# What We're Getting Wrong About War

War is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that has been studied by scholars for centuries. However, there are still many misconceptions about war that persist in the public discourse. In this article, we will explore some of the most common misconceptions about war and provide a more accurate understanding of this important topic.



#### **Zero-Sum Victory: What We're Getting Wrong About**

**War** by Christopher D. Kolenda

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## Misconception #1: War is always bad

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This is perhaps the most common misconception about war. War is often seen as a senseless and destructive force that should be avoided at all costs. However, this view is too simplistic. War can sometimes be necessary to protect innocent lives, defend national sovereignty, or promote human rights. While war is always a tragedy, it is not always wrong.

#### Misconception #2: War is always about power

This is another common misconception about war. War is often seen as a struggle between two or more nations for power and resources. However, this is not always the case. War can also be about ideology, religion, or culture. In some cases, war may even be necessary to defend against aggression or oppression.

#### Misconception #3: War is always inevitable

This is another misconception about war that is often used to justify violence. War is not inevitable. It is a choice that is made by human beings. There are always other ways to resolve conflict without resorting to violence.

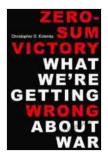
### Misconception #4: War is always easy to win

This is a dangerous misconception about war. War is never easy to win. It is a complex and costly undertaking that can have lasting consequences. Even if one side wins a war, it is likely to suffer significant losses in the process.

### Misconception #5: War is always a zero-sum game

This is another harmful misconception about war. War is not a zero-sum game. It is possible for both sides to lose in a war. Even if one side wins a military victory, it may lose in terms of political, economic, or social consequences.

War is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that is often misunderstood. By dispelling these common misconceptions, we can gain a more accurate understanding of war and its causes. This will help us to make better decisions about how to prevent and resolve conflicts peacefully.



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