

## Critical Acclaim for *The Book of War*

A fascinating and expansive account of the evolutionary nature of warfare. Important reading for anyone interested in knowing more about the human desire for violence. And hopefully, this knowledge provides direction for a future that reduces the need for human conflict.

—Andrew Newberg, M.D., bestselling author of *How God Changes Your Brain: Breakthrough Findings from a Leading Neuroscientist*, Ballantine Books.

In a world riven by competing violent ideologies untethered to reality, Dr. Kriegman fearlessly risks offending everyone to present a rethinking of the relationship of war and religion grounded in evolutionary biology. The intriguing possibilities of hitherto unimagined solutions that this new understanding opens up gives reason for hope beyond the illusions of utopian ideologies. Whether nodding in agreement or shouting in dissent, readers will be challenged and changed by *The Book of War*.

—Kevin DeLuca, Ph.D., Professor of Communication, University of Utah, author of *Image Politics: The New Rhetoric of Environmental Activism*, Guilford Press.

Dr. Kriegman's book goes to both the evolutionary and existential heart of what motivates and gives meaning to human warfare. Kriegman leads us to appreciate how the sacred belief that dying for one's deity confers eternal life allows humans to deny the rationally known limits of our mortal condition; and—as in the Hamas Charter—to declare and, indeed, experience the most brutal violence as the ultimate, sacred gift to one's deity. Kriegman's exploration of individual human motivation in both the clinical and evolutionary literature freed him from him from a long history of understanding fighting and warfare as bodily (innate and instinctual) and/or as a paranoid psychopathological process.

—Malcolm Owen Slavin, Ph.D., psychoanalyst and author of *The Story of Original Loss: Grieving Existential Trauma in the Arts and the Art of Psychoanalysis*, Routledge.

*The Book of War* is tremendously insightful. It has important implications for research on conflict resolution as well as for current policy debates ... In the scope and sweep of its argument, the book is a magisterial accomplishment.

—Matthew Levinger, Ph.D., Professor of International Affairs and Director of the National Security Studies Program at the George Washington University, former Director of the Academy for Genocide Prevention at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the author of *Conflict Analysis: Understanding Causes, Unlocking Solutions*, United States Institute of Peace Press.