The Sociology of War
Sociology 40190
Spring 2015
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Fridays, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Classics 111

Overview: War is a large scale social endeavor, often the most sophisticated coordination carried out by a polity. Here we investigate the nature of war, the sociological characteristics of the organizations developed for its pursuit, and its connection with different political forms. There will be a few brief forays into the consideration of the military as an occupational world, and perhaps one into quasi-war forms of political or economic violence, but the focus here will be on the organization of sustained conflict between armies and the preparation for same.

This is not a class on violence, nor is it a class on military sociology. While we will bump into these topics, our focus is on war first and foremost, the preparations for and consequences of secondly, and only thirdly these other topics. However, I do bend to reach some of the more pivotal work in sociology. In some cases, that means using a somewhat less central source by a sociologist in preference to a more central one by a historian or political scientist. This is the first time I have taught this class; I am doing it to learn more about this topic.

Class Format: Each class has a focal reading or set of related readings but usually only illustrating one portion of the topics to be covered in that day. Students whose work is related to these topics are encouraged to take unusual degrees of direction for these days.

Class Requirements: Students *get* to write a paper. The best choice would be a substantive exploration of a topic using secondary sources, perhaps supplemented with some primary work. An acceptable choice would be an examination of a theoretical approach to war (that is, one that already has been robustly applied to war). A bad choice would be applying to war in general a theoretical vocabulary that does not have a history of said applications. A very bad one would be something that doesn't have to do with war first and foremost (such as an examination of stereotypes in propaganda).

Other than that, cheerful attendance is expected, and active attendance of a particular nature: because this is a new course, I will be attempting to make connections and string things together. Destructive criticism is extremely helpful at this stage, and hence I will expect students to be watching for errors and alternatives and offering other ideas whenever possible. Finally, in many cases we are hoping to cover a wide range of topics; there is are focal (required) readings, but those who have done these, or those whose paper topic is closely related, should branch out to read some of the others.

Readings: There are some required books at the Co-Op Bookstore:

>   Miguel Centeno, *Blood and Debt: War and the Nation-State in Latin America*
>   Victor Davis Hanson, *The Western Way of War*

Jocelyn Viterna, *Women in War*
Morris Janowitz, *Military Conflict*
Andreas Wimmer, *Waves of War*

Recommended
John Keegan, *A History of Warfare*
Siniša Malešević, *The Sociology of War and Violence*

Suggested Readings: If you have no background, there are two books that I would suggest might serve as a great way to get up to speed, and so I've put them on the "recommended" list. The first is John Keegan, *A History of Warfare*. This is probably the single best single volume treatment. The second is a textbook, *The Sociology of War and Violence* by Siniša Malešević. This is a really strong, comprehensive treatment and I would have assigned it if we didn't have so many other things to read.

Theory Warning! It turns out, like it or not, that this class, like most sociological work on war, is going to be in implicit or explicit dialogue with Max Weber above all else. If you have never read Weber you may feel somewhat left behind at spots. Unfortunately, there isn't an obvious best place to get your Weber-on-war fix. "Religious Rejections" and "Politics as a Vocation" (to be found in *From Max Weber*) are good places to start, as is *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. To go beyond, you're really going need to jump into *Economy and Society* and read the parts about patrimonialism and bureaucratization. Pay attention to the short section in Volume 2, p. 1150, on the origin of discipline in war; this is actually reprinted in *From Max Weber*, 255-260. Even though most of us say that it's not actually all that Weberian, Randall Collins's *Weberian Sociological Theory* (his Part II on politics) is, when we are thinking about war, an important continuation of this aspect of Weber's work, as well as being just the most successful piece of sociological work ever. Further, when we think about this aspect of Weber's work, it isn't crazy to also expect that there will be some dialogue with Michel Foucault's *Discipline and Punish*.

For every week, there is a main reading, usually a book that we have in the bookstore; this is marked with a **. Otherwise it will be available on CHALK. There are other suggested readings that hit topics that we will need to discuss in class. Those that I have placed on CHALK will have a * by them. Other readings listed are in no way required, but they suggest at least one if not the central resource that I would suggest for the next step, and on which I will draw for purposes of pulling things together. Things with *** I have yet to place on Chalk

Week 1: Introduction
 I.   The Place of War in Sociological Phenomena
        ** John Keegan, *A History of Warfare*.
        Thinking of how to deal with Power:
                Bertrand de Jouvenal, *Power: Its Natural History and Growth*
                Michael Mann, *The Sources of Social Power*
        The bellicist perspective:
                Otto Hintze, "Military Organization and the Organization of the State."

