Chapter 8: The Cultural Construction of Violent Conflict

Multiple Choice Questions Leave short answer and essay questions blank on your scantron

1. War or feud
   a) is a natural, biological condition.
   b) is purposeful, organized, and socially sanctioned combat involving killing.
   c) has an unknown effect on population growth.
   d) is a condition that began deep in human prehistory and is now unavoidable.

2. Which society best illustrates Carneiro's theory of the relationship between war and political centralization?
   a) Ju/wasi
   b) Xinguano
   c) Zulu
   d) Yanamomo

3. Societies that engage in war place a greater emphasis on
   a) female solidarity.
   b) male solidarity.
   c) childrearing.
   d) male and female solidarity.

4. Hobbes believed that humans had a natural inclination to
   a) be peaceful.
   b) command.
   c) be independent.
   d) be violent.

5. The Vice Lords of Chicago valued "heart," meaning the
   a) personal worth of individuals in the club.
   b) protection of women associated with the club.
   c) willingness to follow any suggestion regardless of personal risk.
   d) interdependence between individuals and groups in street life.

6. In her research about a strategic studies institute, Carolyn Cohn used the term "technostrategic" to describe
   a) a technique used by nuclear strategists to create weapons.
   b) the bombing of Iraq by U.S. forces during the Gulf War.
   c) activities carried out by nuclear strategists.
   d) the language used by nuclear strategists.
7. A "clean" bomb is technostrategic language for a
   a) fission bomb.
   b) fusion bomb.
   c) missile.
   d) nuclear submarine.

8. "Collateral damage" is technostrategic language for
   a) human deaths.
   b) destruction of weapons.
   c) destruction of command centers.
   d) damage to enemy defenses.

9. Virtually all major religions
   a) have their violent militants.
   b) practice pacifism.
   c) have an established honor code.
   d) abhor violence.

10. The Army of God
    a) accounts for nearly half of all arms expenditures in the world.
    b) is the largest supplier of weapons to the rest of the world.
    c) has around 725 military bases distributed among 132 countries.
    d) is another example of a militant Protestant group.

11. William Tulio Divale and Marvin Harris propose that the main way that violent conflict regulates population growth is by
    a) reducing the male population.
    b) endangering the lives of mothers.
    c) endangering the lives of boys.
    d) encouraging the killing of infant girls.

12. The Kohistani have constructed a system of meaning in which taking vengeance is considered a/an
    a) taboo.
    b) religious act.
    c) act of spirit possession.
    d) act against the state.

13. The Yanomamö socialize male children to be
    a) passive until they reach puberty.
    b) aggressive and hostile.
    c) passive/aggressive.
    d) respectful to women.
14. Among the Kohistani, a man who allows his women freedom is referred to as "Baghrairatman," meaning he is
   a) blind.
   b) a man without dignity.
   c) weak.
   d) a man without money.

15. "Pehunan" is a Semai word that means being in a state of
   a) dissatisfaction.
   b) satisfaction.
   c) anger.
   d) helplessness.

16. Among the Ju/wasi, "n/um" is
   a) a healing substance in the stomach.
   b) the threat of fear of violence.
   c) an act of spirit possession.
   d) the threat of a blood feud.

17. What percent of the men in Kiowa society would rise to the top rank of "ongop?"
   a) 10
   b) 20
   c) 30
   d) 40

18. One reason that the Yanomamo may raid other villages is to
   a) capture women or children.
   b) conquer and settle another village.
   c) avenge the death of a fellow villager.
   d) A and C

19. How did Brian Ferguson explain the violence anthropologist Napoleon Chagnon reported among the Yanomamo during his fieldwork?
   a) This was the normal everyday life of these people; they are uniquely violent.
   b) Government and missionary outposts increased during this period.
   c) There was increased access to manufactured goods.
   d) B and C

20. In his study of a Chicago street gang in the 1960s, Lincoln Keiser suggested boys joined this gang
   a) to make money.
   b) because they usually had relatives already involved.
   c) for protection from being accosted.
   d) for a wide range of reasons.

