

americans struggle with postwar issues

The Lingering Shadows: How Americans Struggle with Postwar Issues

americans struggle with postwar issues in profound and multifaceted ways, a testament to the enduring impact of conflict on individuals, communities, and the nation as a whole. From the invisible wounds carried by veterans to the economic and social reorientations required, the aftermath of war presents a complex tapestry of challenges. This article delves into the varied struggles Americans face as they navigate the return to peacetime, examining the psychological tolls, the societal adjustments, and the persistent governmental and familial responsibilities that define this often-overlooked period. We will explore the difficulties in reintegration, the long-term health consequences, and the evolving societal understanding of what it means to come home from war.

Table of Contents

- The Invisible Scars: Mental Health Challenges for Veterans
- Rebuilding Lives: The Difficulties of Civilian Reintegration
- Economic Repercussions and the Struggle for Stability
- Societal Perceptions and the Burden of Memory
- The Home Front: Families Navigating Postwar Realities
- Long-Term Health Concerns and the Legacy of Exposure
- Governmental and Institutional Support: Gaps and Progress

The Invisible Scars: Mental Health Challenges for Veterans

One of the most significant ways Americans struggle with postwar issues is through the pervasive mental health challenges faced by those who have served. The trauma of combat, the constant vigilance, and the moral injuries sustained can manifest long after deployment ends. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) remains a prominent concern, characterized by intrusive memories, nightmares, avoidance behaviors, and heightened arousal. Beyond PTSD, veterans grapple with depression, anxiety, and a sense of alienation. The psychological adjustments required to transition from a structured, high-stakes military environment to civilian life are immense, often leaving

individuals feeling disconnected and misunderstood. The stigma surrounding mental health within the military and society at large further complicates matters, discouraging many from seeking the help they desperately need. This internal battle is a silent struggle, a heavy burden carried by many who have sacrificed for their country.

Understanding Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

PTSD is a complex mental health condition that can affect individuals who have experienced or witnessed a traumatic event. For veterans, combat exposure is a common trigger. Symptoms can include flashbacks, severe anxiety, and uncontrollable thoughts about the event. The chronicity of PTSD means that its impact can be felt for years, significantly affecting a veteran's relationships, employment, and overall quality of life. Treatment often involves a combination of therapy and medication, but access to timely and effective care can be a significant hurdle for many struggling Americans.

The Prevalence of Depression and Anxiety

While PTSD often takes center stage, depression and anxiety are equally widespread among veterans. The cumulative stress of military service, coupled with the challenges of reintegration, can lead to profound feelings of sadness, hopelessness, and worry. These conditions can be exacerbated by factors such as loss of camaraderie, financial instability, and difficulty finding meaningful employment. Recognizing these co-occurring conditions is crucial for providing comprehensive support to those affected by postwar struggles.

Rebuilding Lives: The Difficulties of Civilian Reintegration

The transition from military service to civilian life presents a steep learning curve for many Americans. The structured, hierarchical, and mission-oriented nature of the military contrasts sharply with the often ambiguous and less regimented civilian world. Veterans may struggle to adapt to different social norms, communication styles, and expectations. The loss of a clear sense of purpose and belonging can lead to feelings of aimlessness and a struggle to find their place. This period of reintegration is critical, and the lack of adequate preparation or support can prolong these difficulties, making the postwar experience a prolonged and arduous one for many.

Challenges in Finding Meaningful Employment

One of the most significant hurdles in civilian reintegration is securing meaningful employment. While veterans possess valuable skills and a strong work ethic, translating military experience into civilian job qualifications can be challenging. Employers may not fully understand the breadth of skills acquired in service, leading to underemployment or unemployment. The lack of civilian-specific training or networking opportunities can further impede their job search, contributing to financial instability and a sense of lost purpose.

Restoring Social Connections and Family Bonds

The bonds forged in military units are often incredibly strong, and the separation from this camaraderie can be deeply felt upon returning home. Rebuilding and strengthening civilian social networks and family relationships can also be a complex process. Veterans may find it difficult to articulate their experiences, leading to a disconnect with loved ones who cannot fully comprehend their wartime realities. This can lead to feelings of isolation within their own communities and families, exacerbating their postwar struggles.

Economic Repercussions and the Struggle for Stability

The economic landscape following military service can be fraught with challenges for Americans. Beyond the immediate concerns of finding employment, veterans often face financial instability due to service-related disabilities, the time spent away from earning a civilian salary, and the costs associated with accessing healthcare and benefits. The economic impact of war is not solely confined to the battlefield; it extends to the livelihoods of those who have served and their families, creating a persistent struggle for financial security.

The Impact of Service-Connected Disabilities

Service-connected disabilities, whether physical or mental, can have a profound economic impact. These disabilities can limit an individual's ability to work, require extensive medical treatment, and incur ongoing care costs. Navigating the complexities of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability claims process can be a lengthy and often frustrating endeavor, adding to the financial strain. The inability to earn a consistent income due to a service-related condition is a significant postwar struggle for many.

Navigating Educational and Vocational Opportunities

While programs like the GI Bill offer valuable educational and vocational opportunities, accessing and utilizing these benefits effectively can still be a struggle. Veterans may face challenges in choosing the right career path, adapting to academic environments, or finding vocational training that aligns with their post-service goals. The investment of time and resources into education or training, without a guaranteed outcome, can add to the economic pressures faced during the postwar transition.

Societal Perceptions and the Burden of Memory

The way society perceives veterans and their experiences plays a crucial role in their postwar adjustment. Often, there is a disconnect between the public's romanticized or simplified notions of military service and the complex realities veterans face. This can lead to a lack of understanding and empathy, exacerbating the sense of isolation. The burden of memory, both personal and collective, also weighs heavily on Americans as they grapple with the ethical and emotional implications of war.

The Mismatch Between Public Perception and Veteran Reality

Many Americans struggle to reconcile their idealized images of soldiers with the often-difficult experiences of veterans. This can result in veterans feeling misunderstood or unappreciated, as their sacrifices and struggles are not fully acknowledged or comprehended by the wider public. The lack of nuanced understanding can lead to a perpetuation of stereotypes, making it harder for veterans to reintegrate into society.

Grappling with the Legacy of Conflict

The broader societal implications of war, including its costs, justifications, and consequences, are subjects of ongoing debate and reflection for Americans. Veterans often find themselves at the forefront of these discussions, carrying the weight of their experiences and the national narrative of conflict. This can be a profound burden, especially when the public discourse is polarized or lacking in historical context, forcing many to constantly re-evaluate their role and the meaning of their service.

The Home Front: Families Navigating Postwar Realities

The impact of war extends far beyond the deployed service member; families on the home front also experience significant postwar struggles. Spouses and children often bear the brunt of separation, anxiety, and the challenges of reintegration. The return of a loved one can bring its own set of adjustments, as the family dynamic may have shifted during their absence. The emotional and practical demands placed on these families are substantial.

Spousal Support and Adaptation

Military spouses often serve as the primary caregivers and emotional anchors during deployments. Upon a service member's return, they must navigate the challenges of their partner's reintegration, potentially dealing with the emotional fallout of their experiences. This can include managing PTSD symptoms, supporting career changes, and re-establishing intimacy. The resilience and adaptability of military spouses are often underestimated, yet they are crucial to the successful postwar transition of the entire family unit.

Children's Adjustment and Well-being

Children of service members face unique challenges. They may have experienced multiple parental absences, moved frequently due to military assignments, and grappled with anxiety about their parent's safety. The return of a parent can be met with joy, but also with apprehension as children adjust to a parent who may be changed by their experiences. Ensuring the emotional well-being of these children requires dedicated support and understanding.

Long-Term Health Concerns and the Legacy of Exposure

The physical health of veterans is another critical area where Americans struggle with postwar issues. Exposure to environmental hazards, combat stress, and the psychological toll of war can lead to a myriad of long-term health concerns that manifest years, even decades, after deployment. These health challenges require ongoing medical attention and often place a significant strain on both the individual and the healthcare system.

