

Re: Solid Ground

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Campbell & Gimbutas, for two, argue that there really was a Golden Age of Peace when Europeans worshipped the Great Mother Goddess, aka Gaia.

This is real easy to understand when you consider the problem a demagogue would have trying to rile up a mob or an army by claiming that *he* speaks in *HER* name.

There are religions like Taoism & Buddhism that dont have an alpha male warrior tyrant concept of the divine, and dont have nearly the violence. And the more like that the concept of the Levantine father god is, the more repressive, mysogenistic, and agressive the followers are.

So- when Buddhist zealots wanted the US out of Vietnam, they cleared an area in the middle of the street to make sure that nobody else would be harmed, and immolated themselves.

Unlike the Moslem zealots who try to get on school buses with bombs. Religion does make a diff.

LeBlanc, "Constant Battles" and Steven Pinker "The Blank Slate" both report that the graveyards of the stone age hunting tribes show 20 times the rate of violent trauma as in the graves of yeoman farmers. Diamond reports that 25% of the New Guinea Highlanders died in battle. The death rate in Europe for soldiers on both sides during WWII was 2-3%.

The 5000 year old graveyard at Varna Bulgaria shows men living into their late 30's, women into their early 40's. A longevity not generally seen again until the late 19th century. (Altho, I've not seen the death age cited for the Tarim mummies)

In Europe, we know the standard method. The army shows up, takes all the grain, burns the field. The yeoman eventually figure this out, and quit growing grain, switching to tubers. Now, when the farmers hear the army is coming, they bury the food they cant carry, and flee into the forest. Whole armies have been starved out, but you'll never read about it in the History books, which after all, were composed to pander to the sensibilities of the warrior class.

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It was part of Napoleon's problem in Russia, and Clausewitz goes on at length about the need for logistics.

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