

“War is Peace, it Makes Us Rich and Safe”... or So Says the Mainstream Media

By [Julie Lévesque](#)

Global Research, April 29, 2014

Theme: [Media Disinformation](#), [Military Militarization](#), [WMD](#), [US NATO War Agenda](#)

Image: An Iraqi woman with her dead child. Source: [A Real Cost Of The Iraq War](#)

War is Peace. What was known as a famous quote from George Orwell's fiction *1984* has become a reality. Or maybe it is still fiction if you consider that the mainstream media is making up reality on a daily basis.

On April 28, 2014, the homepage of The Washington Post web site featured the picture of a nuclear explosion with the following title: “War is brutal. The alternative is worse.”

The Washington Post

62° Washington, DC

April 28, 2014

Edition: U.S. ✓

Regional ?

Make us your

Donald Sterling Michael Grimm 'Thrones' George Clooney

Digital subscriptions starting at 99¢

SUBSCRIBE



An atom bomb test explodes in Bikini Atoll. (AP)

War is brutal. The alternative is worse.

Ian Morris

OPINION | War may be the worst way imaginable to create peaceful societies, but this professor argues that it's the only way.

Peace is worse than war? Diplomacy worse than a nuclear explosion? I wonder if people in war torn Iraq, Afghanistan, Palestine and the likes agree.

The subtitle is probably the apex of nonsense: “War may be the worst way imaginable to create peaceful societies, but this professor argues that it’s the only way.” Professor? How can you be a professor and say something so illogical? And how can a newspaper be taken seriously when it publishes such absurdities?

But it gets worse, if that’s even possible. Clicking on the article, you get this:

wp OPINIONS

Trending Topics Cliven Bundy Sen. McCain on Russia Elizabeth Warren Affirmative

ADVERTISEMENT

MAHJONGG DIMENSIONS SUDOKU wp GAMES START PLAYING!

Rep. Grimm surrenders to FBI U.S. extends sanctions on Russia

In the long run, wars make us safer and richer



Noma Bar for The Washington Post

[Buy This Photo](#)

By Ian Morris, Published: April 25 [E-mail the writer](#)

Ian Morris, a professor of classics at Stanford University, is the author of “War! What is it Good For? Conflict and the Progress of Civilization from Primates to Robots.”

“Wars make us safer and richer”. Wow. Really?

Who’s “us”? Certainly not the American people:

The decade-long American wars in Afghanistan and Iraq would end up costing as much as \$6 trillion, the equivalent of \$75,000 for every American household, calculates the prestigious Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government...

It is also imperative to recall that the Bush administration had claimed at the very outset that the Iraq war would finance itself out of Iraqi oil revenues, but Washington DC had instead ended up borrowing some \$2 trillion to finance the two wars, the bulk of it from foreign lenders.

According to the Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government 2013 report, this accounted for roughly 20 per cent of the total amount added to the US national debt between 2001 and 2012.

According to the report, the US "has already paid \$260 billion in interest on the war debt," and future interest payments would amount to trillions of dollars. (Sabir Shah, [US Wars in Afghanistan, Iraq to Cost \\$6 trillion](#))

So, who's "us" getting richer? The bankers maybe? Because if war makes some people rich, it's the bankers:

Bankers are [often the driving force behind war](#).

After all, the banking system is founded upon the counter-intuitive but indisputable fact that [banks create loans first, and then create deposits later](#).

In other words, virtually all money is actually created as debt...

Debt (from the borrower's perspective) owed to banks is profit and income from the bank's perspective. In other words, banks are in the business of creating more debt ... i.e. finding more people who want to borrow larger sums...

What does this have to do with war?

War is the most efficient debt-creation machine...

War is also good for banks because a lot of material, equipment, buildings and infrastructure get destroyed in war. So countries go into massive debt to finance war, and then borrow a ton more to rebuild. (Washington's Blog, [War Creates Massive Debt and Makes the Banks Rich](#))

"Us" is probably also the military industrial complex, for which peace is enemy number one:

The fact that military activities may become a profitable enterprise leads to the realization that peace is the main enemy of the military-industrial complex. A simple metaphor can illustrate this problem. Grape growers, the wine industry and wine marketers would be completely out of business if people stopped drinking wine. In a similar way, the military-industrial complex would be put out of business by lasting peaceful conditions because the development, production, marketing and use of military equipment would be not needed.

