

## Introduction

The early 1900s was a time that consisted of war as America sought the need to fight for their own rights and protection of American peace as nations all over the world engaged in battle. (P1). This war, worldly recognized as World War I during this time, defined various racial, social, and economic realities millions around the world had to understand concerning finding thorough stability in one's own land overall. Here, one is introduced to three different images that illustrate the events and aftermaths of World War I. The first image exposes one to Indian soldiers, the second illustrates a dead faceless soldier, while the entails men working in a munition factory. (P1, P2, P3). While each image may depict something entirely different from the other, each image, together, allows for an onlooker to understand the shared themes that existed during this period. Thus, as one examines each image one gains insight into how those fighting in the war and those left at home were both left racially, socially, and economically impacted negatively.

## Images

The very first image of the events concerning World War I illustrates to viewers a group of men eating while sitting in a field. From the image alone, one can note that these men are not American natives and thus conclude them to be a party fighting with the European forces to be. The caption below the image narrates how this group did consist of soldiers who formed the Indian Army. (P1). Immediately after looking at the image and reading the caption, one question one should have is why did Indians feel the need to join in the war. This further allows one to think about why World War I occurred overall. Each nation and its people felt the need to defend itself and protect one's social, racial, and economic peace and success. This army could have stayed out of the way and not joined forces with the British Empire however, they understood the

need to fight for their rights—even if it meant being surrounded by the negative effects war had on them on the battlefield which image two illustrates. Image 2 of this lesson directly portrays to one the brutality of World War I overall. Soldiers here were not just joining the war and waiting for peace treaties to be written, hundreds were dying, giving up their lives in the name of that peace. (P2). The deaths of these soldiers were brutal as the image shows a headless soldier being left on a stretcher. (P2). Furthermore, in the background of the image one can see the medical kit that has been discarded into the body of the river. (P2). Both these illustrations can allow one to suggest that while these soldiers went into battle to protect their peace and showcase their nationalities, met their untimely demise instead. This conclusion may allow many around the world today to suggest that war is pointless and unnecessary as it just leaves to either the miserable loss of life or soldiers in the middle of nowhere scavenging small amounts of food. However, the last image ties it all together as one is exposed to the economic and social lives that those back home were able to live. (P3). With the introduction of war, these groups were able to make a profit by selling weapons shown in the image. (P3). WW1 allowed individuals back home to attain job opportunities that did not exist prior as well as other women and children earning the opportunity to work as well. Thus, as one analyzes the images together, one is educated on the social and economical realities that were introduced in society.

### **Conclusion**

As each image has further words and notes, one is allowed to further understand how each paragraph further narrates what was occurring in the pictures. These three images together were able to illustrate the effects of the war on various groups of people. From soldiers, American and European, fighting the battles on the frontlines to those left back at home that was allowed to work, one understands how the war affected how men, women, children, Indians,

Whites, and more, who were all separated in their battles came together under the negative reality of war. WW1 changed the dynamics of how those living in society began to define themselves concerning national pride and more.

Sources:

<https://www.oerproject.com/OER-Materials/OER-Media/PDFs/1750/Unit6/Unit-6-Overview-World-War-I?Id=498588&share=link>