

war

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1. Define the following: conventional warfare, nonconventional warfare, conventional weapons, nonconventional weapons, limited war, and total war.

- Conventional warfare is a war involving a large army with a sole aim of reducing the numbers and capability of the enemy force.
- Nonconventional warfare uses smaller teams of soldiers to decapitate the enemy often smaller operations that take an extended length of time.
- Conventional weapons are classic, pre-20th century weapons of war like swords, guns, mines and canons
- Nonconventional weapons are more recent weapons that cause greater harm to target populations including nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. They have a mass destruction element.
- Limited war is warfare involving a section of resources (a section of army and certain extent of financial resources) as opposed to use of all resources such a war on certain terrorist groups.
- Total war is an intense armed conflict where a nation dedicated to warfare with full commitment of its financial and human resources such as in World Wars I and II.

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2. Define the concepts of preemptive war, terrorism, and holy war.

- Preemptive war is where a nation engages an enemy or another nation based on credible intelligence that the enemy was preparing to launch an attack so as to gain some strategic advantage.
- Terrorism refers to sections of persons, groups, or militia using violence unlawfully with the aim of intimidating, coercing or generating fear for some political or religious reasons.
- Holy war refers to armed conflict where participants engage for a religious cause such as the Jihad crusade by a section of Islamic believers.

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3. What are Plato's and Machiavelli's reasons for thinking that war is inevitable?

- On one hand, Plato envisioned that with simple needs maintained by the state, peace will prevail. However, needs involve into luxury and no longer fulfilled by simple lifestyles. Therefore, the need of luxury, specialized skills and more natural resources will trigger war against groups of people.
- On the other hand, Machiavelli reasoned that changes in fortune is the trigger of wars. His idea was that change of fortune (misfortunes) due to universal fate such as flooding and strikes which leadership is not prepared to handle will trigger conflict that may bring wars.

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4. What are Hegel's and Bernhardt's reasons for thinking that war is a necessity for social development?

- Georg Hegel believed that in wars people unite, counter social stagnation and afterwards, a better society emerges that is progressive in nature. Therefore, a war has cleansing powers for social progression to create more stable societies.

- In the same way, Bernhardi reasoned that wars help social groups get rid of corruption and decay whereby victors set up a new society with new ideologies, values and ambitions to support human growth. Wars have destructive power to evil offering a chance to restart with a new page to social progress.

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5. What are the solutions that Dante, Erasmus, Kant and James give for abolishing war?

- Dante believes that a single unifying ruler (a monarch) would bring an end to wars and unify people towards peace and prosperity.
- Erasmus appealed to morality that since wars are unnatural, good behavior and kindness would keep evilness of war at bay.
- Kant envisioned that brokering an international federation of peace which nations are agreeable would stop wars, such as the modern day United Nations to solve national/international conflicts.
- William James perceived brutality in war and advocated for civil discipline so that the confrontation human nature is never allowed to grow and corrupt society.

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6. In just war theory, what are the five conditions of initially waging war (jus ad bellum)?

- Just cause; a proper cause or reason such as self-defense or resisting imminent aggression
- Right intention; which is a proper underlying motive such as vanquish terror elements to restore peace.
- Proper authority; where legitimate authority issues war declaration and made known to the enemy
- Last resort; where all non-military avenues have run out/unable to solve the persisting conflict.
- Reasonable success; it refers to attaining reasonable outcomes such as not just for wastage of resources or sacrificing the forces.

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7. In just war theory what are the two conditions of conduct during war (jus in bello)?

- Justice to war; that is, having just grounds by a state to engage in the war with an enemy
- Justice in war; which are conditions that underline proper conduct during the war

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8. What are the religious and pragmatic arguments for pacifism?

- In religious argument, engage in military conflict is contrary to teaching of Christ for peace, love and kindness while the pragmatic argument is that wars give forth nothing good, as opposed to non-military options.

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9. What is the free rider criticism and Weiss's criticism of pacifism?

- In free rider criticism to absolute pacifism, pacifists say they do not want war yet they enjoy a peaceful environment where other people do all the hard work to secure peace. Thus they enjoy

fruits of which they do not participate in making. Then, Paul Weiss's criticism was that pacifism only operate in calm and peaceful scenarios but when the enemy is on the doorstep, urgent military solutions are most ideal.

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10. What are the two approaches to whether torture is justifiable?

- In one approach, torture can be administered basing on utilitarian view/cost-benefit analysis that information acquired will help save many lives when the torture harms the enemy.
- On the other hand, the enemy is a human with full rights (rights theory) and that it is ethically wrong to torture him/her even if the outcomes are beneficial.

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11. What is the main problem with the rights theory criticism of torture under the ticking time bomb scenario?

- The theory assumes that one rights can never be overridden, that it, even an evil individual such as a dictator who murders thousands has rights against unethical and unlawful harm.