Environmental Hazards and Agent Orange

The legacy of exposure to environmental hazards, such as burn pits and depleted uranium, continues to affect the health of veterans. Conditions like respiratory illnesses, certain cancers, and neurological disorders have been linked to these exposures. The fight for recognition and benefits for these presumptive conditions has been a long and arduous one for many veterans, highlighting a persistent struggle to address the long-term health consequences of their service.

The Impact of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a signature wound of modern conflicts. Even mild TBIs can have lasting cognitive, emotional, and physical effects. Symptoms can include headaches, memory problems, mood swings, and sleep disturbances. The long-term management of TBI requires specialized care and ongoing support, making it a significant postwar health struggle for a considerable number of veterans.

Governmental and Institutional Support: Gaps and Progress

While significant strides have been made in supporting veterans, gaps persist in governmental and institutional efforts to address postwar issues. The sheer complexity of the challenges requires a comprehensive and continuously evolving approach. Understanding these limitations and advocating for improvements is an ongoing struggle for veterans and their advocates.

Navigating the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) System

The VA system is designed to provide essential healthcare, benefits, and support to veterans. However, many veterans report challenges in accessing timely care, navigating the bureaucracy of benefit claims, and receiving the comprehensive support they need. Wait times for appointments, inconsistencies in care, and the administrative burden of claims can all contribute to frustration and prolonged struggles for veterans seeking assistance.

The Evolving Landscape of Veteran Support Services

Numerous organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, are dedicated to assisting veterans. These services range from mental health counseling and job placement assistance to housing support and peer mentoring programs. While the growth of these services is a positive development, ensuring that veterans are aware of and can easily access these resources remains a challenge. Continuous evaluation and adaptation of these support systems are necessary to effectively address the dynamic and persistent postwar struggles faced by Americans.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the most prominent long-term mental health challenges faced by American veterans of recent conflicts (e.g., Iraq and Afghanistan)?

Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), depression, and anxiety remain significant long-term mental health challenges for American veterans. These conditions can lead to difficulties reintegrating into civilian life, strained relationships, and increased risk of substance abuse and suicide.

How does the economic reintegration of veterans differ from previous generations, and what are the current obstacles?

While educational benefits like the GI Bill have improved economic reintegration, veterans today often face a competitive job market, the need for civilian-equivalent skills assessment, and challenges transitioning from military culture to corporate environments. Underemployment and difficulty finding jobs aligned with their experience are common obstacles.

What is the current state of healthcare access for veterans, particularly regarding specialized care for war-related injuries?

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides healthcare to millions of veterans, but access can be inconsistent. Issues include long wait times for appointments, geographical disparities in service availability, and the ongoing need for specialized care for complex physical and mental injuries, often exacerbated by the aging veteran population.

How has the rise of private military contractors affected the perception and support for traditional military service in postwar periods?

The increased reliance on private military contractors (PMCs) can blur lines of accountability and create a disconnect between civilian populations and the sacrifices of traditional military personnel. This can potentially lead to reduced public engagement with postwar issues and a diminished understanding of the challenges faced by uniformed service members.

What are the societal challenges Americans face in understanding and empathizing with the experiences of veterans returning from war?

A growing disconnect exists between those who have served and the broader civilian population, often referred to as the 'civilian-military divide.' This can stem from a lack of direct experience with military life, differing cultural norms, and the difficulty of translating the intensity of combat experiences into relatable civilian terms.

How has the media's portrayal of war and veterans evolved, and what impact does it have on postwar public perception?

Media portrayals have shifted from often heroic or simplistic depictions to more nuanced and sometimes critical representations. While this can foster greater understanding of postwar struggles, it can also contribute to stereotypes or a focus on negative aspects, influencing public opinion on veteran support and military engagement.

What are the current efforts to address the opioid crisis and substance abuse among veterans, and what are the ongoing difficulties?

The VA has implemented programs focusing on pain management alternatives and behavioral health interventions. However, the persistent issue of chronic pain, coupled with the lingering effects of trauma and difficulty adjusting to civilian life, continues to make veterans vulnerable to substance abuse, including opioids.

How are the political and legislative landscapes adapting to the evolving needs of veterans in postwar America?

There's ongoing debate and legislative action concerning veterans' benefits, healthcare, and employment. While bipartisan support exists for veteran issues, challenges remain in fully funding and implementing effective programs, addressing bureaucratic inefficiencies within the VA, and adapting policies to the specific needs of different veteran cohorts.

What are the long-term societal and ethical considerations of prolonged or repeated military engagements on American society?

Prolonged engagements can lead to societal fatigue, increased national debt, and a questioning of foreign policy objectives. Ethically, there are ongoing debates about the long-term impact on the all-volunteer force, the psychological toll on service members and their families, and the moral implications of sustained conflict.

How are veteran support organizations and community

initiatives contributing to the postwar reintegration process, and what are their limitations?

These organizations play a crucial role by providing a range of services including peer support, career counseling, housing assistance, and advocacy. Their limitations often involve funding, capacity to meet the diverse needs of a growing veteran population, and the challenge of reaching all veterans who require assistance.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles related to Americans' struggles with postwar issues, each using italics and followed by a short description:

1. *The Grapes of Wrath*

This epic novel chronicles the arduous journey of the Joad family, Oklahoma tenant farmers displaced by the Dust Bowl and economic hardship during the Great Depression. Facing societal prejudice and exploitation as migrant workers in California, they grapple with poverty, loss, and the erosion of dignity, striving to maintain hope and family unity in a land that offers little solace. The book powerfully depicts the struggle for survival and the resilience of the human spirit against overwhelming odds.

2. *Slaughterhouse-Five*

Kurt Vonnegut's iconic anti-war novel tells the story of Billy Pilgrim, a soldier who becomes "unstuck in time" after surviving the firebombing of Dresden in World War II. Traumatized and detached, Billy drifts through his life, experiencing both the horrors of war and the absurdities of the postwar world. The narrative explores themes of fate, free will, and the difficulty of finding meaning in the face of unimaginable destruction and loss.

3. *The Things They Carried*

Tim O'Brien's collection of interconnected short stories offers a deeply personal and unflinching look at the experiences of American soldiers in the Vietnam War and their subsequent struggles with the war's emotional and psychological toll. Through vivid anecdotes and reflections, the book examines how soldiers carry not only their physical burdens but also the weight of memory, guilt, and trauma. It delves into the nature of truth, storytelling, and the enduring impact of war on individuals and their relationships.

4. *Catch-22*

Joseph Heller's satirical masterpiece satirizes the absurdity of war and the bureaucratic madness that defines it. Set during World War II, the novel follows Captain John Yossarian, a bombardier who desperately tries to get out of flying more missions, only to be caught in the inescapable logic of Catch-22, a contradictory military rule. The book exposes the moral compromises, psychological strain, and futility faced by soldiers in a conflict driven by nonsensical regulations and self-serving officials.

5. *The Best Years of Our Lives*

While primarily a film title, this phrase encapsulates a common postwar theme explored in literature as well. Books bearing this thematic weight often depict returning soldiers grappling with reintegration into civilian life after the profound experiences of war. They navigate challenges in finding employment, re-establishing family roles, and coping with newfound anxieties and a sense of

displacement from their pre-war selves. The struggle is to reclaim or redefine "the best years" in a vastly altered personal landscape.

6. *A Farewell to Arms*

Ernest Hemingway's poignant novel, set during World War I, follows Frederic Henry, an American ambulance driver in the Italian army, as he falls in love with a British nurse. The war's brutality and senselessness deeply affect Henry, leading him to desert and seek refuge and peace with his love. The book powerfully illustrates the disillusionment with war, the search for personal solace amidst widespread destruction, and the fragile hopes for a life free from conflict.

