

# **morals under the gun the cardinal virtues military ethics and american society**

[#military ethics](#) [#cardinal virtues](#) [#morality in military](#) [#american society ethics](#) [#ethical dilemmas military](#)

This analysis delves into the profound challenges facing military ethics within American society, particularly how traditional cardinal virtues are tested when service members are 'under the gun'. It explores the crucial moral frameworks guiding armed forces, examining the complex interplay between personal conviction and societal expectations in high-stakes environments.

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## **Morals under the Gun**

James Toner argues that the cardinal virtues are and must be the core values of the military. By embracing these values, the profession of arms serves as a moral compass in an increasingly confusing age. Building upon a bold introduction, which includes what many will regard as a surprising view of military ethics, Toner examines the four cardinal virtues—wisdom, courage, temperance, and justice—and places each in the context of a compelling case study from recent U.S. military history. He discusses the Flinn Case, the Lavelle Affair, a B-52 crash in Washington State, and the courageous actions of Hugh Thompson after My Lai. *Morals Under the Gun* connects ethics and moral theology with the armed services, demonstrating that the task of preserving virtue, both personal and professional, is a noble, if imperfectible, task.

## **Parameters**

This book examines the role of military virtues in today's armed forces. Although long-established military virtues, such as honor, courage and loyalty, are what most armed forces today still use as guiding principles in an effort to enhance the moral behavior of soldiers, much depends on whether the military virtues adhered to by these militaries suit a particular mission or military operation. Clearly, the beneficiaries of these military virtues are the soldiers themselves, fellow-soldiers, and military organizations, yet there is little that regulates the behavior of soldiers towards civilian populations. As a result, troops trained for combat in today's missions sometimes experience difficulty in adjusting to the less aggressive ways of working needed to win the hearts and minds of local populations after major combat is over. It can be argued that today's missions call for virtues that are more inclusive than the traditional ones, which are mainly about enhancing military effectiveness, but a convincing case can be made that a lot can already be won by interpreting these traditional virtues in different ways. This volume offers an integrated approach to the main traditional virtues, exploring their possible relevance and proposing new ways of interpretation that are more in line with the military tasks of the

21st century. The book will be of much interest to students of military ethics, philosophy, and war and conflict in general.

### Military Ethics and Virtues

Military academies have served youth for more than a century with proud traditions of producing graduates who are scholars, leaders, and athletes who adhere to a code of honor and ethical principles as they take the knowledge, skills, and dispositions gained at those academies into higher education, the business world, military service, civic endeavors, and the broader workforce. There is a current gap and need for research that explores the various components of a K-20 military school/college education and how those components successfully produce leaders of character for our military, civic, academic, and business worlds both in the United States and abroad. The Handbook of Research on Character and Leadership Development in Military Schools synthesizes research on the impact of military academies by providing a singular compendium of current academic studies on the graduates of military academies and the communities of which they enter after graduation. The chapters will explore the academics, leadership, character development, citizenship, athletics, and other dimensions of both global and national, and both private and public, military academies. This book is ideal for current leaders, staffs, governing board members, and alumni of military academies both in the United States and internationally along with policymakers, government officials, practitioners, researchers, academicians, and students interested in the implications of character and leadership development on individuals enrolled in or graduated from military schools.

### Handbook of Research on Character and Leadership Development in Military Schools

You've never seen Aristotle like this! In *If Aristotle's Kid Had an iPod: Ancient Wisdom for Modern Parents*, Conor Gallagher dusts off Aristotle's *Ethics* and reveals a vibrant, illuminating philosophy no less powerful and profound than when it was first penned. Aristotle's philosophy of man has endured for millenia. The truth of Aristotle's insights has been acknowledged by saints and scholars, illustrated in literature and pop culture, even empirically demonstrated by modern science. But you've never seen it like this. Gallagher masterfully weaves Aristotle, scientific studies, pop culture, and parenting tales together making *If Aristotle's Kid Had an iPod: Ancient Wisdom for Modern Parents* a funny, rich, and informative read, and an indispensable guide for any parent who wants to pass on the secrets of a happy life to their kids.

### If Aristotle's Kid Had an iPod

"Cherif Bassiouni" is often referred to as "the father of international criminal law." Every major international criminal law instrument developed in the last forty years, from the Torture Convention to the Statute of the International Criminal Court, bears his hallmark. His writings, diplomatic initiatives, fieldwork, and even litigation have made an unparalleled contribution to the emergence of international criminal law as a distinct discipline within the field of international law. This book contains a collection of fifteen scholarly essays, written by leading experts from around the world, about the theory and practice of modern international criminal law, with a focus on "Cherif Bassiouni's" unique legacy within this important area. Among the contributing authors are "Louise Arbour," UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; "Mahnoush Arsanjani," Chief of the UN Office of Legal Affairs Codification Division; "Diane Orentlicher," UN Independent Expert on Combating Impunity; "Michael Reisman," former President of the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights; "Yves Sandoz," Director for International Law of the International Committee of the Red Cross; "William Schabas," Member of the Sierra Leone Truth Commission; "Brigitte Stern," Advocate for the Bosnians in the World Court's Genocide case; and "Prince Hassan bin Talal," first President of the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court.