21. How long does it usually take to gain access to all of the security levels in a
nuclear laboratory?
  a) 3 to 4 years
  b) 3 to 6 months
  c) 6 months to 2 years
  d) 1 year

22. The metaphorical language used to describe nuclear war
   a) brings planners together with a common purpose.
   b) is important to ease the technological jargon of weaponry.
   c) distances the planners from the consequences of the actions they are planning.
   d) provides planners with an easy way to communicate with the American public.

23. According to Thomas Gregor, the task of the social scientist who studies violence is to explain
   a) the function of feuds.
   b) peaceful societies.
   c) the relationship between resources and warfare.
   d) the benefits of war.

24. Major General Robert H. Scales Jr suggests that the new conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan requires
   a) sharing resources, shunning aggressive people, and controlling emotions.
   b) an exceptional ability to understand people, their culture, and their motivation.
   c) equally distributing resource and being honest with their emotions and feelings
   d) All of the above

25. The American Anthropological Association issued a formal statement
   a) commending the Human Terrain System Project’s training program.
   b) praising the Human Terrain System Project for its humanitarian efforts.
   c) encouraging anthropologists to support the Human Terrain System Project.
   d) condemning the Human Terrain System Project.

True/False Questions

26. War and violent conflict encourage sexism because they serve to promote selective population control.

27. Peggy Sanday argues that scarce resources encourage gender equality.

28. The fact that humans construct systems of meaning to justify violent conflict and distance themselves from its consequences suggests it is a natural aggressive impulse.

29. One way societies create a bias toward collective violence is by making it part of a code of honor.

30. The Inuit believe that strong thoughts can kill or cause illness, and they go to great
pains to satisfy other people so resentment does not build up.

31. One way people in peaceful societies create a bias against violence is by condemning those who boast or make claims that can be interpreted as a challenge to others.

32. The Xinguano people of South America maintain harmony between villages is by discouraging the creation of village monopolies on the production of a certain type of trade item.

33. Hobbes saw human beings as having a natural inclination to be violent—an inclination that can be controlled only by some form of centralized authority.

34. People in peaceful societies also avoid telling others what to do and carefully control their emotions in order to maintain goodwill.

35. In the United States, the effect of World War II on population was almost negligible; only about 0.2% was lost.

36. Carneiro reasons that war did not served to promote the consolidation of isolated, politically autonomous villages into chiefdoms of united villages and into states.

37. The only reason you have nuclear weapons is for deterrence.

38. To defeat the insurgency in Iraq the U.S. military must avoid the tribal structure of the country and disregard the traditional authority structure and the divisions and competing interests of different groups, such as the Shia, Sunni, and Kurds.

39. Short Answer Questions -options

a. What are the similarities between the Yanomamo concept of *waiteri* and the street gang concept of "heart"? [p. 319]

b. How do the Kohistani create a bias toward collective violence? [pp. 311-312]

c. What are three ways societies create a bias toward collective violence? [pp. 308-315]


e. How would a Kiowa man achieve ongop status in Kiowa society? [p. 309]


g. How are societies like the Yanomamo and groups like street gangs in America similar to each other? [pp. 319-320]
h. What is the anthropological reaction to HTS? [pp. 336-340]

i. What are some key characteristics of peaceful societies? [pp. 315-317]

j. Discuss the link between violence and male solidarity. [p. 326]

k. Discuss the terms of *technostrategic* language. [pp. 331-332]

l. What is the Semai notion of *Pehunan* [p. 315]

m. What methods are used by peaceful societies to avoid envy, jealousy, or competition? [pp. 315-317]

n. How have the gang wars in Chicago changed since the 1960s? [p. 319]

o. How are sexism and collective violence linked? [pp. 322-323]

**40. Essay Questions - options**

a. How do nuclear strategists justify their role in producing nuclear weapons? What role do metaphors and euphemisms play? [pp. 327-329]

b. What are The Human Terrain Concept and the Human Terrain Systems? Discuss the criticism of the program. [pp. 334-341]

c. What does Robert Carneiro argue about war and its effects on the evolution of societies? Explain his theory. [pp. 325-326]

d. What, according to Carol Cohn, is “technostrategic” language? What are some examples of this? Where is it used? [pp. 330-331]

e. Explain Hobbes' philosophy regarding the behavior of human beings in a natural state without government or laws. [p. 318]

f. What are some of the differences in gender roles between peaceful and violent societies? Cite and explain some reasons for these differences. [pp. 322-323]

g. Discuss Robert Carneiro’s argument for the rise of the state. [p. 325]

h. How does the history of contact with Western society help explain the Yanomamo patterns of warfare, violence, and aggression? [pp. 320-324]

**Annual Editions in Anthropology**
MISSING GIRLS, by MICHELLE GOLDBERG

KEY TERMS AND TOPICS

Female Feticide -- term used in India for sex-selective abortion.