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12. What are the main international laws of war?

- Geneva Convention of 1864; which set guidelines to help wounded soldiers such as protection of hospitals and ambulances.
- The Hague Conventions (1899-1907) on reducing quantity and brutality of weaponry like use of expanding bullets
- War crimes such as the Nuremberg Principles that detailed how certain crimes are addressed.

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13. On the issue of national security and civil liberties, what were the issues involved in the U.S. Supreme Court cases of Schenck v. United States (1919), Abrams v. U.S. (1919), and Korematsu v. U.S. (1944)?

- Schenck v. United States (1919): Social organizer Schenck mailed about 15,000 pamphlets to discourage people from enrolling in the Army. He was convicted on the charge of espionage with supreme arguing that the government could restrict civil liberties in war times.
- Abrams v. U.S. (1919): Political activism circulates anti-war pamphlets to rescind the war. While he was convicted for espionage, one judge held Abrams exercised his free speech rights and the pamphlets did not pose any harm,
- Korematsu v. U.S. (1944): Fred Korematsu resisted a military order to vacate homes and take shelter in detention camps. While the Supreme Court emphasized with poor conditions in detention camps for ethnic Japanese, it was held that detainee liberty were unmatched to military urgency.

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14. What are the criticisms of the three conservative arguments regarding war?

- Unlike in developed economies where democracy works, in less developed, unstable regions, totalitarian dictatorship seems to work better and imposition of democracy would not be effective.
- The win at all cost is not always the case. Even military tactics labeled as best do not always lead to victory.
- Freedom of the people is most fragile in conflict times and how liberties are protected in these times offer a true measure of democracy.

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15. What are the criticisms of the three liberal arguments regarding war?

[Reading 1: Grotius on Just and Unjust Wars]

- It is often impossible to have a single, pure motive to a war. The media and citizenry have a role of dig deeper on motives to a war.
- Nations are usually drawn to international conflicts that involve military action. Helping allies or helping to stabilize regions is justifiable.
- Peace anchors on vibrant economies, stable governments and better living standards which many nations are lacking thus need to create stability through military action.

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16. In the section on unjust wars, what does Grotius say about pretexts that countries commonly offer for going to war?

- Grotius says that the pretexts often do not stand the morality test and when revealed in true nature, they are injustices that should have not existed in the first place. Peace and wars are currencies through which states, especially powerful states, use to get their desires.

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17. In the section on unjust wars, what does Grotius say about going to war based on fear alone?

- The use of fear alone to wage war is not justifiable and nations which do so should not be approved. Fear cannot amount to grounds to mount hostilities and such moves should be allowed to flourish.

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18. According to Grotius, in the section on discrimination, which types of people should be protected during wars?

- He says that the women and children should be spared from the perils of a war. Males whose lives do not lie with use of weapons such as the religious men and farmers should also be protected from war. He also mentions the artisans, merchants, as well as prisoners.

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19. According to Grotius, in the section on proportionality, what are the only three justifications for destroying property when combating an aggressor?

- There should be necessity to destroy property that belongs to the aggressor.
- There should be debt which stems from non-performance of a fore agreed aspect so that destruction is a form of debt repayment.

- There must have been some kind of hostilities for which the destruction provided does not overstep the deserved punishment

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20. According to Grotius, in the section on proportionality, what is the furthest that destruction should extend when combating an aggressor?

- He argued that in a war, vengeance would not go beyond that what is necessary to enable the aggressor make amends for offence committed in a just way. It implies that even wars should not bear savagery but to extent that the punishment deserves.

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[Short Essay]

21. Short essay: pick any one of the following views in this chapter and criticize it in a minimum of 150 words. The view of war by Plato, Machiavelli, Hegel, Bernhardt, Dante, Erasmus, Kant, or James; one of the conditions of just war theory; one of the arguments for pacifism; one of the criticisms of pacifism; the ticking time bomb scenario; the ruling of one of the Supreme Court cases on war.

Prep. Frag. ETS

Critique of the ticking time bomb scenario

One of Philosophy/ ethics thought experiments is the ticking bomb scenario relating to whether it is ethical and justifiable to torture an individual with an aim of finding important, life-saving information. On one side, basing on the utilitarian theory which regards the suffering of one is a lesser evil than the suffering of many, torture seems to be the 'right thing' to do. It is unethical to allow one's moral convictions against torture lead to the deaths of many people at stake. On the other, right theory compels one to avoid use of torture since the perpetrator has inherent rights that include not to face any bodily harm. In my view, the most rational position on this problem is that while it is understandable, and even forgivable, to torture a terrorist/enemy to get key information that will save many people, the act itself is still unethical. On whichever side one stands, ethically speaking, torture is an unethical decision to make even when its outcomes are beneficial.

war

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