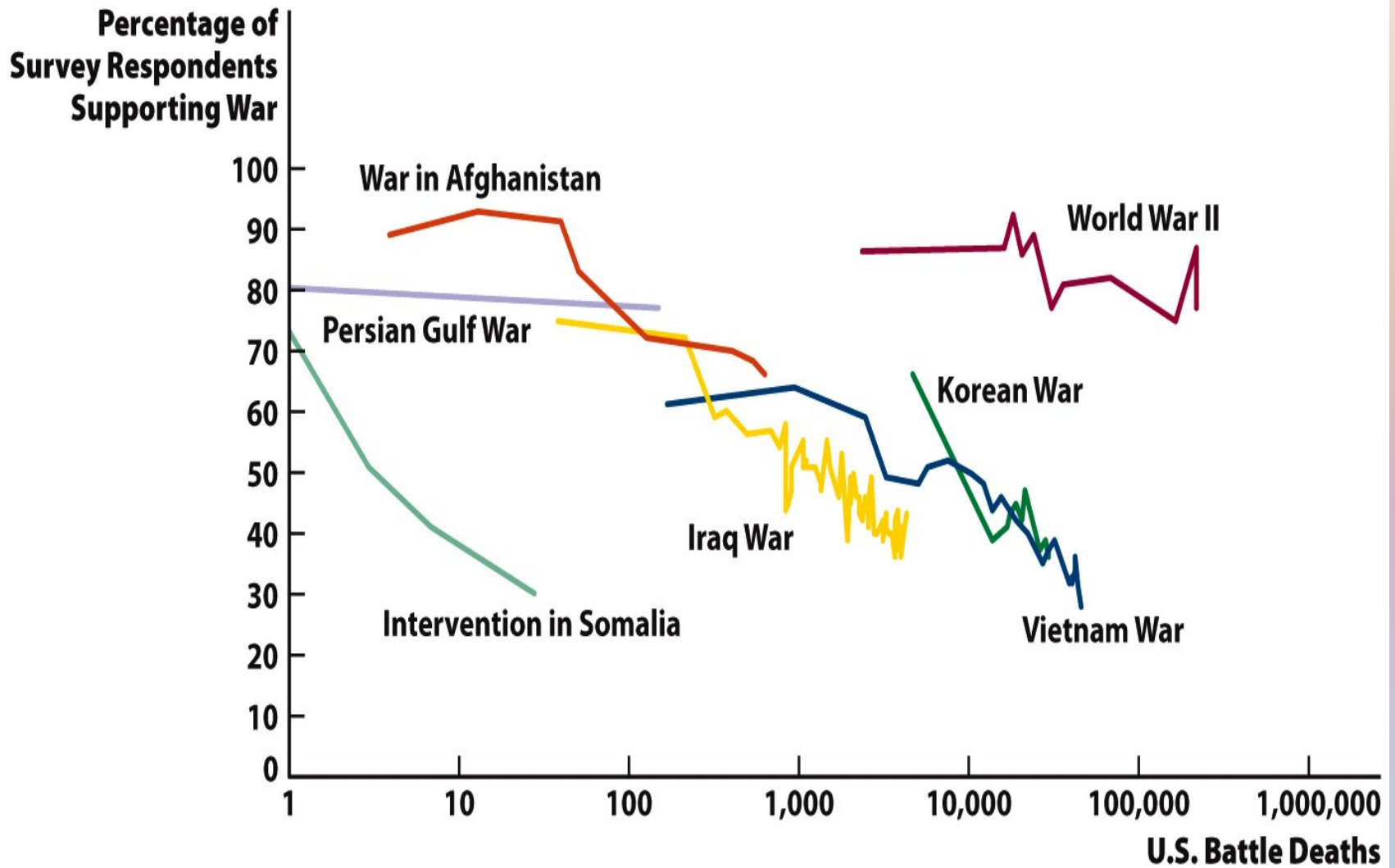


The Political Costs of War



Discussion Question

Why do the costs of war **not** affect public opinion in a uniform way?

Discussion Question

British economist J.A. Hobson calculated that imperialism did not benefit Britain as a whole.

Who did imperialism benefit?

In what ways to particular interests benefit disproportionately given today's modern economy?

Discussion Question

What is the military-industrial complex?

In what ways does the military-industrial complex lead to a more aggressive foreign policy?

What are other ways of thinking about the “military-industrial complex”?

Discussion Question

Why is it important not to equate the military with militarism?

Discussion Question

How can small groups have a big influence on foreign policy?

Discussion Question

How do domestic interests affect international bargaining?

What do we know about war and the fate of leaders?

TABLE A | WAR AND THE FATE OF LEADERS

Fate of Leader		
War Outcome	Stayed in Power	Lost Power
Victory	68%	32%
Small loss	47%	43%
Big loss	16%	84%

TABLE B | DEMOCRACY AND THE FATE OF WARTIME LEADERS

War Outcome	Democratic Leaders		Nondemocratic Leaders	
	Lost Power	Punished If Lost Power	Lost Power	Punished If Lost Power
Victory	31%	11%	19%	38%
Loss	88%	43%	48%	88%