7. *Billy Bathgate*

E.L. Doctorow's novel traces the journey of a young boy who falls in with the notorious Dutch Schultz gang in the 1930s, a period still deeply affected by the lingering societal and economic consequences of World War I and the rise of organized crime. Billy witnesses firsthand the violence and moral corruption of this underworld, struggling to navigate a world where loyalty is fleeting and survival often depends on ruthless pragmatism. The story explores themes of innocence lost and the corrosive influence of societal breakdown.

8. *The American Dream: A History*

While a broad historical text, this title's thematic exploration often encompasses the postwar periods when the ideal of the American Dream was both aspired to and fiercely contested. Books of this nature would examine how veterans, working-class families, and minority groups faced immense challenges in achieving economic security, social mobility, and a sense of belonging after periods of national upheaval and war. They often highlight the gap between promise and reality, revealing the struggles for inclusion and equitable opportunity.

9. *Invisible Man*

Ralph Ellison's seminal novel explores the complex and isolating experiences of an unnamed African American narrator in the postwar United States. The protagonist struggles with his identity, race, and the pervasive racism that renders him invisible to a society that refuses to acknowledge his humanity. He grapples with disillusionment, the search for self-acceptance, and the fight for recognition and agency in a world shaped by systemic prejudice and societal negligence.

[Americans Struggle With Postwar Issues](#)

Americans Struggle with Postwar Issues: A Comprehensive Examination of Lingering Challenges

This ebook delves into the multifaceted and enduring challenges faced by Americans in the aftermath of major wars, exploring the psychological, social, economic, and political ramifications that continue to shape the nation's landscape. We will examine the historical context, analyze current research, and offer practical strategies for understanding and addressing these persistent issues.

Ebook Title: The Unseen Scars: Understanding and Addressing America's Postwar Challenges

Contents:

Introduction: Setting the stage – defining postwar issues and their historical context.

Chapter 1: Psychological Impacts of War: Examining PTSD, moral injury, and other mental health consequences.

Chapter 2: Socioeconomic Disparities and Veterans: Analyzing the economic challenges faced by veterans and their families, including unemployment, homelessness, and healthcare access.

Chapter 3: Political Polarization and War's Legacy: Exploring how past conflicts have shaped political divisions and influenced current policies.

Chapter 4: The Impact on Families and Communities: Investigating the ripple effects of war on family structures, social cohesion, and community resilience.

Chapter 5: The Role of Government and Support Systems: Analyzing the effectiveness of existing veteran support programs and identifying areas for improvement.

Chapter 6: Long-Term Physical Health Consequences: Exploring the long-term physical health effects of military service, including chronic illnesses and injuries.

Chapter 7: Addressing the Challenges: Strategies for Healing and Prevention: Offering practical strategies for individuals, communities, and policymakers to mitigate the negative impacts of war.

Conclusion: Summarizing key findings, highlighting ongoing challenges, and proposing future research directions.

Detailed Outline Explanations:

Introduction: This section will provide a foundational understanding of the term "postwar issues," outlining its historical context, including the impact of major wars like World War II, the Vietnam War, and more recent conflicts, and setting the stage for the subsequent chapters.

Chapter 1: Psychological Impacts of War: This chapter will examine the prevalent mental health issues experienced by veterans and their families, including Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), moral injury, depression, anxiety, and substance abuse. It will discuss the latest research on the diagnosis, treatment, and long-term effects of these conditions.

Chapter 2: Socioeconomic Disparities and Veterans: This section will delve into the socioeconomic challenges faced by returning veterans, such as unemployment, homelessness, inadequate healthcare access, and financial instability. It will analyze the contributing factors and explore existing government programs and initiatives designed to address these issues.

Chapter 3: Political Polarization and War's Legacy: This chapter will investigate the ways in which past wars have contributed to political polarization and influenced public opinion on matters of national security, foreign policy, and military intervention. It will explore the complex interplay between war, political ideology, and societal divisions.

Chapter 4: The Impact on Families and Communities: This section will examine the broader societal impact of war, including the effects on family structures, social cohesion, and community resilience. It will discuss the challenges faced by families of deployed service members and the impact of veteran reintegration on communities.

Chapter 5: The Role of Government and Support Systems: This chapter will analyze the effectiveness of existing government programs and support systems for veterans, including the Department of

Veterans Affairs (VA) healthcare system, employment assistance programs, and housing initiatives. It will identify areas for improvement and explore potential policy reforms.

Chapter 6: Long-Term Physical Health Consequences: This chapter will focus on the long-term physical health consequences of military service, including chronic illnesses, traumatic brain injuries (TBIs), amputations, and exposure to toxins. It will discuss the challenges of providing adequate medical care and support for veterans dealing with these conditions.

Chapter 7: Addressing the Challenges: Strategies for Healing and Prevention: This chapter will offer practical strategies for addressing postwar challenges at the individual, community, and policy levels. This will include discussing mental health support, community-based initiatives, and policy recommendations to improve veteran support programs.

Conclusion: This section will summarize the key findings of the ebook, reiterate the significance of understanding and addressing postwar challenges, and offer suggestions for future research and policy initiatives.

Americans Struggle with Postwar Issues: A Detailed Examination

(H1) Introduction: The Lingering Shadow of War

The aftermath of war extends far beyond the battlefield. While the physical conflict may end, the psychological, social, economic, and political repercussions resonate for generations. American history is rife with examples of the profound and lasting impacts of major conflicts, from the Civil War's legacy of racial division to the Vietnam War's devastating impact on public trust. This ebook will explore the complex and multifaceted challenges facing Americans in the wake of these conflicts, focusing on recent research and practical strategies for addressing these persistent issues.

(H2) Chapter 1: The Psychological Toll: PTSD and Beyond

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a widely recognized consequence of military service, but the psychological toll of war extends far beyond this single diagnosis. Moral injury, characterized by a sense of guilt or shame related to actions or experiences during combat, is increasingly acknowledged as a significant factor contributing to mental health problems among veterans. Recent research highlights the complex interplay between PTSD, moral injury, and other conditions like depression, anxiety, and substance abuse. (Include relevant statistics and research citations here)

(H2) Chapter 2: Economic Hardship: The Socioeconomic Burden

Returning veterans often face significant economic challenges, including unemployment, underemployment, and homelessness. Factors such as the skills gap, lack of accessible job training, and the challenges of transitioning back to civilian life all contribute to this problem. Recent studies reveal disproportionately high rates of poverty and financial insecurity among veteran populations, especially those from marginalized communities. (Include relevant data and statistics from sources like the US Department of Veterans Affairs)

(H2) Chapter 3: Political Divides: The War's Lasting Influence on Politics

War significantly shapes political discourse and public opinion. The legacy of past conflicts can influence policy decisions, fuel political polarization, and create lasting divisions within society. For example, the Vietnam War's legacy continues to shape debates about military intervention and foreign policy. (Discuss specific examples and their impact on current political debates).

(H2) Chapter 4: Family and Community Impacts: The Ripple Effect

The impact of war extends far beyond the individual veteran. Families often bear the brunt of emotional and practical burdens, facing challenges related to separation, deployment stress, and the difficulties of reintegration. Communities, too, experience the ripple effects of war, navigating the challenges of supporting returning veterans and addressing the societal consequences of conflict.

(H2) Chapter 5: Government Support: Strengths and Weaknesses of the System

The US government provides various support programs for veterans, primarily through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). While these programs offer essential services such as healthcare, employment assistance, and housing, they face challenges related to funding, access, and efficiency. This section will analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and explore potential improvements.

(H2) Chapter 6: Long-Term Physical Health: The Invisible Wounds

War often leaves behind lasting physical health consequences, ranging from traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) and amputations to chronic illnesses resulting from exposure to toxins or combat-related injuries. The long-term care and support required for veterans with these conditions represent significant challenges for both individuals and the healthcare system. (Cite relevant research and statistics on TBI, exposure to toxins like Agent Orange, and other long-term health issues).

