

General Section – 2006

D9 Operation Iraqi Freedom's Social, Psychological, & Clinical Impact on Returning Soldiers

Kathleen A. Carson, MS, MBS*, PO Box 20402, Billings, MT 59104

After attending this presentation, attendees will have a better understanding of the personal impact and psychological impact of American soldiers serving in combat, the social impact of soldiers working with the extremely persecuted (Shiite children), the physical impact on soldier clinical forensic health issues incurred after two Persian Gulf Wars, and the forecasted future developments in Irag's future.

We are all in one way or another parents, relatives, and fellow coworkers of soldiers currently or recently serving in the desert. This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by getting the word out to people who can make a difference for those who can no longer speak, Fallen Comrades.

Returning American soldiers become forensic suspect cases when they uncontrollably kill their spouse or act out rage and anger on others. Crime is filled with numerous accounts of prior soldiers killing from sadistic rapists to serial killers. Other soldiers will become clinical forensic cases like in the case of the Persian Gulf Illness.

The author presents this information as a soldier's case study in an effort to foster understanding and dedication to the men and women who have served and who shall serve honorably in the United States Armed Forces. Information gathered for this presentation was based on 8.5 months in Iraq as a Combat Service Support Acting Company Commander and Supply Platoon Leader in 2004 during Operation Iraqi Freedom II in southern Iraq and from serving as a Security Operations Assistant in King Khalid Military City, Saudi Arabia for three months during the first Persian Gulf War in 1991. It is recommended that those with forensic knowledge in areas of Criminalistics, Pathology, Psychology, Psychology assist in their appropriate field of research to help veterans readjust to society socially, psychologically, physically, mentally, and clinically in an effort to prevent unnecessary violent crime.

War, Soldiers, Impact