

Developing an Understanding of Wars

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Wars, while complex, are vital chapters in the world's society, shaping the world's story and shaping the connections we have with neighboring countries. They have occurred for multiple reasons, such as for resources, economic privilege, religious beliefs, political reasons, and many more.

Imagine a time when disagreements between two groups or nations couldn't be resolved peacefully. It would eventually lead to organized hostile conflict, called a war. An example would be the French Revolution in 1789, where "common folk" were taxed more harshly than the "royal" people of France. The "common folk" disliked this and began rebelling against the monarchist and theocratic governments, who enforced this unfair taxation in the first place. After the more peaceful attempts at trying to change the taxing implementations of the government, a war broke out. This war ultimately led to the people of France being equally taxed and more importantly the birth of the modern democratic republic, which uses the votes of citizens to elect representatives. This is a key addition to politics and ensures that the majority of citizens are happy with the government in the area.

Another thing wars have done is make changes to the way people live. For instance, ancient wars led to the invention of new tools and strategies, like the invention of the spear, gunpowder, and sword, while modern wars bring more complicated versions of the now minuscule ancient inventions, like fighter jets, tanks, or warfare submarines. Due to these inventions, we now have a strong military and a safe country to live in.

While there are many benefits from war, there are also many downsides. A lot of land is destroyed by weapons, dislocating a lot of citizens from their homes. This affects the country's economy because what was once a thriving place has been reduced to nothing but dust. War also means that the military needs more and more people to fight. In particularly underdeveloped countries, a lot of kids are forced to fight. War also disrupts the social development people go through, and instead replaces it with long-term physical and psychological harm.

Though wars have both positive and negative outcomes and influences on the world's population, they build on our current society and create innovations for all of us to use. Understanding wars helps us appreciate the things we have and learn from our history to make the world a better place for everyone.

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