There is evidence of veterans from all American wars suffering in various ways after the war. Even World War II, the ‘good war’ saw thousands of servicemen being admitted into VA hospitals for neuropsychiatries disorders. [1] However, the collective memory of World War II allowed for war heroes and victory parades and of all the American wars it “commanded the most universal, unreserved, and sustained popular approval”[2]. For Vietnam vets, the war of their generation could be summarised as “futile at best, at worst an outright defeat”[3]. During the 1970s veterans generally felt rejected by society, as America tried to forget Vietnam, a cultural phenomenon referred to as 'Vietnam Amnesia'[4]. The relationship between the perceptions of the war in America and the veterans being able to process their experiences is expressed by Vietnam Veteran and Psychologist Arthur Egendorf, as he explains, that for veterans, “the worst pain of all was the doubt raised about the value and worth of the cause for which they suffered”[5].


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