longer strong, vigorous and healthy young heroes, but were now tired and wretched souls more suitably compared with "old beggars under sacks". This poem shows how much the soldiers suffered and how disgraceful war actually is.

There are countless recruitment strategies to encourage men and women to enlist in the armed forces and go to war. They centre on advantages for the one who enlists. The whole recruitment process relies on highlighting the positives of joining the forces and not the negatives of going to war.

Learning skills that may serve people in future trades or jobs and the honor of fighting for your country were 2 of many phrases used to entice recruits.

The disadvantages, such as,

you could lose your life or be permanently disabled. The horror of war itself and the ongoing nightmares experienced once the war was over would not be mentioned for fear of scaring away any potential applicants. Army Sgt Seth Cole believes there is no glory in war. After returning from Iraq in 2009, Seth spoke candidly of the disillusionment he felt after 12 months in the combat zone. 700 people did not come home and a lot more came back with

no eyes, legs or arms and he urged people to not be fooled by the notions that warfare is glorious. Warfare is horrendous and a lot of men and women return home to never be the same person they were when they first went. They relive every horrifying moment in each nightmare they have.

Red Gum summed up the Australian experience in Vietnam when they wrote the song

“ I was only nineteen” The song showcased the horror of the Vietnam war as experienced by the Australian troops. “ A four week operation, when each step could mean your last one on two legs: it was a war within yourself. “ At any given time your life could be gone just like that. “ But you wouldn’t let your mates down ‘til they had you dusted off, so you closed your eyes and thought about something else.” The war was so horrifying that it was painful just to think about it however the people who fight in any sort of war have to every day. “ And can you tell me, doctor, why I still can’t get to sleep?

And why the Channel Seven chopper chills me to my feet?

And what’s this rash that comes and goes, can you tell me what it means?”

Years after the war the tragic effects were still happening. Countless sleepless nights, even hearing a chopper would just be enough to scare the lights out of you. The men who fight in war experience this everyday. “ God help me, I was only nineteen.” This just shows how young people are when they go to war and how it destroys the next seventy to eighty years of their lives.

Stripped of all the false portrayals of war and their attempts to glorify war we can see.. that the army falsely advertises the glorious parts on war and that every single person who has been in any war struggle to live after the days on the battlefield if they make it that far. Despite countless poets , singers and writers people still don't know the whole truth on how horrific war is. The realization of the glory of war is there is none.