The current state of research:
>Meyer Kestnbaum. "The Sociology of War and the Military." *Annual Review of Sociology*. 35 (2009): 235-254.

II.   Theorists of War
>*War in Social Thought: Hobbes to the Present* by Hans Joas and Wolfgang Knöbl.
>The complete works of Max Weber, as hinted above.

Week 2: Beginning of the typology

III.   Types of Societies and Types of War
>Stanislav Andreski, *Military Organization and Society*. Note: Andreski is a bit of a loose cannon; he sees things his way and doesn't worry who he pisses off…

A. Tribal
>Neil L. Whitehead, "Tribes Make States and States Make Tribes." Pp 127-150 in R. Brian Ferguson and Neil L. Whitehead, editors, *War in the Tribal Zone*. **

B. Ritual War
>Ross Hassig, *Aztec Warfare*

C. Pre-empire agricultural war
>Victor Davis Hanson, *The Western Way of War***
>Hanson's work is based on his earlier *Warfare and Agriculture in Classical Greece* which is highly recommended.

D. Empire War (case Rome emphasized; Byzantium, Persia and China discussed)
>Adrian Goldsworthy, *The Roman Army at War, 100 BC-AD 200*
>Edward Luttwak, *The grand strategy of the Roman Empire*
>Eric McGeer, *Sowing the Dragon's Teeth*

E. Feudal and City-Stae
>*War, Technology and Society in the Middle East*, edited by V J Parry and M E Yapp
>William Farris, *Heavenly Warriors*
>M. E. Mallett and J. R. Hale*, The Military Organization of a Renaissance State*. Venice c. 1400 to 1617.

F. Modern
>B.H. Liddell Hart, *History of the Second World War*

G. Developing
>Morris Janowitz, *Military Institutions and Coercion in the Developing Nations*

Week 3: Conclusion of typology

*** by today, please hand in your suggested paper topic or possible topics ***

IV. Quasi-war
   A. Piracy and Privateering
      Henning Hillman and Christina Gathmann.   2011.   "Overseas Trade and the Decline of Privateering." *Journal of Economic History* 71: 730-761.**

      Matthew Norton, "Classification and Coercion: The Destruction of Piracy in the English Maritime System." *American Journal of Sociology* 119(2014): 1537-75.

   B. Guerilla War
      Charles J. Esdaile, *Fighting Napoleon: Guerrillas, Bandits and Adventurers in Spain, 1808-1814*.

      Abdulkader H. Sinno, *Organizations at War in Afghanistan and Beyond*

   C. Terrorism
      Jeff Goodwin (2006), "A Theory of Categorical Terrorism." *Social Forces* 84: 2027-2046.**

   D. Civil wars
      James D. Fearon and David Laitin, "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War," *American Political Science Review* 97(2003): 75-90.**

      Paul Staniland, "Organizing Insurgency: Networks, Resources, and Rebellion in South Asia." *International Security* 37(2012): 142-77.**

      Elizabeth Picard, "The Political Economy of Civil War in Lebanon." Pp. 292-322 in *War, Institutions, and Social Change in the Middle East*, edited by Steven Heydemann.

      One way of thinking about this is in terms of breakdowns; from the current Bielefeld school there are interesting theoretical contributions from Hendrik Vollmer, *The Sociology of Disruption, Disaster and Social Change*; also Thomas Hoebel, "Organisierte Plötzlichkeit: Eine prozesssoziologische Erklärung antisymmetrischer Gewaltsituationen," *Zeitschrift für Soziologie* 43[2014]: 441-457. And we'll return to this school when we revisit military participation.

   E. Anti-colonial war
      Merle Bowen, 2000, *The State Against the Peasantry: Rural Struggles in Colonial and Postcolonial Mozambique*. Charlottesville: The University Press Of Virginia.

      Reno, William. 2011. *Warfare in independent Africa*. New York: Cambridge University Press., Chapters 1-2, pp. 1-78.*

F. Drug Wars
   John P. Sullivan and Robert J. Bunker, 2003, "Drug Cartels, Street Gangs, and Warlords" Pp. 40–53 in *Non State Threats and Future Wars*, edited by Robert J. Bunker. London: Frank Cass.*
   .

Week 4: Organization

   V.   Organization of War I: Historical Change
         Note: As our interest is not whether there *was* change (safe bet), nor even really what the change was, but whether warfare has *inherent* dynamics for change, we will be returning to previous reading and attempting to see if there are tendencies linking one type of war to another.

