Chapter 16

Discussion Questions.

1. President Dwight D. Eisenhower famously warned the U.S. about the "military-industrial complex" in his farewell address in January 1961. Depending on the source, between 20 to 40 percent of the federal budget goes into U.S. defense spending while most other developed countries spend only a fraction of that amount. Has Eisenhower’s concern become a reality?
2. Can the U.S. win the “War on Terror?” If so, how? If you were President of the United States, what would you propose?
3. The U.S. lead war in Afghanistan is now the longest war the U.S. has ever fought throughout its history. What are your thoughts?
4. As mentioned in the textbook, the U.S. has a long history of war over the years. When it comes to conflict after WWII, some would say that the U.S. has an important global role to play in policing the world and its tyrants while others say the U.S. is a “war hungry country.” Which stance do you agree with and why? Do you see the other side of this issue?
5. Your text discussed the development and definition of terrorism. Discuss the difference between a terrorist act and military act.
6. Discuss the pubic’s reaction to soldiers returning from the Vietnam War and soldiers returning from Afghanistan. Ask the students how much the media plays into the reaction the public has to soldiers returning from war.
7. Racial profiling of Muslims and those of Arab and South Asian descent increased after 9/11. What can institutions do to deal with this issue?