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Lt. Col. Dave Grossman

# ON KILLING

*The Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill in War and Society*

"The *On Killing* is a portrait of how soldiers learn to kill and how they live with the experience of killing others."  
— *WILLIAM S. JAMES*

*Revised and Updated*

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**On Killing: The Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill  
in War and Society**



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The good thing is that a lot of soldiers are loath to kill. But armies are suffering from sophisticated means of overcoming this instinctive aversion. Now, Grossman has updated this classic work to add information on 21st-century military conflicts, recent developments in crime, suicide bombings, school shootings, and even more. Col. The effect is a work specific to be relevant and important for decades to come. Upon its initial publication, ON KILLING was hailed as a landmark study of the techniques the military uses to overcome the powerful reluctance to kill, of how killing affects soldiers, and of the societal implications of escalating violence. And contemporary civilian society, specially the mass media, replicates the army's conditioning techniques, and, according to Lt. Dave Grossman's thesis, is in charge of our rising price of murder among the youthful.



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He Understands And Makes It OK As a officer I just experienced a major shooting incident. I didn't discuss Vietnam, or my recurring "Vietnam Wish", with anybody. Grossman went through it with me. He referred to to a tee every emotion I skilled. Enjoyed the book. A significant book, especially at the moment in our nation. Enjoyed the book As a fight veteran from RVN and a profession Infantry Officer I found this go through to be interesting and really should be reading for young men and women considering entering the service, especially among the combat hands and for the spouses and companions of military users. Col. by then, I was assigned to wait a seminar on Deadly Pressure and Pursuit Plans. Frankly, I wasn't totally sure that I wasn't, at least to some degree. The previous few chapters, which will take the lessons learned in the rest of the book and applies them to American culture, ought to be required reading for individuals who insist on blaming the tools of violence for the living of violence. While operating regular I also went back to university and got my level in Criminal Justice. Col. Grossman, for learning this subject with such rigor and for explaining your projects so cogently. A fantastic read as well as a reference. Contrary to what one sees through Hollywood's eyes, there is an extreme reluctance for one human being to kill another, actually in time of battle. Further, the author's results help describe PTSD, a regular result found in our combat veterans. - - - - Book Book Important read Very fascinating and sometimes disturbing reading material. I would like to thank them for wasting my period. The Opinion of a Vietnam Veteran and Retired Cop In 1969 I enlisted to accomplish my Patriotic Duty, and chose to be an MP while performing that duty. I was in Vietnam (25th Inf Div for the 1st 14 a few months) from January 1970 to March 1972. Following the first few months I certainly experienced a monster case of PTSD because that was about when everything begun to seem "regular", but there wasn't a term for this back then. Informative and engaging I found this book to supply interesting and unexpected data on the subject of warriors in combat. I recommend this reserve most extremely to every fight veteran and police officer! My brother, now a retired Marine, had done his tour in Vietnam. The picture of the Vietnam Vet in the past was of a deranged person who climbed onto a rooftop and started shooting people. Although I am not convinced that Grossman's views of video gaming still hold up, twenty years on. My job included hard labor and was precisely what We needed because I must say i wasn't fit for polite society for the 1st year. After a year and a half I applied at several local law enforcement firms and was employed by one with Civil Assistance. Thanks, Lt. I got employment where he proved helpful (he later re-enlisted and completed his 20 for pension). As I browse this book, Col. I required the work, I liked the job, and I didn't want visitors to think that I was crazy. His analysis on the function of conditioning on overcoming the organic resistance to killing someone else provides useful insight into how and why American society is

becoming increasingly violent in latest decades. After about two decades on the job, and I was a Lt. Grossman's systematic and thoughtful study of why people kill -- and why they do not -- is important. One of the instructors was a Psychologist who covered the symptoms of PTSD. I abruptly recognized that after my come back from Vietnam I acquired match the profile perfectly. Accurate book I'm all over this. David Grossman and I go through it, many times. Every period I read the publication I learn something brand-new, or relearn something I got forgotten. Another CSO experienced a copy of "On Killing" by Lt. Since then I have purchased my own copy, twice. I think that Grossman first got it about 90+% right. I am not really going to select the book apart because, as Jesus warned, "while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them". Also, I possibly could be in error about that additional 10%. Col. I acquired off the plane (Flying Tiger airline), received a meal involving a very tough steak, and was essentially told to "go home and be normal". Pavlovian Kills by the Armed service and the Police An excellent explanation about the psychology killing. It really is frightening as he clarifies the Pavlovian conditioning given to modern soldiers and law enforcement. After retirement I was a Federal government Courthouse Security Officer for eleven years. Enjoyed the book. I'd strongly recommend this book for just about any service users (I'm a retired Soldier), police, or psychologists and clinical social workers (my wife is an LCSW) who work with military or law enforcement. I read this book after my second combat deployment when I got a lot weighing on my brain and it really put things into perspective for me. Lt. His references offered the book credibility. Required reading in armed service leadership schools That is required reading in military leadership courses and intensely insightful. Great quality and service! I am considering reading it myself and I will keep coming back for an improved review Someone recommended this publication to me. General, it's a thought-provoking read. MAYBE the bibliography will probably be worth while. Given the obvious agenda / bias of the the writer, I have to wonder. Great book Great insight. Explains a lot about what is occurring in our country. Reading this book was incredibly helpful. After that applied to our society's current ills, he identifies the logical explanation for random mass murders and various other mayhem. Several other workers had been also Vietnam vets but we under no circumstances discussed it. Grossman made it so easy to understand. Accurate content My fiance got this publication because he is planning on joining the navy, he reads it and reads it again and again. an excellent read An interesting research on killing during war, from the Civil War to the present. There is so much details in this publication that it's difficult to comprehend how Mr. Required reading for all sheepdogs Item was in excellent condition, just while described. When I came back from Vietnam my enlistment was up.



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