Kudi Maar -- girl killer.

SRB -- sex-ration at birth.

MTP Act -- India’s Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act.

Dai -- midwife.

Sati -- the practice in which living widows burn with their husbands on their funeral pyres.

41. As given in “Missing Girls,” abortion in India was legalized in 1971 as part of the country’s attempt to
   a. avoid the birth of children with birth defects.
   b. control population growth.
   c. allow families to choose to have sons rather than daughters.
   d. bolster women’s rights.

42. As quoted in “Missing Girls,” Bedi, a specialist in fetal medicine in India, says that the first demand for female feticide comes from the
   a. father.
   b. paternal grandmother.
   c. government.
   d. mother.

43. Sex-selective abortion in India is
   a. demanded primarily by the urban middle class.
   b. the result of the Indian government’s two-child policy.
   c. reduced in frequency by female education.
   d. most often desired by the illiterate poor.

44. As noted in “Missing Girls,” despite widespread criticism of the practice, sex-determination tests are not illegal in India. (T/F)

45. Middle-class families in India have been the most averse to having daughters because of the exponential growth in dowries. (T/F)

46. As listed in “Missing Girls,” among the items expected as part of a dowry in India are a television, a motorcycle or car, a refrigerator, a washing machine, and quantities of gold. (T/F)
47. In the Punjab region of India, females historically have
   a. had little role in agriculture.
   b. been fed less than boys.
   c. been given less medical care.
   d. all of the above.

48. The decline in the sex ratio of girls to boys in the Punjab region of India, as reflected in the 2001 census, was primarily due to each of the following except
   a. girls being fed less than boys.
   b. female infanticide.
   c. girls being given less medical care than boys.
   d. sex-selective abortion.

49. As explained in “Missing Girls,” prosperous families in India are rejecting daughters because of the
   a. expense of college educations.
   b. growth of dowries.
   c. need for sons to take over the family business.
   d. social stigma of having more daughters than sons.

50. Which of the following is true of modernization in South Korea?
   a. It had the initial effect of increasing the sex ratio between boys and girls, but it also resulted in a decline in the preference for boys.
   b. It has resulted in an increase in the overall birthrate.
   c. The position of women in the society has declined.
   d. All of the above.

#25. MURDER IN AMMAN, by RANA HUSSEINI

KEY TERMS AND TOPICS

Honor Killing -- the killing of a person, most often female, in order to protect a family’s reputation.

Fit of Fury -- a phrase in the Jordanian Penal Code which permits a reduced sentence for those acting under stress.

51. In Jordanian society, a woman, rather than a man, is more likely to be blamed for
   a. being raped.
   b. being divorced.
   c. bearing a child of the wrong gender.
   d. all of the above.

52. Sarhan got a relatively light sentence for killing his sister because he testified that
   a. it was encouraged by his male relatives.
b. he had done it in a fit of rage.
c. his father was an accomplice.
d. he expressed regret for having done it.

53. In “Murder in Amman,” Sarhan justified the murder of his sister, Yasmin, by pointing out that his act was
   a. in accordance with the teachings of Islam.
   b. approved by and, therefore, not punishable by God.
   c. carried out for the sake of his family’s honor.
   d. all of the above.

54. In the case of Kifaya (“Murder in Amman”), she was killed by her brother because she
   a. divorced her husband.
   b. was raped by her brother.
   c. got an abortion.
   d. married a man thirty-four years her senior.

55. In the case of Sarhan’s murder of his sister (in “Murder in Amman”)
   the court found
   a. Sarhan guilty of a misdemeanor.
   b. that the girl had clearly been raped.
   c. the girl’s loss of her virginity a crime.
   d. all of the above.