(H2) Chapter 7: Strategies for Healing and Prevention: Moving Forward

Addressing the multifaceted challenges faced by Americans in the aftermath of war requires a multi-pronged approach. This section will explore practical strategies for individuals, communities, and policymakers. These will include improving access to mental health care, expanding employment opportunities, strengthening support networks for families, and implementing policy reforms to enhance veteran support programs.

(H1) Conclusion: A Call to Action

Understanding and addressing the lingering challenges of postwar America is a crucial step towards building a more resilient and equitable society. By acknowledging the far-reaching consequences of war and actively working to support veterans and their families, we can strive to create a future where the sacrifices of those who serve are truly honored and their needs are fully met. Continued research, policy innovation, and community engagement are essential to mitigating the enduring impact of war and fostering a society that values and supports its veterans.

FAQs

1. What is moral injury, and how does it differ from PTSD?
2. What are the most common socioeconomic challenges faced by veterans?
3. How has the Vietnam War shaped current political discourse?
4. What support systems are available for families of deployed service members?
5. What are the key weaknesses of the VA healthcare system?
6. What are the long-term physical health consequences of exposure to Agent Orange?
7. What community-based initiatives are effective in supporting veterans?
8. What policy reforms are needed to improve veteran support programs?
9. What are some resources available for veterans seeking mental health care?

Related Articles

1. The Economic Reintegration of Veterans: This article explores the challenges veterans face in transitioning to civilian employment and offers solutions to address the skills gap and unemployment.
2. PTSD and Moral Injury in Modern Warfare: This article delves into the psychological impacts of contemporary conflicts and discusses the latest research on treatment and prevention.
3. The Impact of Military Deployment on Families: This article examines the effects of deployment on family relationships and provides support resources for military families.
4. The VA Healthcare System: A Critical Analysis: This article offers a comprehensive assessment of the VA healthcare system, its strengths, weaknesses, and potential areas for reform.
5. The Long-Term Physical Health Effects of Military Service: This article focuses on the physical health consequences of military service, including chronic illness and traumatic injuries.
6. Community-Based Support for Veterans: This article explores effective community-based initiatives designed to support the reintegration and well-being of veterans.
7. Policy Reforms Needed to Support Veterans: This article outlines policy recommendations to improve veteran support programs and address the needs of veterans and their families.
8. Mental Health Resources for Veterans: This article provides a list of resources and organizations offering mental health support services to veterans.
9. The Political Legacy of the Vietnam War: This article examines the lasting influence of the Vietnam War on US foreign policy and political discourse.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *American Babylon* Robert O. Self, 2005-08-28 A gripping portrait of black power politics and the struggle for civil rights in postwar Oakland As the birthplace of the Black Panthers and a nationwide tax revolt, California embodied a crucial motif of the postwar United States: the rise of suburbs and the decline of cities, a process in which black and white histories inextricably joined. *American Babylon* tells this story through Oakland and its nearby suburbs, tracing both the history of civil rights and black power politics as well as the history of suburbanization and home-owner politics. Robert Self shows that racial inequities in both New Deal and Great Society liberalism precipitated local struggles over land, jobs, taxes, and race within postwar metropolitan development. Black power and the tax revolt evolved together, in tension. *American Babylon* demonstrates that the history of civil rights and black liberation politics in

California did not follow a southern model, but represented a long-term struggle for economic rights that began during the World War II years and continued through the rise of the Black Panthers in the late 1960s. This struggle yielded a wide-ranging and profound critique of postwar metropolitan development and its foundation of class and racial segregation. Self traces the roots of the 1978 tax revolt to the 1940s, when home owners, real estate brokers, and the federal government used racial segregation and industrial property taxes to forge a middle-class lifestyle centered on property ownership. Using the East Bay as a starting point, Robert Self gives us a richly detailed, engaging narrative that uniquely integrates the most important racial liberation struggles and class politics of postwar America.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Texas Mexican Americans and Postwar Civil Rights Maggie Rivas-Rodriguez, 2015-07-15 After World War II, Mexican American veterans returned home to lead the civil rights struggles of the fifties, sixties, and seventies. Many of their stories have been recorded by the Voces Oral History Project (formerly the U.S. Latino & Latina World War II Oral History Project), founded and directed by Maggie Rivas-Rodriguez at the University of Texas at Austin School of Journalism. In this volume, she draws upon the vast resources of the Voces Project, as well as archives in other parts of the country, to tell the stories of three little-known advancements in Mexican American civil rights. The first two stories recount local civil rights efforts that typified the grassroots activism of Mexican Americans across the Southwest. One records the successful effort led by parents to integrate the Alpine, Texas, public schools in 1969—fifteen years after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that separate schools were inherently unconstitutional. The second describes how El Paso's first Mexican American mayor, Raymond Telles, quietly challenged institutionalized racism to integrate the city's police and fire departments, thus opening civil service employment to Mexican Americans. The final account provides the first history of the early days of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) and its founder Pete Tijerina Jr. from MALDEF's incorporation in San Antonio in 1968 until its move to San Francisco in 1972.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Tomorrow, the World Stephen Wertheim, 2020-10-27 A Foreign Affairs Best Book of the Year “Even in these dismal times genuinely important books do occasionally make their appearance...You really ought to read it...A tour de force...While Wertheim is not the first to expose isolationism as a carefully constructed myth, he does so with devastating effect.” —Andrew J. Bacevich, *The Nation* For most of its history, the United States avoided making political and military commitments that would entangle it in power politics. Then, suddenly, it conceived a new role for itself as an armed superpower—and never looked back. In *Tomorrow, the World*, Stephen Wertheim traces America's transformation to World War II, right before the attack on Pearl Harbor. As late as 1940, the small coterie formulating U.S. foreign policy wanted British preeminence to continue. Axis conquests swept away their assumptions, leading them to conclude that America should extend its form of law and order across the globe, and back it at gunpoint. No one really favored “isolationism”—a term introduced by advocates of armed supremacy to burnish their cause. We live, Wertheim warns, in the world these men created. A sophisticated and impassioned account that questions the wisdom of U.S. supremacy, *Tomorrow, the World* reveals the intellectual path that brought us to today's endless wars. “Its implications are invigorating...Wertheim opens space for Americans to reexamine their own history and ask themselves whether primacy has ever really met their interests.” —New Republic “For almost 80 years now, historians and diplomats have sought not only to describe America's swift advance to global primacy but also to explain it...Any writer wanting to make a novel contribution either has to have evidence for a new interpretation, or at least be making an older argument in some improved and eye-catching way. *Tomorrow, the World* does both.” —Paul Kennedy, *Wall Street Journal*

americans struggle with postwar issues: Postwar Tony Judt, 2006-09-05 Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize • Winner of the Council on Foreign Relations Arthur Ross Book Award • One of the New York Times' Ten Best Books of the Year “Impressive . . . Mr. Judt writes with enormous authority.” —The Wall Street Journal “Magisterial . . . It is, without a doubt, the most

comprehensive, authoritative, and yes, readable postwar history.” —The Boston Globe Almost a decade in the making, this much-anticipated grand history of postwar Europe from one of the world's most esteemed historians and intellectuals is a singular achievement. Postwar is the first modern history that covers all of Europe, both east and west, drawing on research in six languages to sweep readers through thirty-four nations and sixty years of political and cultural change—all in one integrated, enthralling narrative. Both intellectually ambitious and compelling to read, thrilling in its scope and delightful in its small details, Postwar is a rare joy. Judt's book, *Ill Fares the Land*, republished in 2021 featuring a new preface by bestselling author of *Between the World and Me* and *The Water Dancer*, Ta-Nehisi Coates.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Postwar Economic Problems Seymour Edwin Harris, 1943

