

# **THE EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON WAR, CONQUEST, AND ALIEN RULE**

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## **Abstract**

From the evolutionary psychological perspective, the ultimate cause of war (just like any other behavior) is reproductive. This perspective offers a novel explanation of the puzzling phenomenon of "democratic peace" (why democracies are less belligerent and never fight each other). It explains human resistance to alien rule as part of a larger psychological mechanism of ethnocentrism, and predicts sex and lifecourse differences in such resistance, where men (especially young, single men) may be more resistant to alien rule than women. The paper explores and speculates about the possible evolutionary origins of such sex differences.