Viewing Guide to The Ground Truth: The Human Cost of War

1. According to the film, recruiters target what groups? And what do they offer them? What don’t they mention?

2. According to the film, what is the goal of basic training? How are the Iraqi’s characterized?

3. According to the film, what was the situation in which the U.S. soldiers found themselves? What decisions did they have to make?

4. According to the film, what are the physical and psychological impacts on U.S. soldiers? In what ways are they being helped or not being helped with their problems?

Some facts:

According to the Department of Defense, 320,000 veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan War have traumatic brain injuries, and 250,000 have been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

According to VA (April 2013), there is a backlog of one million compensation claims and the wait is almost a year. Half of appeals of rejected claims take longer than a year to be heard.

According to the Department of Defense, 18 veterans commit suicide every day.

In March 2014, The Senate voted down legislation that would have provided more funding for veterans.