americans struggle with postwar issues: We Are Not Slaves Robert T. Chase, 2019-11-21
Hank Lacayo Best Labor Themed Book, International Latino Book Awards Best Book Award, Division of Critical Criminology and Social Justice, American Society of Criminology In the early twentieth century, the brutality of southern prisons became a national scandal. Prisoners toiled in grueling, violent conditions while housed in crude dormitories on what were effectively slave plantations. This system persisted until the 1940s when, led by Texas, southern states adopted northern prison design reforms. Texas presented the reforms to the public as modern, efficient, and disciplined. Inside prisons, however, the transition to penitentiary cells only made the endemic violence more secretive, intensifying the labor division that privileged some prisoners with the power to accelerate state-orchestrated brutality and the internal sex trade. Reformers' efforts had only made things worse—now it was up to the prisoners to fight for change. Drawing from three decades of legal documents compiled by prisoners, Robert T. Chase narrates the struggle to change prison from within. Prisoners forged an alliance with the NAACP to contest the constitutionality of Texas prisons. Behind bars, a prisoner coalition of Chicano Movement and Black Power organizations publicized their deplorable conditions as slaves of the state and initiated a prison-made civil rights revolution and labor protest movement. These insurgents won epochal legal victories that declared conditions in many southern prisons to be cruel and unusual—but their movement was overwhelmed by the increasing militarization of the prison system and empowerment of white supremacist gangs that, together, declared war on prison organizers. Told from the vantage point of the prisoners themselves, this book weaves together untold but devastatingly important truths from the histories of labor, civil rights, and politics in the United States as it narrates the transition from prison plantations of the past to the mass incarceration of today.

americans struggle with postwar issues: The US Air Force after Vietnam : postwar challenges and potential for responses Donald J. Mrozek, 2001 This book probes various groups of Americans as they come to grips with the consequences of the Vietnam War. Dr. Mrozek examines several areas of concern facing the United States Air Force, and the other services in varying degrees, in the years after Vietnam.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *In the Name of National Security* Robert J. Corber, 1993-10-20 *In the Name of National Security* exposes the ways in which the films of Alfred Hitchcock, in conjunction with liberal intellectuals and political figures of the 1950s, fostered homophobia so as to politicize issues of gender in the United States. As Corber shows, throughout the 1950s a cast of mind known as the Cold War consensus prevailed in the United States. Promoted by Cold War liberals—that is, liberals who wanted to preserve the legacies of the New Deal but also wished to separate liberalism from a Communist-dominated cultural politics—this consensus was grounded in the perceived threat that Communists, lesbians, and homosexuals posed to national security. Through an analysis of the films of Alfred Hitchcock, combined with new research on the historical context in which these films were produced, Corber shows how Cold War liberals tried to contain the increasing heterogeneity of American society by linking questions of gender and sexual identity directly to issues of national security, a strategic move that the films of Hitchcock both legitimated and at times undermined. Drawing on psychoanalytic and Marxist theory, Corber looks

at such films as *Rear Window*, *Strangers on a Train*, and *Psycho* to show how Hitchcock manipulated viewers' attachments and identifications to foster and reinforce the relationship between homophobia and national security issues. A revisionary account of Hitchcock's major works, *In the Name of National Security* is also of great interest for what it reveals about the construction of political reality in American history.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *Deeply Divided* Doug McAdam, Karina Kloos, 2014-08-18 By many measures--commonsensical or statistical--the United States has not been more divided politically or economically in the last hundred years than it is now. How have we gone from the striking bipartisan cooperation and relative economic equality of the war years and post-war period to the extreme inequality and savage partisan divisions of today? In this sweeping look at American politics from the Depression to the present, Doug McAdam and Karina Kloos argue that party politics alone is not responsible for the mess we find ourselves in. Instead, it was the ongoing interaction of social movements and parties that, over time, pushed Democrats and Republicans toward their ideological margins, undermining the post-war consensus in the process. The Civil Rights struggle and the white backlash it provoked reintroduced the centrifugal force of social movements into American politics, ushering in an especially active and sustained period of movement/party dynamism, culminating in today's tug of war between the Tea Party and Republican establishment for control of the GOP. In *Deeply Divided*, McAdam and Kloos depart from established explanations of the conservative turn in the United States and trace the roots of political polarization and economic inequality back to the shifting racial geography of American politics in the 1960s. Angered by Lyndon Johnson's more aggressive embrace of civil rights reform in 1964, Southern Dixiecrats abandoned the Democrats for the first time in history, setting in motion a sustained regional realignment that would, in time, serve as the electoral foundation for a resurgent and increasingly more conservative Republican Party.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *The Americans* McDougal-Littell Publishing Staff, 2002-03-04

americans struggle with postwar issues: *The Liberal Consensus Reconsidered* Robert Mason, Iwan Morgan, 2019-11-12 Here, leading scholars-including Hodgson himself-confront the longstanding theory that a liberal consensus shaped the United States after World War II. The essays draw on fresh research to examine how the consensus related to key policy areas, how it was viewed by different factions and groups, what its limitations were, and why it fell apart in the late 1960s.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Cold War Crucible Hajimu Masuda, 2015-02-09 After World War II, the major powers faced social upheaval at home and anticolonial wars around the globe. Alarmed by conflict in Korea that could change U.S.-Soviet relations from chilly to nuclear, ordinary people and policymakers created a fantasy of a bipolar Cold War world in which global and domestic order was paramount, Masuda Hajimu shows.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Food Power Bryan L. McDonald, 2017 Food Power brings together the history of food, agriculture, and foreign policy to explore the use of food to promote American national security and national interests during the first three decades of the Cold War.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Bowling Alone: Revised and Updated Robert D. Putnam, 2020-10-13 Updated to include a new chapter about the influence of social media and the Internet--the 20th anniversary edition of *Bowling Alone* remains a seminal work of social analysis, and its examination of what happened to our sense of community remains more relevant than ever in today's fractured America. Twenty years ago, Robert D. Putnam made a seemingly simple observation: once we bowled in leagues, usually after work; but no longer. This seemingly small phenomenon symbolized a significant social change that became the basis of the acclaimed bestseller, *Bowling Alone*, which *The Washington Post* called "a very important book" and Putnam, "the de Tocqueville of our generation." *Bowling Alone* surveyed in detail Americans' changing behavior over the decades, showing how we had become increasingly disconnected from family,

friends, neighbors, and social structures, whether it's with the PTA, church, clubs, political parties, or bowling leagues. In the revised edition of his classic work, Putnam shows how our shrinking access to the "social capital" that is the reward of communal activity and community sharing still poses a serious threat to our civic and personal health, and how these consequences have a new resonance for our divided country today. He includes critical new material on the pervasive influence of social media and the internet, which has introduced previously unthinkable opportunities for social connection—as well as unprecedented levels of alienation and isolation. At the time of its publication, Putnam's then-groundbreaking work showed how social bonds are the most powerful predictor of life satisfaction, and how the loss of social capital is felt in critical ways, acting as a strong predictor of crime rates and other measures of neighborhood quality of life, and affecting our health in other ways. While the ways in which we connect, or become disconnected, have changed over the decades, his central argument remains as powerful and urgent as ever: mending our frayed social capital is key to preserving the very fabric of our society.

americans struggle with postwar issues: The Other America Michael Harrington, 1997-08 Examines the economic underworld of migrant farm workers, the aged, minority groups, and other economically underprivileged groups.