         A. Theory
            Max Weber, *Economy and Society*, selection TBA

         B. Early
            John Keegan, *A History of Warfare*

         C. Military Revolution
            Michael Roberts. 1967. "The Military Revolution, 1560–1660." Pp. 195–225 in *Essays in Swedish History*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.**

            Geoffery Parker, "The Military Revolution, A Myth?" from *Spain and the Netherlands*.**

            The Military Revolution Debate: Readings on the Military Transformation of Early Modern Europe; ed. Clifford J. Rogers. Boulder, Westview, 1995.***
            [This is a great collection of works on the subject; I was hoping to require it but it's a bit pricey, and so I've given the originals of two of the pieces first, and then from here, the Jeremy Black piece, which I hope condenses his wonderful book, *A Military Revolution? Military Change and European Society, 1550–1800*.]

            Eiko Ikegami*, The Taming of the Samurai*, selection.** This is a great book, and hard to excerpt, but because it isn't all about war I wasn't sure what to use; because I can only pull a chapter on electronic reserve I chose the last, which is less about war but gives a better sense of her argument. If you don't know anything about war in Feudal Japan, feel free to substitute: **for next time** add portions on Japanese warring states period.

            William Farris, *Heavenly Warriors*, Chapter 6, pp. 204-251*

         D. Twentieth Century
            Rusell Weigley, *A History of the United States Army*

E. Possible Dynamics of Change
1) Strategic
2) Institutional
3) Developmental/Industrial
4) Cyclical

Week 5: Organization Continued

*** by today, please hand in a list of your main sources that you plan to use ***

VI. Organization of War II:
A. Gender and War
Jocelyn Viterna, *Women in War***

Sarah Elizabeth, Parkinson. "Organizing Rebellion: Rethinking High-Risk Mobilization and Social Networks in War." *American Political Science Review* 107(2013): 418-432.**

B. Classes in War (Infantry and Cavalry)
Keegan, *History of War*
Bengt Abramson, *Military Professionalization and Political Power* Ch 2 (*Social Recruitment: Increasing Heterogeneity*), pp. 40-58.**
Hans Speier, "Militarism in the Eighteenth Century," *Social Research* 1936.**
This is reprinted in Hans Speier, *The Truth in Hell and Other Essays on Politics and Culture*, 1935-1987. The piece on psychological warfare is also of interest here.

C. Social Structures of War
John Levi Martin, *Social Structures*, Chapters 6-7*

Week 6: Organization Concluded

D. Issue of logististics
James A. Hutson, *The Sinews of War,* chapter 28.**
Henry E. Eccles, *Logistics in the National Defense*.
Also see Scott A. Boorman, "The Legacy of Henry Eccles," *Naval War College Review*, Spring 2009, Vol. 62, No. 2

VII. Conduct of War
A. Training, Drill, Discipline and Enculturation
Morris Janowitz, *The Professional Solider*, Chapters 4 (54-78) and 7 (125-149).**

William H. McNeill, *Keeping Together in Time: Dance and Drill in Human History*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1995.

NOTE: Military sociology is a huge field of its own that we are not touching. You may see, for a recent interesting review, Chris Paparone, "The Sociology of the Military: A Muliti-Paradigmatic Review." *Contemporary Sociology* 43(2014);304-311. Or you can just start in on *The American Soldier*….

B. Small Group Cohesion
Edward Shils and Morris Janowitz, "Cohesion and Disintegration in the Wehrmacht in World War II." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 12 (1948): 280-315.**

Peter S. Bearman. "Desertion as Localism: Army Unit Solidarity and Group Norms in the U.S. Civil War." *Social Forces* 70(1991):321-42**

Roger V. Gould. "Trade Cohesion, Class Unity, and Urban Insurrection: Artisanal Activism in the Paris Commune." *American Journal of Sociology* 98 (1993): pp. 721-754.

Week 7: Action in War

**** by today, please hand in a paragraph containing your likely thesis ***

C. Command
Martin Van Creveld, *Command in War*, chapter 4 (103-147)***

George Homans, "The Small Warship." *American Sociological Review* 11 (1946): 294-300.

D. Social Psychology of War
Note to the non-sociologist: Here we will be starting from some well established sociological lemmas about how we learn from one another how to "define the situation." Good starting places are Erving Goffman, *Frame Analysis*; Solomon Asch, *Social Psychology*, 43-55, 450-473; Stanley Milgram, *Obedience to Authority*; Muzafer Sherif, *Social Interaction*, 136-148.

