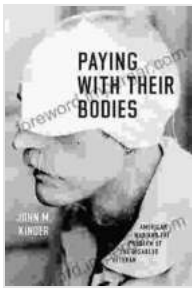


# The American War and the Problem of the Disabled Veteran

The American War and the Problem of the Disabled Veteran is a powerful and moving account of the experiences of disabled veterans in the United States. Author David Finkel tells the stories of these veterans, their struggles, and their triumphs, and he provides a unique perspective on the impact of war on individuals and families.



## Paying with Their Bodies: American War and the Problem of the Disabled Veteran by John M. Kinder

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 11942 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 369 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Finkel begins the book by introducing us to several disabled veterans, including Brian Mast, a former Army Ranger who lost both his legs in Afghanistan; Cory Remsburg, a former Marine who was blinded in Iraq; and Tammy Duckworth, a former Army helicopter pilot who lost both her legs and an arm in Iraq. These veterans share their stories of pain, loss, and recovery, and they offer a glimpse into the challenges that disabled veterans face.

Finkel also explores the history of the disabled veteran in American society. He shows how disabled veterans have been treated throughout history, and he argues that they have often been marginalized and forgotten. He also examines the ways in which the government has failed to provide adequate support for disabled veterans, and he calls for a change in policy.

*The American War and the Problem of the Disabled Veteran* is a timely and important book. It is a powerful reminder of the sacrifices that our veterans have made, and it is a call to action to do better by them. Finkel's writing is clear, concise, and moving, and he tells the stories of these veterans with great compassion and empathy.

## **The Stories of Disabled Veterans**

The stories of disabled veterans are often heartbreaking. They are stories of pain, loss, and trauma. But they are also stories of courage, resilience, and hope.

Brian Mast lost both his legs in Afghanistan. He was serving as an Army Ranger when he stepped on an improvised explosive device (IED). The explosion blew off his legs below the knees. Mast was lucky to survive, but he faced a long and difficult recovery.

Cory Remsburg was blinded in Iraq. He was serving as a Marine when he was hit by a roadside bomb. The bomb exploded just inches from his face, and it destroyed his eyes. Remsburg was left blind and disfigured.

Tammy Duckworth lost both her legs and an arm in Iraq. She was serving as an Army helicopter pilot when her helicopter was shot down. Duckworth

was ejected from the helicopter and landed in a field. She was severely injured, and she lost both her legs and an arm.

These are just three of the many stories of disabled veterans. Each veteran has their own unique story, but they all share a common experience: they have all been injured in the service of their country.

## **The Challenges of Disabled Veterans**

Disabled veterans face a number of challenges, including:

- Physical pain and disability
- Emotional trauma
- Financial difficulties
- Social isolation
- Job discrimination

Physical pain and disability are some of the most obvious challenges that disabled veterans face. Many veterans have lost limbs, suffered traumatic brain injuries (TBIs), or have other serious injuries. These injuries can make it difficult for veterans to perform everyday tasks, and they can also lead to chronic pain.

Emotional trauma is another common challenge for disabled veterans. Many veterans have witnessed horrific events during their time in the military. They may have seen their friends and fellow soldiers killed or injured. They may have been the victims of violence or sexual assault. These experiences can lead to PTSD, depression, and other mental health problems.

Financial difficulties are also a common problem for disabled veterans. Many veterans are unable to work due to their injuries or disabilities. They may also have high medical bills and other expenses. This can make it difficult for veterans to provide for themselves and their families.

Social isolation is another challenge that disabled veterans face. Many veterans feel isolated from their friends and family members. They may feel like they don't belong in society anymore. This can lead to loneliness and depression.

Job discrimination is another problem that disabled veterans face. Many veterans have difficulty finding jobs due to their injuries or disabilities. Employers may be reluctant to hire veterans who have physical or mental health problems. This can make it difficult for veterans to find meaningful work and to support themselves.

## **The Government's Failure to Support Disabled Veterans**

The government has failed to provide adequate support for disabled veterans. The Veterans Administration (VA) is often slow to process claims and provide benefits. The VA also provides inadequate medical care and mental health services to veterans. This has led to a number of problems, including:

- Delays in benefits
- Inadequate medical care
- Mental health problems
- Homelessness

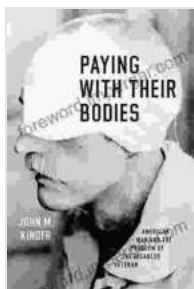
Delays in benefits are a common problem for disabled veterans. The VA often takes months or even years to process claims for disability benefits. This can cause financial hardship for veterans and their families.

Inadequate medical care is another problem for disabled veterans. The VA has been criticized for providing poor quality medical care to veterans. Veterans have reported long wait times for appointments, inadequate treatment, and rude staff.

Mental health problems are also a problem for disabled veterans. The VA has been criticized for failing to provide adequate mental health services to veterans. This has led to a number of problems, including suicide, homelessness, and substance abuse.

Homelessness is another problem for disabled veterans. Many disabled veterans are unable to find affordable housing. They may also be unable to work due to their injuries or disabilities. This can lead to homelessness.

The American War and the Problem of the Disabled Veteran is a timely and important book. It is a powerful reminder of the sacrifices that our veterans have made, and it is a call to action to do better by them. Finkel's writing is clear, concise, and moving



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