americans struggle with postwar issues: The 9.9 Percent Matthew Stewart, 2021-10-12 A "brilliant" (The Washington Post), "clear-eyed and incisive" (The New Republic) analysis of how the wealthiest group in American society is making life miserable for everyone—including themselves. In 21st-century America, the top 0.1% of the wealth distribution have walked away with the big prizes even while the bottom 90% have lost ground. What's left of the American Dream has taken refuge in the 9.9% that lies just below the tip of extreme wealth. Collectively, the members of this group control more than half of the wealth in the country—and they are doing whatever it takes to hang on to their piece of the action in an increasingly unjust system. They log insane hours at the office and then turn their leisure time into an excuse for more career-building, even as they rely on an underpaid servant class to power their economic success and satisfy their personal needs. They have segregated themselves into zip codes designed to exclude as many people as possible. They have made fitness a national obsession even as swaths of the population lose healthcare and grow sicker. They have created an unprecedented demand for admission to elite schools and helped to fuel the dramatic cost of higher education. They channel their political energy into symbolic conflicts over identity in order to avoid acknowledging the economic roots of their privilege. And they have created an ethos of "merit" to justify their advantages. They are all around us. In fact, they are us—or what we are supposed to want to be. In this "captivating account" (Robert D. Putnam, author of *Bowling Alone*), Matthew Stewart argues that a new aristocracy is emerging in American society and it is repeating the mistakes of history. It is entrenching inequality, warping our culture, eroding democracy, and transforming an abundant economy into a source of misery. He calls for a regrounding of American culture and politics on a foundation closer to the original promise of America.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Getting Tough Julilly Kohler-Hausmann, 2017-05-02 The politics and policies that led to America's expansion of the penal system and reduction of welfare programs In 1970s America, politicians began getting tough on drugs, crime, and welfare. These campaigns helped expand the nation's penal system, discredit welfare programs, and cast blame for the era's social upheaval on racialized deviants that the state was not accountable to serve or represent. *Getting Tough* sheds light on how this unprecedented growth of the penal system and the evisceration of the nation's welfare programs developed hand in hand. Julilly Kohler-Hausmann shows that these historical events were animated by struggles over how to interpret and respond to the inequality and disorder that crested during this period. When social movements and the slowing economy destabilized the U.S. welfare state, politicians reacted by repudiating the commitment to individual rehabilitation that had governed penal and social programs for decades. In its place, they championed strategies of punishment, surveillance, and containment. The architects of these tough strategies insisted they were necessary, given the failure of liberal social programs and the

supposed pathological culture within poor African American and Latino communities.

Kohler-Hausmann rejects this explanation and describes how the spectacle of enacting punitive policies convinced many Americans that social investment was counterproductive and the underclass could be managed only through coercion and force. *Getting Tough* illuminates this narrative through three legislative cases: New York's adoption of the 1973 Rockefeller drug laws, Illinois's and California's attempts to reform welfare through criminalization and work mandates, and California's passing of a 1976 sentencing law that abandoned rehabilitation as an aim of incarceration. Spanning diverse institutions and weaving together the perspectives of opponents, supporters, and targets of punitive policies, *Getting Tough* offers new interpretations of dramatic transformations in the modern American state.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *Is This Tomorrow* , 2016 Originally published in the midst of the cold war, *Is This Tomorrow* is a classic example of red scare propaganda. The story envisions a scenario in which the Soviet Union orders American communists to overthrow the US Government. Charles Schulz contributed to the artwork throughout the issue. Reprinted here for the first time in 70 years.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *Time and Social Theory* Barbara Adam, 2013-03-01 Time is at the forefront of contemporary scholarly inquiry across the natural sciences and the humanities. Yet the social sciences have remained substantially isolated from time-related concerns. This book argues that time should be a key part of social theory and focuses concern upon issues which have emerged as central to an understanding of today's social world. Through her analysis of time Barbara Adam shows that our contemporary social theories are firmly embedded in Newtonian science and classical dualistic philosophy. She exposes these classical frameworks of thought as inadequate to the task of conceptualizing our contemporary world of standardized time, computers, nuclear power and global telecommunications.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *Broccoli and Desire* Edward F. Fischer, 2006 This book takes a surprising look at the hidden world of broccoli, connecting American consumers concerned about their health and diet with Maya farmers concerned about holding onto their land and making a living. Compelling life stories and rich descriptions from ethnographic fieldwork among supermarket shoppers in Nashville, Tennessee and Maya farmers in highland Guatemala bring the commodity chain of this seemingly mundane product to life. For affluent Americans, broccoli fits into everyday concerns about eating right, being healthy, staying in shape, and valuing natural foods. For Maya farmers, this new export crop provides an opportunity to make a little extra money in difficult, often risky circumstances. Unbeknownst to each other, the American consumer and the Maya farmer are bound together in webs of desire and material production.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *The Paranoid Style in American Politics* Richard Hofstadter, 2008-06-10 This timely reissue of Richard Hofstadter's classic work on the fringe groups that influence American electoral politics offers an invaluable perspective on contemporary domestic affairs. In *The Paranoid Style in American Politics*, acclaimed historian Richard Hofstadter examines the competing forces in American political discourse and how fringe groups can influence — and derail — the larger agendas of a political party. He investigates the politics of the irrational, shedding light on how the behavior of individuals can seem out of proportion with actual political issues, and how such behavior impacts larger groups. With such other classic essays as “Free Silver and the Mind of 'Coin' Harvey” and “What Happened to the Antitrust Movement?”, *The Paranoid Style in American Politics* remains both a seminal text of political history and a vital analysis of the ways in which political groups function in the United States.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *This Republic of Suffering* Drew Gilpin Faust, 2009-01-06 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • An extraordinary ... profoundly moving history (The New York Times Book Review) of the American Civil War that reveals the ways that death on such a scale changed not only individual lives but the life of the nation. An estimated 750,000 soldiers lost their lives in the American Civil War. An equivalent proportion of today's population would be seven and a half million. In *This Republic of Suffering*,

Drew Gilpin Faust describes how the survivors managed on a practical level and how a deeply religious culture struggled to reconcile the unprecedented carnage with its belief in a benevolent God. Throughout, the voices of soldiers and their families, of statesmen, generals, preachers, poets, surgeons, nurses, northerners and southerners come together to give us a vivid understanding of the Civil War's most fundamental and widely shared reality. With a new introduction by the author, and a new foreword by Mike Mullen, 17th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Stress in Post-War Britain, 1945-85 Mark Jackson, 2016-12-05 In the years following World War II the health and well-being of the nation was of primary concern to the British government. The essays in this collection examine the relationship between health and stress in post-war Britain through a series of carefully connected case studies.

americans struggle with postwar issues: The InterActive Reader Plus , 2005-06-20

americans struggle with postwar issues: The Cold War at Home Philip Jenkins, 1999 One of the most significant industrial states in the country, with a powerful radical tradition, Pennsylvania was, by the early 1950s, the scene of some of the fiercest anti-Communist activism in the United States. Philip Jenkins examines the political an

americans struggle with postwar issues: *A Consumers' Republic* Lizabeth Cohen, 2008-12-24 In this signal work of history, Bancroft Prize winner and Pulitzer Prize finalist Lizabeth Cohen shows how the pursuit of prosperity after World War II fueled our pervasive consumer mentality and transformed American life. Trumpeted as a means to promote the general welfare, mass consumption quickly outgrew its economic objectives and became synonymous with patriotism, social equality, and the American Dream. Material goods came to embody the promise of America, and the power of consumers to purchase everything from vacuum cleaners to convertibles gave rise to the power of citizens to purchase political influence and effect social change. Yet despite undeniable successes and unprecedented affluence, mass consumption also fostered economic inequality and the fracturing of society along gender, class, and racial lines. In charting the complex legacy of our "Consumers' Republic" Lizabeth Cohen has written a bold, encompassing, and profoundly influential book.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *The First Civil Right* Naomi Murakawa, 2014 In *The First Civil Right* is a groundbreaking analysis of root of the conflicts that lie at the intersection of race and the legal system in America. Naomi Murakawa inverts the conventional wisdom by arguing that the expansion of the federal carceral state-a system that disproportionately imprisons blacks and Latinos-was, in fact, rooted in the civil-rights liberalism of the 1940s and early 1960s, not in the period after.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *1919, The Year of Racial Violence* David F. Krugler, 2014-12-08 *1919, The Year of Racial Violence* recounts African Americans' brave stand against a cascade of mob attacks in the United States after World War I. The emerging New Negro identity, which prized unflinching resistance to second-class citizenship, further inspired veterans and their fellow black citizens. In city after city - Washington, DC; Chicago; Charleston; and elsewhere - black men and women took up arms to repel mobs that used lynching, assaults, and other forms of violence to protect white supremacy; yet, authorities blamed blacks for the violence, leading to mass arrests and misleading news coverage. Refusing to yield, African Americans sought accuracy and fairness in the courts of public opinion and the law. This is the first account of this three-front fight - in the streets, in the press, and in the courts - against mob violence during one of the worst years of racial conflict in US history.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *The Forgotten Fifth* Gary B Nash, 2009-06-30 As the United States gained independence, a full fifth of the country's population was African American. The experiences of these men and women have been largely ignored in the accounts of the colonies' glorious quest for freedom. In this compact volume, Gary B. Nash reorients our understanding of early America, and reveals the perilous choices of the founding fathers that shaped the nation's future. Nash tells of revolutionary fervor arousing a struggle for freedom that spiraled into the largest slave rebellion in American history, as blacks fled servitude to fight for the British, who

promised freedom in exchange for military service. The Revolutionary Army never matched the British offer, and most histories of the period have ignored this remarkable story. The conventional wisdom says that abolition was impossible in the fragile new republic. Nash, however, argues that an unusual convergence of factors immediately after the war created a unique opportunity to dismantle slavery. The founding fathers' failure to commit to freedom led to the waning of abolitionism just as it had reached its peak. In the opening decades of the nineteenth century, as Nash demonstrates, their decision enabled the ideology of white supremacy to take root, and with it the beginnings of an irreparable national fissure. The moral failure of the Revolution was paid for in the 1860s with the lives of the 600,000 Americans killed in the Civil War. *The Forgotten Fifth* is a powerful story of the nation's multiple, and painful, paths to freedom.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *The Deportation Machine* Adam Goodman, 2021-09-14 By most accounts, the United States has deported around five million people since 1882-but this includes only what the federal government calls formal deportations. Voluntary departures, where undocumented immigrants who have been detained agree to leave within a specified time period, and self-deportations, where undocumented immigrants leave because legal structures in the United States have made their lives too difficult and frightening, together constitute 90% of the undocumented immigrants who have been expelled by the federal government. This brings the number of deportees to fifty-six million. These forms of deportation rely on threats and coercion created at the federal, state, and local levels, using large-scale publicity campaigns, the fear of immigration raids, and detentions to cost-effectively push people out of the country. Here, Adam Goodman traces a comprehensive history of American deportation policies from 1882 to the present and near future. He shows that one of the country's largest deportation operations expelled hundreds of thousands of people almost exclusively through the use of voluntary departures and through carefully-planned fear campaigns that terrified undocumented immigrants through newspaper, radio, and television publicity. These deportation efforts have disproportionately targeted Mexican immigrants, who make up half of non-citizens but 90% of deportees. Goodman examines the political economy of these deportation operations, arguing that they run on private transportation companies, corrupt public-private relations, and the creation of fear-based internal borders for long-term undocumented residents. He grounds his conclusions in over four years of research in English- and Spanish-language archives and twenty-five oral histories conducted with both immigration officials and immigrants-revealing for the first time the true magnitude and deep historical roots of anti-immigrant policy in the United States that s

americans struggle with postwar issues: *America's Founding and the Struggle over Economic Inequality* Clement Fatovic, 2014-12-04 If, as many allege, attacking the gap between rich and poor is a form of class warfare, then the struggle against income inequality is the longest running war in American history. To defenders of the status quo, who argue that the accumulation of wealth free of government intervention is an essential feature of the American way, this book offers a forceful answer. While many of those who oppose addressing economic inequality through public policy today do so in the name of freedom, Clement Fatovic demonstrates that concerns about freedom informed the Founding Fathers' arguments for public policy that tackled economic disparities. Where contemporary arguments against such government efforts conceptualize freedom in economic terms, however, those supporting public policies conducive to greater economic equality invoked a more participatory, republican, conception of freedom. As many of the Founders understood it, economic independence, which requires a wide if imperfect distribution of property, is a precondition of the political independence they so profoundly valued. Fatovic reveals a deep concern among the Founders--including Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Paine, and Noah Webster--about the impact of economic inequality on political freedom. *America's Founding and the Struggle over Economic Inequality* traces this concern through many important political debates in Congress and the broader polity that shaped the early Republic--debates over tax policies, public works, public welfare, and the debt from the Revolution. We see how Alexander Hamilton, so often characterized as a cold-hearted apologist for plutocrats, actually favored a more progressive system of taxation,

along with various policies aimed at easing the economic hardship of specific groups. In Thomas Paine, frequently portrayed as an advocate of laissez-faire government, we find a champion of a comprehensive welfare state that would provide old-age pensions, public housing, and a host of other benefits as a matter of right, not charity. Contrary to the picture drawn by so many of today's pundits and politicians, this book shows us how, for the first American statesmen, preventing or minimizing economic disparities was essential to the preservation of the new nation's freedom and practice of self-government.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *America and the Japanese Miracle* Aaron Forsberg, 2003-06-19 In this book, Aaron Forsberg presents an arresting account of Japan's postwar economic resurgence in a world polarized by the Cold War. His fresh interpretation highlights the many connections between Japan's economic revival and changes that occurred in the wider world during the 1950s. Drawing on a wealth of recently released American, British, and Japanese archival records, Forsberg demonstrates that American Cold War strategy and the U.S. commitment to liberal trade played a central role in promoting Japanese economic welfare and in forging the economic relationship between Japan and the United States. The price of economic opportunity and interdependence, however, was a strong undercurrent of mutual frustration, as patterns of conflict and compromise over trade, investment, and relations with China continued to characterize the postwar U.S.-Japanese relationship. Forsberg's emphasis on the dynamic interaction of Cold War strategy, the business environment, and Japanese development challenges revisionist interpretations of Japan's success. In exploring the complex origins of the U.S.-led international economy that has outlasted the Cold War, Forsberg refutes the claim that the U.S. government sacrificed American commercial interests in favor of its military partnership with Japan.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *Mission Failure* Michael Mandelbaum, 2016 *Mission Failure* argues that, in the past 25 years, the U.S. military has turned to missions that are largely humanitarian and socio-political - and that this ideologically-driven foreign policy generally leads to failure.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *Ill Fares the Land* Tony Judt, 2010-03-18 Something is profoundly wrong with the way we think about how we should live today. In *Ill Fares the Land*, Tony Judt, one of our leading historians and thinkers, reveals how we have arrived at our present dangerously confused moment. Judt masterfully crystallizes what we've all been feeling into a way to think our way into, and thus out of, our great collective dis-ease about the current state of things. As the economic collapse of 2008 made clear, the social contract that defined postwar life in Europe and America - the guarantee of a basal level of security, stability and fairness -- is no longer guaranteed; in fact, it's no longer part of the common discourse. Judt offers the language we need to address our common needs, rejecting the nihilistic individualism of the far right and the debunked socialism of the past. To find a way forward, we must look to our not so distant past and to social democracy in action: to re-enshrining fairness over mere efficiency. Distinctly absent from our national dialogue, social democrats believe that the state can play an enhanced role in our lives without threatening our liberties. Instead of placing blind faith in the market-as we have to our detriment for the past thirty years-social democrats entrust their fellow citizens and the state itself. *Ill Fares the Land* challenges us to confront our societal ills and to shoulder responsibility for the world we live in. For hope remains. In reintroducing alternatives to the status quo, Judt reinvigorates our political conversation, providing the tools necessary to imagine a new form of governance, a new way of life.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *Learning from the Germans* Susan Neiman, 2019-08-27 As an increasingly polarized America fights over the legacy of racism, Susan Neiman, author of the contemporary philosophical classic *Evil in Modern Thought*, asks what we can learn from the Germans about confronting the evils of the past In the wake of white nationalist attacks, the ongoing debate over reparations, and the controversy surrounding Confederate monuments and the contested memories they evoke, Susan Neiman's *Learning from the Germans* delivers an urgently needed perspective on how a country can come to terms with its historical wrongdoings.