56. According to Kifaya’s father (in “Murder in Amman”), the main reason his daughter was murdered had to do with
   a. Kifaya’s loss of virginity.
   b. Jealousy toward the father for living and working in the United States.
   c. The fact that Kifaya would not submit to an arranged marriage.
   d. Kifaya’s flirtatious behavior toward her brother-in-law.

57. In “Murder in Amman,” we learn that both men, Sirhan and Khalid, who murdered their sisters, feel that they are victims and have suffered from their acts. (T/F)

#33. WHY CAN’T PEOPLE FEED THEMSELVES?, by
FRANCES MOORE LAPPÉ AND JOSEPH COLLINS

KEY TERMS ANDTOPICS

Colonialism -- in this article, a system of foreign-based internal government whose interest is in world markets rather than the well-being of native populations.

Underdeveloped -- in this article, the process by which
colonialism has destroyed the ability of societies to produce their own food.

*Monoculture* -- a society that concerns itself with the production and exchange of a single product or type of product, to the detriment of other elements within the society.

58. According to "Why Can't People Feed Themselves?" the hunger problem in the world today is due to
   a. overpopulation.
   b. ongoing historical processes.
   c. poor use of land resources.
   d. communism.

59. Prior to European intervention, African farmers had
   a. a diversified cultivation system.
   b. single cash crop production.
   c. marketing boards to protect their rights.
   d. all of the above.

60. The colonial suppression of native agricultural development in many parts of the world has resulted in
   a. the replacement of food crops with cash crops.
   b. the best agricultural land being used for export crops.
   c. a dependence upon imported food.
   d. all of the above.

61. Colonial power turned native peoples from growing food for themselves to the production of cash crops by which of the following methods?
   a. Physical force.
   b. Direct takeover of native land.
   c. Taxation.
   d. All of the above.

62. The authors of "Why Can't People Feed Themselves?" argue that the only way to approach a solution to world hunger is to
   a. concentrate on developing underdeveloped countries.
   b. concentrate on changing the system that continues to undermine native self-sufficiency.
   c. identify the conspiratorial nature of the colonial system.
   d. export surplus agricultural products from the United States to countries in need.
   e. provide world bank loans to farmers.

63. According to "Why Can't People Feed Themselves?" the "problem" of world hunger is a myth. (T/F)
64. Colonialists have had at times the goal of keeping peasants from producing food for themselves. (T/F)

65. In "Why Can't People Feed Themselves?" how colonial powers turned native peoples from growing food for themselves to the production of cash crops is described. All of the following are methods used in this process except
   a. physical force.
   b. direct takeover of native land.
   c. severe restriction of the availability of imported food.
   d. taxation.

66. Hunger, as argued in "Why Can't People Feed Themselves?" is the direct result of
   a. native greed.
   b. capitalism.
   c. colonialism.
   d. industrialization.

67. Which of the following has been the preferred colonial technique to induce Africans to grow cash crops?
   a. Elimination of the marketing boards.
   b. The use of physical force.
   c. Taxation.
   d. Paying higher than the world market price for their crops.

68. Marketing boards generally serve the interests of
   a. colonial governments.
   b. international companies.
   c. local subsistence farmers.
   d. a and b only.

69. When plantation land is left out of production due to world market conditions, colonizers will generally allow peasants to
   a. grow their own food on it.
   b. grow cash crops on it.
   c. establish homes on it.
   d. do nothing with it.

70. According to Frances Moore Lappe, in the “author’s note,” the hunger crisis in the world today is the direct result of
   a. the earth’s limits
   b. less food being produced today than ever before
   c. concentrated, unaccountable economic power
   d. the desire of most people to live in cities

71. Countries that have widespread malnutrition have never been able to feed their populations, according to "Why Can’t People Feed Themselves?" (T/F)
72. In British Guiana, the colonial administration was able to cope with the emancipation of slaves and the crash in the world sugar market by allowing the ex-slaves to use the plantation land to grow food for themselves. (T/F)

**Short Answer Option 2 pts**

73. The authors of "Why Can't People Feed Themselves?" state that "hunger and underdevelopment must always be thought of as a ‘process’." What process are they talking about?

**Essay Option 5 pts**

74. As asserted in "Why Can't People Feed Themselves?" what has been the economic legacy of colonialism? How have historians misrepresented the nature of history?