To stay in business, this complex needed the wars in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, the

“cold war” with the Soviet Union, war on terrorism and various other wars. And it needs to be involved in new conflicts, such as in Ukraine at this time. (Vashek Cervinka, [Peace is the Enemy of the US Military Industrial Complex](#))

WE, the people of the world, don't want wars and WE are not getting “richer” and “safer” with wars. It's actually quite the contrary. Wars ruin economies and guess what? Wars kill people! How are mass killings and massive debts making “us safer and richer”?


Even though he received the [Stanford University Dean's Award](#), which “recognizes the efforts of exceptional teachers in the School of Humanities and Sciences” and is “given for excellence in graduate education” and “achievements in teaching”, Professor Morris seems to ignore the existence of what is probably the most important judgement in the history of mankind, [The Nuremberg Judgement](#), which says:

To initiate a war of aggression, therefore, is not only an international crime; it is the supreme international crime differing only from other war crimes in that it contains within itself the accumulated evil of the whole.

We live in a world where award-winning Humanities and Science teachers promote war, the supreme international crime. It cannot get more Orwellian than that.

Global Research has, since 2001, been fighting against this Orwellian view of the world promoted by the mainstream media, such as The Washington Post. We do our best to expose the lies of the US-NATO war machine and the so-called “stenographers to power”. But to fight this warmongering juggernaut, we need your help.

One thing you can do which costs absolutely nothing is [LIKE us on Facebook](#) and SHARE our articles, suggest our web site to your friends, [Follow us on Twitter](#), [Pinterest](#) and SPREAD PEACE far and wide.

Our commitment is to make Global Research articles available to the broadest possible readership, on a non-commercial basis,  without the need for a login for paid subscribers.

With a view to achieving the above objectives, while improving the form and content of our website, we have a [membership program](#) for regular Global Research readers, which includes FREE book offers.

You can also [make a one time donation](#)

Please help us in these endeavors, with a [monthly or annual contribution](#).

Becoming a member essentially constitutes an endorsement of the Global Research website.

Thank you for supporting independent media.

Our membership plans are:

Global Research Annual Membership – \$95.00/year

All new members (annual basis) as well as all membership renewal (annual basis) will receive a FREE copy of "[The Global Economic Crisis: The Great Depression of the XXI Century](#)", edited by Michel Chossudovsky and Andrew Gavin Marshall, as well as a FREE copy of the new book from Global Research, "[Towards a WWII Scenario: The Dangers of Nuclear War](#)" by Michel Chossudovsky. [CLICK TO BECOME A MEMBER!](#)

Global Research Monthly Membership – \$9.50/month

All new members (monthly basis) will receive a FREE copy of the new e-book (in PDF format) from Global Research, "[Towards a WWII Scenario: The Dangers of Nuclear War](#)" by Michel Chossudovsky. [CLICK TO BECOME A MEMBER!](#)

Global Research Annual Membership – \$48.00/year

(Students / Seniors / Low-Income)

All new members (annual basis) as well as all membership renewals (annual basis) will receive a FREE copy of "[The Global Economic Crisis: The Great Depression of the XXI Century](#)", edited by Michel Chossudovsky and Andrew Gavin Marshall, as well as the new e-book (in PDF format) from Global Research, "[Towards a WWII Scenario: The Dangers of Nuclear War](#)" by Michel Chossudovsky. [CLICK TO BECOME A MEMBER!](#)

Global Research Monthly Membership – \$5.00/month

(Students / Seniors / Low-Income)

All new members (monthly basis) will receive a FREE copy of the new e-book (in PDF format) from Global Research, "[Towards a WWII Scenario: The Dangers of Nuclear War](#)" by Michel Chossudovsky. [CLICK TO BECOME A MEMBER!](#)

Sustainer Member – \$200.00/year



Help support Global Research with an annual membership payment of \$200.00. Each Sustainer Member will receive any two books of their choice from our [Online Store](#), as well as a FREE copy of the new book from Global Research, "[Towards a WWII Scenario: The Dangers of Nuclear War](#)" by Michel Chossudovsky. [CLICK TO BECOME A SUSTAINER!](#)

For more information, please visit our [MEMBERSHIP](#) page. Thank you for supporting independent media!

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Julie Lévesque](#)

About the author:

Julie Lévesque is a journalist and researcher with the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal. She was among the first independent journalists to visit Haiti in the wake of the January 2010 earthquake. In 2011, she was on board "The Spirit of Rachel Corrie", the only humanitarian vessel which penetrated Gaza territorial waters before being shot at by the Israeli Navy.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca