

HST 195: History of Vietnam War Sp18 (Escobar 41945)

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Week 7 Forum Internet Testimonies

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Internet Testimonies

by [Joe Escobar](#) - Saturday, May 12, 2018, 12:46 PM

This thread is for discussions on the Internet Testimonies topic.

To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post, something that describes which one of the questions you are addressing. Do NOT simply leave it RE: Internet Testimonies

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Magic eraser

by [Casandra Fountain](#) - Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 9:41 PM

Unfortunately it is hard to put in every interview and story of a Vietnam veteran in a book. I suppose you could try or make a second part to the book, but you want stories that grab your reader's attention. I believe stories like these are completely disgusting and our veterans should always be treated with the utmost respect. At least one of this stories should be in Appy's book to show the war as it came to an end and soldiers were arriving home.

Vietnam is such a controversial topic still and being that it was our longest war which only accomplished death and destruction, people want to erase it from the history books. Our society is becoming more and more politically correct and Vietnam was just the opposite. As the war waged on support for it diminished. The public was not being told the complete truth about the war effort, by 1967 support dropped significantly. (p.220) The people were seeing the numbers in death and calling upon draftees to replace them and the increased tax amounts to cover the costs of the war.

As time is passing, people who were there and saw the carnation and lived through the bombings are passing on. We as students will have to rely solely on textbooks and video interviews. But as we've seen through class that it's always 100% the truth. The historical record will begin to change in little tid bits as time gets further away from the actual event. I'm currently in one of Mr. Escobar's survey history lectures and today he shows us a 2008 survey poll that was asked who was the worst president since Harry Truman. Almost 50% of the surveyors answered with either Bush or Obama and Truman received 0%, keep in mind Truman dropped TWO atomic bombs during WWII. Do you think if the public was told that before answering the answer would be still 0? My point behind this is that a large percentage of our population does not know our nation's history and the parts they do know is the bad (thank you news broadcasting and social media). Therefore we need to erase the bad and make ourselves "proud" Americans.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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Re: Magic eraser

by [Emilee Russell](#) - Thursday, May 17, 2018, 8:35 PM

That's a really good example-- I think it's very easy to gloss over some not-so-proud moments of our history, even the events that are more recent and still in the public sphere as something that happened not too long ago. Additionally, since the treatment of Vietnam veterans was pretty unique, and since it is hard for us to imagine people now treating soldiers coming home from Iraq or Afghanistan so disrespectfully, I can see how it might be easy for someone to want to argue that things like the spitting incident didn't or wouldn't happen. Also, I looked back at a

note I made while watching the second AIM video about how Harry Summers commented that toward the very end of the war, it was "no longer fashionable" to be very antiwar and outspoken about protesting the war. I can see that how perhaps in hindsight, people who were protesting the war more vehemently now can recognize that the way that we, as a society, treated Vietnam veterans was shameful and inexcusably disrespectful.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

2

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Time will show what happened unless we do not record their stories

by [Paul Geu](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 9:59 PM

I disagree with your assessment on whether or not people would have supported Truman if they had been told before hand about the dropping of atomic weapons. The vast majority of Americans fully supported the war effort in World War 2 and a majority saw that the use of atomic weapons was absolutely needed in order to end the war and save millions of lives on both sides.

In relationship to the Vietnam war, there was no clear moral enemy such as fighting Nazis or defeating the enemy that attacked us first in Japan. A growing movement of people with various backgrounds and agendas protested what they saw as an unjust cause. With the advent of communications such as television the war was broadcasted to such a large population that everyone was able to form their opinion like never before.

I think the inclusion of at least one of these soldiers would be a good addition to the Appy book because I would allow the reader to see how some of our soldiers were treated when they came back and not recording it would lead these events to disappear forever. That is the problem with history, the main events remain but the human element dissolves into nothing. I think that most of the protestors still believe they are "proud" Americans and they did follow one of the great rights we have in Free speech.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

2

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Re: Time will show what happened unless we do not record their stories

by [Casandra Fountain](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 11:12 PM

Yes the vast majority of Americans knew the dropping of the bombs was essential to ending the war but my point was the public is not in touch with our country's history. There was probably many anti-war people out there and if they knew about American's greatest accident president, he would have gotten more

than 0%.

We walk a fine line in my opinion with the first amendment and our soldiers. Like BullsHitOnVietnam video and the video stated, "Hate the war, Love the soldier". Our soldiers are fighting for our freedom so that we can uphold the first amendment right. During this time with the fear of communism approaching from east and west, our men had to fight for what they were being told was wrong and had to believe in that or they would have never made it back home alive. If many of the protestors were faced with the same scenarios as the soldiers were, would they have like to be treated the same way returning home for something they had to do to survive.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2

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Let the people speak

by [Tyler Cannon](#) - Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 10:21 PM

I feel like the stories from both of these YouTube videos should be included in Appy's book in order to get a perspective of the American soldier that returns from war to just another battle zone on their own homeland. It is almost a fact that is trying to be hidden in our past that Veterans during this time were not all treated like heros and instead "baby killers." These men have just as much credibility and right to speak about their experiences as anyone in Appy's book. We are still arguing about topics such as spitting because a lot of the time it comes down to he said she said. Mostly because back then there weren't many portable recording devices and surely there wasn't any going on during the few short seconds that it would take for someone to spit on a Veteran. The media trys to pretend that nothing happened in order to preserve America's image and cover its dark past, when the fact is you can't hide the truth forever. People will speak out and give their own experiences such as in the two YouTube videos we watched, but someone will always be there to say "no that didn't happen you have no proof." This is when it turns into a battle of words and the arguing starts and almost never seems to end. As Bull's-Hit on Vietnam warns us that all of the living veterans have passed away or are passing away soon and this causes a great problem to the historical record for the Vietnam War. This leaves the "facts" to be reported by different media sources and researchers as oppose to the people that were actually there and experiencing what we can only read about. Thankfully we have technology in which we can use to preserve the stories of these Vets in order to keep some of the first hand accounts around even after they pass away. This helps the historical record, but runs the risk of being buried by bigger media outlets like PBS that are taken as complete fact when they are not portraying the whole truth.

Sum of ratings:3 (1) 3

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**First Reply: Question 3**by [Spencer Gutierrez](#) - Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 10:26 PM

After viewing the BullS-Hit video on YouTube it was yet another source stating that the media painted a negative picture of the Vietnam vets, due to the negative news that was provided about the war in Vietnam, the majority of the american people allowed the Vets little to no respect. Due to the lack of respect and hostility these Vets were met with it made them feel as if they didn't belong, and that they were committing atrocities even though the majority of the Vets didn't have a choice on if they wanted to go to Vietnam. As for the events of people spitting on the Veterans who were returning home, there is definitive proof of people spitting on Veterans who are returning home, and as the author of the BullS-Hit video says, it happened to him as he was boarding the plane the day he was headed home. For someone to say that people spitting on returning Veterans didn't occur is just more falsities of the war that need to be corrected.

With only one third of living Vietnam Vets alive, we are on the verge of losing the last accounts of first hand experiences from the Vietnam war, I feel it is important that all the first hand information that we can document is accounted for so that future generations will be properly informed on the Vietnam war. Having every bit of information we can about the war will help give a better picture of what actually happened during the war. If we do not acquire all the information that we can about Vietnam then we are at risk of the details of such recent events being false, and with nobody to go to for the correct details of the war we have to rely on the things that we have recorded about the war.

Sum of ratings:3 (1) 3

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Re: First Reply: Question 3**by [Alysia Knapp](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 5:35 PM

Exactly. It is important to gather as much information as we can. I fully support veterans sharing their experiences if they are willing, especially on a platform like YouTube where it is easier to accurately spread first hand accounts. Sometimes information can be forgetting or poorly remembered if the stories are just passed verbally from generation to generation. However, like Bulls-hit says in the beginning of the video, some veterans aren't comfortable sharing their experiences, which is

totally understandable. Bulls-hit also encourages his audience to ask people of that time, whether they were in the war or not, their thoughts on it. (3:23). I wish I had my Grandpa more questions about his experience in Vietnam before he passed, but he was one of many veterans who usually didn't often discuss it. So I think we should ask, but not pressure people into sharing their stories. I support veterans telling their stories as long as they are honest and comfortable with sharing them.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

2

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Initial Post

by [Danielle Wardrip](#) - Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 10:49 PM

I am not able to write an answer to the questions at the moment. This is solely my initial post so that I may take part in the discussion later on.

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0

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Assessing Firsthand Accounts

by [Emilee Russell](#) - Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 10:54 PM

Clearly we will, within the next couple decades as the last of the surviving Vietnam veterans pass away, run the risk of believing information and sources that have been distorted and are untrue. It is a little easier today since we can use personal experiences to fact-check some of the disputable information about the Vietnam war that we come across. In the coming decades, it will be even more imperative that we assess and scrutinize our sources to make sure they are unbiased and rooted in truth and accuracy.

As far as the spitting incidences are concerned, in any of the sources including the Register-Guard letters as well as the videos of veterans, no one who was arguing that returning veterans were NOT spat upon actually was a veteran themselves. One veteran described unpleasantness and unwillingness for people to hire him upon his return, he says no one spat on him but never denies that it may have happened to other veterans. Overall, all but one of the veterans who spoke about the spitting in the letters or videos said they'd never personally encountered it. To me, this illustrates the superiority of firsthand experiences--not that these shouldn't also be checked for accuracy, but nine times out of ten I would trust the authority of those who had lived through it.

As time goes on, our ideas of what is and isn't a reliable source will change as veterans pass away, our methods of scrutinizing our sources of information must evolve, too. I would guess that perhaps the next best thing as far as an accurate source would be an

expert on an event such as those in the AIM video who have years of experience taking into account numerous perspectives and hopefully have been able to build a comprehensive and big-picture outlook on the event. These sources should, like everyone, be checked and made sure of their legitimacy.

I think we can rectify historical information as it comes to us by first calling attention to an inaccuracy when it occurs. We must try to assess why and how it is inaccurate. Then, I believe, we must try to fix it by either elaborating and adding context to create a more comprehensive span of information where it was distorted, or we must commit to seeking out more truthful, unbiased, and accurate historical information to replace the false information. I think the Register-Guard letters are a pretty good illustration of that, as it was quickly rectified by veterans who could say they were there. For the time being while we can still count on firsthand experiences, I feel that they are an important source that should always be taken into consideration.

Sum of ratings: 3 (1)

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Media coverage/Perspectives

by [Alysia Knapp](#) - Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 11:54 PM

After reading Bob Thompson's letter I can assume that he was not a Vietnam veteran. Thompson says that author and Vietnam veteran Jerry Lembke states that the media never covered aggression towards veterans when they got home. Thompson mentions more studies on media covering the hostile and spitting behavior. (Fourth paragraph). Therefore it seems like Thompson puts a lot of his trust in media coverage. Just because the media didn't report it doesn't mean it didn't happen. They could have hidden these occurrences for a political agenda.

While it is important to understand the perspective of the leaders and officials, as Herring presents it, individual stories are also essential in learning about the war. Appy shares several perspectives from both sides of the war, therefore providing a more thorough understanding. If I was the author of Patriots, my method would be similar to Appy's. I would share several stories and perspectives. Appy and the American POW video helped me comprehend war in general more than Herring. The people in higher positions who have the power to control the soldiers' lives might not know what war is truly like since they do not have to experience it for themselves. In the POW clip they mention how after Ho Chi Minh died, prison conditions improved. (25:50) Torture was ordered by higher officials who did not have to do it themselves. With knowledge of both the officials' and troops' perspectives we can gain a more thorough understanding of this war.

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Internet Testimonies more soundbite than having substance

by [Paul Geu](#) - Wednesday, May 16, 2018, 11:13 PM

After viewing the videos of veterans experiences returning home I felt that I would not include them if I was the author of the Appy book. The main reason for me not including them in the text is that they were more soundbites that did not tell the full story of their experiences. This issue would be resolved through an actual long interview with the soldiers but if it is taken as is, it would not really add to the narrative that the author is trying to convey.

In regards to why, in modern times, are we still arguing with soldiers returning home were spit on or not can be boiled down to the fact that most people can not actually imagine that happening and are shocked to hear that it probably occurred. The war was so polarizing that some individuals did things that any rational person would never think of doing. When troops returned home from World War 2 and today's actions they are greeted warmly and with honor. However, there was a large portion of citizens that thought the war was unjust and when unable to address their anger at the policy makers they took it out on the soldiers they had access to.

I think that the historical records of the war will be safe mainly because the war was very well documented in video format. Historians will no longer have to rely on journals and newspapers for a historical context because the events were broadcasted and documented so well. While individual stories will be lost but that is how all histories are lost when a person dies. One thing that is important is that we as citizens should try to learn what occurred with these men and women so that we have a better understanding of the war.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

2

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Re: Internet Testimonies more soundbite than having substance

by [Casandra Fountain](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 12:20 AM

I believe Vietnam veterans had so much kick back while coming home compared to past veterans is because the U.S public didn't understand the reasoning behind being in Vietnam. With many past wars, we entered the wars because we were directly attack, ie WWII and Pearl Harbor. We were entering a new age of helping the little man/allies out. Without being directly impacted by a war it is hard to comprehend why the government sent nearly half a millions troops to fight another country's war. Yes, there was the fear of communism spreading but to many that was a thought not a direct attack. It also did not help this was one of the first

televised war back in the states. People were “seeing it first hand”. As far as the public saw our soldiers were killing innocents. The POW video also shared how North Vietnam used American prisoners as propaganda and was winning that fight in the states.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

1

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Vietnam and War on Terror have something huge in common

by [Paul Geu](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 10:20 PM

I agree with you that the reasoning behind the United States involvement in Vietnam left many confused on why we were fighting. I also see some similarities of the War on Terror with both the Vietnam War and World War 2. We were attacked by an enemy like World War 2 with pearl harbor and the world trade center and patriotic support was very high for us attacking whom we thought were the enemy.

However, once we got into a more stagnant war in Iraq and Afghanistan, there are many similarities with the Vietnam War such as if there was any victory in sight a massive anti-war protesting scene, and confusion of why we were actually fighting there after evidence showed it might have been a mistake.

The coverage of the war did allow the American people to have a first hand view of what was happening and some found it very frustrating that we were spinning in circles during the war.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

1

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Must remain open minded and critical in order to recitify incorrect information.

by [Paul Geu](#) - Thursday, May 17, 2018, 10:11 PM

I believe that the way that we can rectify incorrect historical information is to remain open minded when reading the material and critical of that information instead of taking it at face value. In the previous forums we have discussed the bias of information present to us in the form of a rebuttal by the Accuracy in Media group but also discovered that they too had a more right wing bias as well.

Another way we can increase our understanding of the material is to check the sources that are used in the books as well as video sources that we have used in this class. I especially like the footnotes in the Herring book that allows us to know exactly where the author found the information that he used for that portion of the book.

One thing that I have always followed when looking at if the information is worth my time is on what level of evidence is the information on. Below is a diagram of the levels of evidence in medicine but the principle is the same for all data. The base of the pyramid is editorials or opinion and is the lowest form of evidence. This is where most of our stories, audio files, and video clips would fall under only because it has a narrow scope and unable to repeat. As we further go up the pyramid we finally reach systemic reviews where all the information is compiled such as textbooks that are peer reviewed and subject to revisions such as the Herring textbook. I felt the Appy book falls more under case studies because it is a compilation of expert opinions. By applying this pyramid, we can see how much faith we should put into the information presented. I am not saying the stories that we have read and heard are not accurate or incorrect but as a whole they are subject to historical inaccuracies because they are not the "big picture."

Source of pyramid: <https://thesciencedog.wordpress.com/2014/03/07/thyroid-on-trial/>



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We will never know everything/ambiguous perception



by [Alysia Knapp](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 5:19 PM

We must accept that we will never know everything about history, including the Vietnam War. Even a detailed book like Herring's cannot possibly include everything. While the stories of these videos are unique to each person and definitely relevant to understanding the treatment of returning veterans, if Appy included everyone's experiences, the book would be too long. A few examples might be enough for the reader to comprehend it.

Like I said, we will never know everything, and sometimes it does take a long time, even years, for the truth to come out. Consider the Gulf of Tonkin incident as an example of this. While it was initially reported there was a second attack, it was later confirmed that it never existed. (Herring pg 147, Appy pg 112). As people studying history, we must remain open minded and cautious, and be prepared to accept that things we have read may not be completely factual. There are countless events in history that people are unsure about or have even been disproven. Perhaps a reason why people still disagree about the spitting, and also why many people are not educated about the war, is because media doesn't/didn't cover it for fear of the United States' image. Part of the reason the United States got and stayed involved in the war was for their self image. The Vietnam War is often described as the only war the United States has lost, and they don't want to be remembered for that, so the war isn't discussed as much as it should be, therefore causing people to have an ambiguous perception about certain aspects of the war, including the returning veterans being spit on.

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We should always be talking about these stories

by [Kishahn Fellows](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 7:09 PM

I believe we should indeed be talking about events like spitting on Veterans and their validity until they can be proven without a doubt, or if this isn't possible, then they should always be talked about, so as to keep events like this in the public's mind. Which will aid in the preservation of history by sparking debate which will in turn get people to continue asking questions and searching for facts, keeping the memory alive. As more and more Vet's of these past wars fall, the less the public thinks about these conflicts, and the mistakes that were made within them, keeping this debate alive serves to remind the public of some of those mistakes and grant us the opportunity to learn from them.

As for the historical record after all Veterans of these past wars pass on, the internet will become the defacto story keeper, whether its the Vet's themselves posting their accounts or it's relatives passing on their grandparents stories, the internet will be the library for these tales.

library for these tales.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: We should always be talking about these stories

by [Tyler Cannon](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 8:30 PM

I can see your point on the internet being a great source which it is, but it can also be our worse nightmare when it comes to historical fact. Anyone can post anything on the internet and with the right amount of technological knowledge and Photoshop can make something that is fake look real. For instance they can post fake proof that they are a veteran and say that there were Nazi's helping the North Vietnamese when in reality that is not a fact. He can than choose to make other fake documents and or pictures using factual photographs and generic Photoshop and other technological tools to provide "evidence" to his claim. Yes to us and many others seeing this would seem very silly and obviously false, however someone posting something like this can cause future generations, the youth of our time, or even people who genuinely do not know much about the history and facts of Vietnam think this is actually true. This totally ruins the historical accuracy that we have of the war and is all done by some tech wiz who was bored on a Saturday night. The internet is a very powerful tool that can be used for good and for evil and has the same Ying and Yang relationship on our historical record. One wrong Wikipedia page and a whole class could be learning about how Hitler really was Ho Chi Minh in 125 years.

Sum of ratings: 3 (1)

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Technology helps us record stories before they are lost

by [Paul Geu](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 10:25 PM

I agree with you that the internet is slowly becoming the keeper of knowledge and while it is great for people to access the information, it can be dangerous if the information is not accurate. Thankfully because of wide spread technology we can accurately record many veterans stories. Many will not want to share such painful memories and that is seen even in some of the Appy stories when they paused to collect themselves. But with this technology we no longer have to rely on old methods such as journals and paper records to find out their experiences. Using this technology we can better record the past and using the internet allow people of all ages and locations to understand what happened and more importantly why did it happen.

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Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

**Historical Accuracy**by [Spencer Gutierrez](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 8:16 PM

Keeping American History accurate should be extremely important to the American People, now if we don't have proper information on the things that have previously happened how can we expect to be able to make the right choices when a similar situation occurs. It is the politicians that make our choices but as things change people from our generation will start to be making there way into the government and be helping make those choices. In order to keep historical accuracy it is important to fact check things that you are hearing about the war for the first time, by asking someone you know was there (while they are still alive) or by fact checking the information using things you already know about the issue.

The importance of rebutting historical accuracy is to preserve the facts about the past so that we can make educated decisions based on what we know. And to be able to hear something and distinguish whether or not it is true is something everyone can do by simply fact checking with historical text, a first hand account from the time, or asking someone who is educated in the field. But learning everything you can about the specific topic is the best way you are going to be able to rebuttal Incorrect information from any source. The best places to look for correct information would be to look at the listed sources of a trusted article or book.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

2

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**How to correct the errors**by [Tyler Cannon](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 8:23 PM

Some of the historical information provided to us via various media outlets like PBS and these various YouTube clips can be inaccurate and is honestly very hard to rectify and correct. Mostly because people who post and produce these various videos and series have particular feelings on these topics and evidence in their eye that is more than sufficient to prove their point. Video sources such as the Bull's-Hit are very stuck in their way and refuse to give to what the other source may say. This is not have we achieve historical accuracy. Rather we should bring all of these different accounts and opinions together in order to compare them and build our own "map" of the past and be able to represent all sides and their stories. We need to look past our own personal biases in order to listen to the other sides points and take what they say into account.

phases in order to listen to the other sides points and take what they say into account and either agree with them or form an educational rebuttal as oppose to just saying "that is fake news or that is bull *hit." If there is no way for us to back our claims up than maybe we are wrong and must learn to accept that or find some factual evidence of us being right.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Rectifying conflicting information

by [Kishahn Fellows](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 8:55 PM

I believe to rectify all of this overlapping and conflicting information presented to us in the Pbs documentary, the special interest rebuttal group, local news, audio only interviews, major press published books and YouTube videos is to simply breakdown the information, identify the commonalities and the contradictions and piece together the information that compliments each other. For example, take several accounts from different sources that all revolve around the same subject, find what the altering opinions agree and disagree on. The more different and sometimes opposing viewpoints agree on about a certain topic, the more likely it is that the information is factual. This also works vice versa as the more disputed a topic is by agreeing and opposing accounts, the more likely it is that the information is suspect.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Rectifying conflicting information

by [Alysia Knapp](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 11:49 PM

Yes, I think it is up to us to gather as many sources of information as possible and analyze it, before sharing our interpretation with others as facts, and ourselves accepting it as complete facts. Hopefully Herring and Appy did this when writing their books, as well as the publishers the documentaries.

Sum of ratings: 0 (1)

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"Hate the war, love the soldier"

by [Emilee Russell](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 9:18 PM

In the Bulls-Hit video, I was struck by the phrase that he mentioned, "hate the war, love the soldier." It made me consider how the much of the public was unable to separate their feelings about the war from the way they viewed, and subsequently treated, veterans returning from Vietnam. Antiwar protesters who felt disgusted by what our country was doing abroad, took their outrage out on the veterans who were often

our country was doing abroad, took their outrage out on the veterans who, very often, had been drafted and had no choice whether to participate or not. As a result, veterans were not usually welcomed home as heroes and kept their veteran status to themselves, like wearing civilian clothes on flights and not mentioning their service when applying for jobs. This no doubt helped to create the environment in which veterans were discouraged from sharing their experiences (and were shamed and harassed when they did), and too often did not talk about the horrific things they had witnessed while deployed, which we can only imagine may have stunted the healing and adjustment process upon returning home.

It made me consider this attitude of being antiwar but still having respect for the soldiers themselves. I think that even if you disapprove of our country's involvement in wars, you can and should be supportive of soldiers, especially as they return home. I think a big part of taking care of and respecting our soldiers' sacrifices is making sure they have access to trauma and PTSD counseling and other health services. Being supportive of our troops includes hiring veterans and supporting their families. I believe that these are things we as a society can do regardless of our views of the war, and contribute to a national attitude of pride and support of our soldiers as individuals,

As I continued to think about this, I began to realize that the first video of the Kentucky base ceremony is a good example of this "love the soldier" part in action, and an illustration of how we can show respect for our veterans and their sacrifices. The video is an example of trying to right our past mistakes and though it doesn't erase the initial disrespect that Vietnam veterans came home to, it was very touching because after all these years, some of them finally received the welcome home they deserved. In the interviews with the individual veterans who were at the ceremony, many of them expressed that they felt that they were just doing "the job we were asked to do." I was struck by what one veteran said, "I don't hold it against the American people." I imagine it would be tremendously difficult not to be resentful coming home to the public treating you so disrespectfully, but to me, this video is an illustration of forgiveness, and an example of how we can choose to do the right thing, even if may be decades late.

Sum of ratings: 3 (1)

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More to Q1

by [Spencer Gutierrez](#) - Sunday, May 20, 2018, 9:18 PM

If I were the author of Appys book I would not incorporate these videos into the book due to the fact that they don't provide a full story but basically just clips. The videos

were not full interviews so the incomplete story would not do much for the book. As well as most people are aware that our soldiers were disrespected when returning home from Vietnam more than any other war that has occurred in American history.

Although the videos provided good information I did not see them fit to be added to Appys book. But I do think he should use the question from the BullS-Hit video, and ask his readers what the world is going to be like after the final living Vietnam vets have passed away and can no longer add to the conversation about the Vietnam War. I believe that asking this question at the end of the book would provoke readers to want to ask the people that they know who were in the war for their story after hearing the collection that Appy put together.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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