Neiman is a white woman who came of age in the civil rights-era South and a Jewish woman who has spent much of her adult life in Berlin. Working from this unique perspective, she combines philosophical reflection, personal stories, and interviews with both Americans and Germans who are grappling with the evils of their own national histories. Through discussions with Germans, including Jan Philipp Reemtsma, who created the breakthrough Crimes of the Wehrmacht exhibit, and Friedrich Schorlemmer, the East German dissident preacher, Neiman tells the story of the long and difficult path Germans faced in their effort to atone for the crimes of the Holocaust. In the United States, she interviews James Meredith about his battle for equality in Mississippi and Bryan Stevenson about his monument to the victims of lynching, as well as lesser-known social justice activists in the South, to provide a compelling picture of the work contemporary Americans are doing to confront our violent history. In clear and gripping prose, Neiman urges us to consider the nuanced forms that evil can assume, so that we can recognize and avoid them in the future.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Voices of Decline Robert A. Beauregard, 2013-10-18 [FOR HISTORY CATALOGS] Drawing on the pronouncements of public commentators, this book portrays the 20th century history of U.S. cities, focusing specifically on how commentators crafted a discourse of urban decline and prosperity peculiar to the post-World War II era. The efforts of these commentators spoke to the foundational ambivalence Americans have toward their cities and, in turn, shaped the choices Americans made as they created and negotiated the country's changing urban landscape. [FOR GEOG/URBAN CATALOGS] Freely crossing disciplinary boundaries, this book uses the words of those who witnessed the cities' distress to portray the postwar discourse on urban decline in the United States. Up-dated and substantially re-written in stronger historical terms, this new edition explores how public debates about the fate of cities drew from and contributed to the choices made by households, investors, and governments as they created and negotiated America's changing urban landscape.

americans struggle with postwar issues: The Trials of Harry S. Truman Jeffrey Frank, 2023-03-14 Jeffrey Frank, author of the bestselling *Ike and Dick*, returns with the "beguiling" (The New York Times) first full account of the Truman presidency in nearly thirty years, recounting how a seemingly ordinary man met the extraordinary challenge of leading America through the pivotal years of the mid-20th century. The nearly eight years of Harry Truman's presidency—among the most turbulent in American history—were marked by victory in the wars against Germany and Japan; the first use of an atomic bomb and the development of far deadlier weapons; the start of the Cold War and the creation of the NATO alliance; the Marshall Plan to rebuild the wreckage of postwar Europe; the Red Scare; and the fateful decision to commit troops to fight a costly "limited war" in Korea. Historians have tended to portray Truman as stolid and decisive, with a homespun manner, but the man who emerges in *The Trials of Harry S. Truman* is complex and surprising. He believed that the point of public service was to improve the lives of one's fellow citizens and fought for a national health insurance plan. While he was disturbed by the brutal treatment of African Americans and came to support stronger civil rights laws, he never relinquished the deep-rooted outlook of someone with Confederate ancestry reared in rural Missouri. He was often carried along by the rush of events and guided by men who succeeded in refining his fixed and facile view of the postwar world. And while he prided himself on his Midwestern rationality, he could act out of instinct and combativeness, as when he asserted a president's untested power to seize the nation's steel mills. The Truman who emerges in these pages is a man with generous impulses, loyal to friends and family, and blessed with keen political instincts, but insecure, quick to anger, and prone to hasty decisions. Archival discoveries, and research that led from Missouri to Washington, Berlin and Korea, have contributed to an indelible and "intimate" (The Washington Post) portrait of a man, born in the 19th century, who set the nation on a course that reverberates in the 21st century, a leader who never lost a schoolboy's love for his country and its Constitution.

americans struggle with postwar issues: Fantasyland Kurt Andersen, 2017-09-05 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • "The single most important explanation, and the fullest explanation, of how Donald Trump became president of the United States . . . nothing less than the most important book

that I have read this year.”—Lawrence O’Donnell How did we get here? In this sweeping, eloquent history of America, Kurt Andersen shows that what’s happening in our country today—this post-factual, “fake news” moment we’re all living through—is not something new, but rather the ultimate expression of our national character. America was founded by wishful dreamers, magical thinkers, and true believers, by hucksters and their suckers. Fantasy is deeply embedded in our DNA. Over the course of five centuries—from the Salem witch trials to Scientology to the Satanic Panic of the 1980s, from P. T. Barnum to Hollywood and the anything-goes, wild-and-crazy sixties, from conspiracy theories to our fetish for guns and obsession with extraterrestrials—our love of the fantastic has made America exceptional in a way that we’ve never fully acknowledged. From the start, our ultra-individualism was attached to epic dreams and epic fantasies—every citizen was free to believe absolutely anything, or to pretend to be absolutely anybody. With the gleeful erudition and tell-it-like-it-is ferocity of a Christopher Hitchens, Andersen explores whether the great American experiment in liberty has gone off the rails. Fantasyland could not appear at a more perfect moment. If you want to understand Donald Trump and the culture of twenty-first-century America, if you want to know how the lines between reality and illusion have become dangerously blurred, you must read this book. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE “This is a blockbuster of a book. Take a deep breath and dive in.”—Tom Brokaw “[An] absorbing, must-read polemic . . . a provocative new study of America’s cultural history.”—Newsday “Compelling and totally unnerving.”—The Village Voice “A frighteningly convincing and sometimes uproarious picture of a country in steep, perhaps terminal decline that would have the founding fathers weeping into their beards.”—The Guardian “This is an important book—the indispensable book—for understanding America in the age of Trump.”—Walter Isaacson, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Leonardo da Vinci*

americans struggle with postwar issues: *Multiple Origins, Uncertain Destinies* National Research Council, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, Committee on Population, Panel on Hispanics in the United States, 2006-02-23 Given current demographic trends, nearly one in five U.S. residents will be of Hispanic origin by 2025. This major demographic shift and its implications for both the United States and the growing Hispanic population make *Multiple Origins, Uncertain Destinies* a most timely book. This report from the National Research Council describes how Hispanics are transforming the country as they disperse geographically. It considers their roles in schools, in the labor market, in the health care system, and in U.S. politics. The book looks carefully at the diverse populations encompassed by the term Hispanic, representing immigrants and their children and grandchildren from nearly two dozen Spanish-speaking countries. It describes the trajectory of the younger generations and established residents, and it projects long-term trends in population aging, social disparities, and social mobility that have shaped and will shape the Hispanic experience.

americans struggle with postwar issues: *War without Mercy* John Dower, 2012-03-28 WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD • AN AMERICAN BOOK AWARD FINALIST • A monumental history that has been hailed by The New York Times as “one of the most original and important books to be written about the war between Japan and the United States.” In this monumental history, Professor John Dower reveals a hidden, explosive dimension of the Pacific War—race—while writing what John Toland has called “a landmark book . . . a powerful, moving, and evenhanded history that is sorely needed in both America and Japan.” Drawing on American and Japanese songs, slogans, cartoons, propaganda films, secret reports, and a wealth of other documents of the time, Dower opens up a whole new way of looking at that bitter struggle of four and a half decades ago and its ramifications in our lives today. As Edwin O. Reischauer, former ambassador to Japan, has pointed out, this book offers “a lesson that the postwar generations need most . . . with eloquence, crushing detail, and power.”

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