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Reader Response 14

What the Pentagon Papers revealed about the Vietnam War was the plans and involvement America had in international affairs. America was found helping the French against communist leader Viet Minh, and soon started their conflict directly with Vietnam. It went over plans to prevent communism in the South and a plan to overthrow the communism up north. The papers also had information of Kennedy help assassinate the South Vietnam’s president and a North Vietnam bombing. The reasons towards why they were launching attacks in Vietnam was due to American leaders not wanting communism to spread internationally and instead promote democracy all around the world.

They were not legitimate at all because the reasons of not wanting communism to spread do not justify all the lives lost in this childish conflict. Ellsberg said the people who were responsible for the war were the Presidents during this era. He said they all agreed to keep everything top secret and had plans of widening the war not closing it. They wanted to keep using people’s lives in this war for a conflict that most Americans did not care for.

Kennedy’s policies on the war were to keep the war going and to send troops into North Vietnam for “sabotage and light harassment.” Lyndon B Johnson’s policies on the war were to brutally escalade the war and go all in the war. His policies took many thousands of lives over such a short period of time he was actually president. Lastly, Nixon’s policies were to take out troops out of Vietnam but still continue the war through bombings and Vietnamese Troops.

Their only rational was to make sure the evil communism doesn’t hurt anyone else. This is not legitimate at all because communism is another form of government, but that doesn’t make it a terrible thing that is worth countless lives in the process. These wars were simply an exercise of military strength rather than any point to come across. Vietnam was not any threat to America’s national security. The Vietnam had no plans of coming into America and waging wars. They only were having a civil war within their own country.

What Lyndon B Johnson did in Vietnam was implement his policy of going all out in the war. Lyndon B Johnsons force in Vietnam was as brutal as “the violence against the blacks in Mississippi.” His policy was to gradually put more pressure on North Vietnam. He would start at the current affairs and then increase firepower and men, in certain locations in Vietnam. This way the Vietnam wouldn’t respond as terrible back.

The consequences of this policy on the Vietnam side was countless number of deaths and a hug surprise of American attacks that shocked and killed many Vietnamese lives. The consequences on the part of the Americans were simply more international conflict, but never really any real security threat. Simply all the Americans got was animosity.

Nixon and Kissinger decided to escalade the war but in a very secret way. They did as the people wanted him to; he pulled out troops out of Vietnam. But in doing so, they increased the number of bomb attacks and still gave weapons and funding over to the Vietnamese Troops to fight with. In total, they did as the people wanted but still escaladed the war in his own sneaky way.

What I think about the decision to escalade the massive bombings is very clearly not a good one. All the people wanted was the war to end and for less people to die. This war gave no beneficial results, had no point, and really showed the American people exactly how much of a voice they had, in their democratic nation. They voiced their opinions and still the presidents and congressmen did not listen and people simply died.

The GI Rights Movement was a movement to protest the Vietnam War. After the release of the Pentagon Papers, students who were very educated and understood what was going on, knew that the war was not going to end well and was simply endless violence. The reasons were not justified to start a war. In general, most students don’t believe in war because there are so many different ways of ending conflicts. The extremity of war will never meet up the standards of any cause or reason.

The soldiers who were sent out to war in Vietnam were afraid and did not know the reason towards why they were out there risking their lives. The soldiers made many comments saying that someone told them to do so, so they had to do it. They couldn’t protest or even ask why they were going to lay down their lives. Many of these soldiers had futures and lives, and it all came to a halt, because of some senseless war. These soldiers simply wanted to go back home and live a peaceful war-free life. This is why the anti-war protests started.

In war, these soldiers were drafted, so it was not their choice to be fighting this senseless war. Many of them had wives and children to care for. As well many of them didn’t have a supporting education so they can learn of this terrible war. In the end, people revolted against this because of the scholars who learned of the reasons behind the war. The GI Movement helped many troops get back home and back to their loved ones.

Some comparisons to this would be the war in the Middle East. America used the terrorist attack on September 11th, 2001 as a reason to send troops to the Middle East and disrupt their livelihoods. Many people got drafted and for the sole reason of getting revenge on a couple of people who did a terrible thing. We as a country cannot attack another country for the acts of a certain group from that nation.

The Vietnam Veterans Against the War Anti War Movement was the movement that protested the American government drafting young men’s lives to a world of war and fear. The Vietnam War was a terrible war with an unreasonable cause, so a group of the soldiers decided to speak out against the war and try to put an end to future wars and violent conflicts. These group of men spoke out against the government and said that the war needs to be over.

The Iraq Veterans against the War Anti War Movement was a movement that protested the American government in drafting young men to risk their lives for a war with no end. The Iraq War was a war that the Americans fought in for revenge against a terrifying terrorist attack. A terrorist group scared the world, and brought upon racism and hate all through the nation. The government used this feeling of fear to begin a war in Iraq that was fueled by revenge and had no reasonable cause just like the Vietnam War.

The ways that the Middle Eastern Veterans compare to the Vietnam Veterans is in every way the same. The only difference is that they’re in different places and different times. Like all wars, they’re all extremities taken too far for very small conflicts. The effect on the Veterans however all lasted way worse than expected. If you’re life wasn’t taken, it was sure was ruined. The soldiers had to kill innocent lives for no reason. They had no reason or sense of why they were doing anything. All they knew was to kill, and move on. This gave them no relief or peace of mind, or even a bit of justification. They watched many countless people die and get murdered and this gives PTSD that ruins lives.

A moral injury is something that breaks inside of a person. It could be their personality changes, their mindset, and their way of life. It’s a drastic change for the worst. These veterans cannot go back home and continue their past lives. They return as different people who can never see the end. These senseless wars ruin the lives of the troops, the country, and the country that we decided to wage war on.

Presidents are leaders of their own individual country. They’re at the top in the list of World Leaders. Presidents wage war because they want to show other countries who not to mess with. They want to show off their military strength, so that other countries can know who’s the strongest. The reason why we wage war is simply as a power show.

I think that this is so prideful and annoying. War is not something that should even exist, let alone used as an act to see who is bigger than another. The American presidents should have no right to be involved in any other country in a bad manner. I think the UN is a great organization, when we all work peacefully. But there is no need to go solve their problems, no need for us to ever get violent and start wars with other countries.

George Carlin is one hundred percent right that America’s foundation is war. We start wars to get what we want. We make a war out of everything we dislike. America only knows war and that’s the way they know how to do things. War is the only solution to any problem. Sadly, War is what started this country and will soon be the end. War is everything we talk about, everything we study, and every way to solve an issue.

However, I don’t think it’s that American necessarily like war. I think a better title would that Americans only know war. Americans fight against war fairly often and are taught in schools countless times, that war is not a good thing. It’s simply that American’s only know war.