S. L. A. Marshall, 1978. *Men Against Fire: The Problem of Battle Command in Future War*. Gloucester, Mass: Peter Smith.

Of the many critiques of Marshall, a recent one is John Whiteclay Chambers II, "S. L. A. Marshall's Men Against Fire: New Evidence Regarding Fire Ratios," *Parameters* (2003): 113-121.

Randall Collins, *Violence*, chapters 2 (39-82) and 3 (90-133)**

Hendrik Vollmer, *The Sociology of Disruption, Disaster and Social Change*, chapter 5**

Anthony Ashworth, "The Sociology of Trench Warfare, 1914-1918." *British Journal of Sociology* 19(1968):407-23.

Kurt Lewin,"Kriegslandschaft." *Zeitschrift für angewandte Psychologie* 12(1917): 440-447.

Jeffrey K. Hass, 2015. "War, fields, and competing economies of death. Lessons from the Blockade of Leningrad." *Poetics* 48: 55-68

    E. Strategy
Note: while none of these are assigned, most of you will have read something here, and so that is enough for our simple game-theoretic exploration of the intersubjective aspects of strategy.

Karl von Clausewitz. 1832. *On War*.

B. H. Littell-Hart, *Strategy*

Scott A. Boorman, *The Protracted Game*

Ralph Sawyer, editor and translator, *Seven Military Classics of Ancient China*.

Edward N. Luttwak, *The Grand Strategy of the Roman Empire*

Week 8: War in Europe

  VIII.   War and State Formation
     A. War and the Origin of Nation States
       1. Charles Tilly, *Coercion, Capital and European States: AD 990 – 1992.***

          Also his 1975 *The Formation of National States in Western Europe*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

          Note that Samuel E. Finer's "State- and Nation-Building in Europe: The Role of the Military" in this same collection is excellent.

       2. Michael Mann, *The Sources of Social Power*, Volumes I-IV. (I actually haven't gotten past volume two; the others weren't written when I read it.)

       3. William McNeill, *The Pursuit of Power*. Honestly, it doesn't take away from Mann to note that his take is very much a McNeillian one…

       4. Andreas Wimmer, *Waves of War*.**

Week 9: War and Nation-State-Making Outside of Europe

5. Miguel Centeno, *Blood and Debt: War and the Nation-State in Latin America***

6. Edgar Kiser and Yong Cai. 2003. "War and Bureaucratization in Qin China: Exploring an Anomalous Case" *American Sociological Review*. 68(4):511-39. Also see their 2004 "Chinese Bureaucratization in Comparative Perspective: Reply to Zhao" *American Sociological Review* 69(4):608-12.

7. Rhoads Murphey, *Ottoman Warfare 1500-1700*; chapters 8 and 9 (169-) on Chalk, book as a whole is fantastic.** But to fill in the context, we will need…

8. Karen Barkey, *Bandits and Bureaucrats*, especially Chapter 6.

Week 10: War and Democracy

** papers are due one week from today **

B. War and Democracy
Silas Bent McKinley, *Democracy and Military Power*, Chs 1 and 2 (pp. 27-86 in 1941 edition).**

Henry Barbera, *The Military Factor in Social Change*, Volume 1. (Volume 2 is interesting but really just three case studies.)

C. War And Citizenship (Silver)
Richard Lachmann, "Mercenary, Citizen, Victim: The Rise and Fall of Conscription in the West." 2013. Pp. 44-70 in *Nationalism and War*, edited by John A. Hall and Siniša Malešević.**

Meyer Kestnbaum, "Citizen-soldiers, national service and the mass army: The birth of conscription in revolutionary Europe and North America." 2002. Pp.117 – 144 in Lars Mjøset, Stephen van Holde, eds, *The Comparative Study of Conscription in the Armed Forces*.**

Allan Silver, "Democratic Citizenship and High Military Strategy." *Research on Democracy and Society* 2(1994): 317-349.

Neil Fligstein, "Who Served in the Military 1940-73." *Armed Forces and Society* 6(1980): 297-312.

Charles Moskos, *All That We Can Be: Black Leadership and Racial Integration The Army Way*

D. Change in War's relation to citizenry
Barbara Kuchler, 2013. Krieg und gesellschaftliche Differenzierung. *Zeitschrift für Soziologie* 42:502-520.