### The Theory and Practice of International Criminal Law

This collection is a unique joint venture of teachers in, and practitioners of military ethics. Representatives of each branch of the Armed Forces, i.e. the Navy, the Army, the Air Force and the Military Police, discuss their branch-specific experiences with moral questions and dilemma's. The moral questions and dilemma's which arise in their work are also discussed by certain professional groups within the Armed Forces, such as the Military Medical Service and the Military Psychological Service. Detailed attention is given to how junior commanders can enhance morally responsible behaviour within their unit. A substantial part of the book focuses on teaching military ethics. It includes the Socratic

dialogue, decision-making skills, and a chapter containing fictitious moral dilemmas that can be used as exercises. The book is aimed at those responsible for training at military training centres as well as at cadets, midshipmen and young officers. It will also be an important tool for commanders preparing for a mission. And it will be of use for all those concerned with the subject of military ethics at policy and management level, both in the armed forces and outside it. *Military Ethics: The Dutch Approach – A Practical Guide* is an adapted translation of the main chapters of the Dutch-language volume *Praktijkboek Militaire Ethiek* (Practitioner's Guide Military Ethics).

### Military Ethics

Argues for revitalizing the place of honor in contemporary life. In this history of the development of ideas of honor in Western philosophy, Peter Olsthoorn examines what honor is, how its meaning has changed, and whether it can still be of use. Political and moral philosophers from Cicero to John Stuart Mill thought that a sense of honor and concern for our reputation could help us to determine the proper thing to do, and just as important, provide us with the much-needed motive to do it. Today, outside of the military and some other pockets of resistance, the notion of honor has become seriously out of date, while the term itself has almost disappeared from our moral language. Most of us think that people ought to do what is right based on a love for justice rather than from a concern with how we are perceived by others. Wide-ranging and accessible, the book explores the role of honor in not only philosophy but also literature and war to make the case that honor can still play an important role in contemporary life. Peter Olsthoorn is Assistant Professor at Netherlands Defense Academy and author of *Military Ethics and Virtues: An Interdisciplinary Approach for the 21st Century*.

### Honor in Political and Moral Philosophy

In democratic societies, it is said that wars and military interventions are fought in the name of the citizens of the nation engaged in the conflict. Yet, ordinary citizens, the major stakeholders in war, are seldom provided with as much information for making and acting on their moral decisions about war as they are about many other national issues that affect them. To fill the void, this volume addresses the nature of conscience, various moral norms, a moral decision-making process, and the theoretical and practical issues involved in attempting to avoid war or at least to make it as moral as possible, considering its nature. By discussing how the morality of war differs from its political, military, economic and legal dimensions, this unique work attempts to enable citizens to make informed decisions about declaring, waging and ending war, and to act on those decisions. Instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy [here](#).

### War and Morality

With formal ethics education programmes being a rarity in most countries' armed forces, there is a growing importance for servicemen to undergo additional military ethics training. This book advances knowledge and understanding of the issues associated with this subject by bringing together experts from around the world to analyze the content, mode of instruction, theoretical underpinnings, and the effect of cultural and national differences within current ethics programmes.

### Ethics Education in the Military

Modern conflicts now bear little relation to traditional wars between states. The threat of terrorism, the creation of new military technologies, the rise of private military companies, and the increasing involvement of the military in counter-terrorism and humanitarian operations all pose challenges to traditional ideas about the ethics of war, the relevance of current international law governing armed conflict, and Just War theory. How, then, should military ethics approach these new forms of conflict? Modern military ethics now includes work from disciplines as diverse as philosophy, history, sociology, international relations, politics, and psychology. This diversity of approaches suggests that the approach to contemporary military ethics that is best suited to understanding the wars of today is a broad multidisciplinary vision. By bringing together contributors from philosophy, international relations, security studies, and strategic studies, this volume offers just such an interdisciplinary analysis. The chapters in this volume explore the ethical issues posed by recent developments in both the nature and conduct of war, as well as focusing on the role and needs of modern military personnel. This comprehensive approach allows the reader to see the broad scope of modern military ethics, and to understand the numerous questions about modern conflict that require critical scrutiny. Aimed at both military and academic audiences, this volume will be of significant interest to researchers and students

in philosophy, sociology, military and strategic studies, international relations, politics, and security studies.

### Air & Space Power Journal sum 03

Military veterans have had some of the most intensive leadership training available. Many return to their communities seeking to apply what they have learned. Those who enter the world of public affairs--where colleagues are increasingly less likely to have served in the military--may encounter a popular misconception: that military leadership is all about exercising authority and giving orders. In fact military leadership is based on interpersonal dynamics, often learned through trying circumstances. Effective management of civil emergencies--as shown by 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina--calls for the same official demeanor, decisiveness and trustworthiness as does combat. Good leadership is fundamentally the same in ordinary day-to-day challenges as well. This book describes how the principles and methods of military leadership are effective for public service. Instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy [here](#).

### New Wars and New Soldiers

This accessible handbook is the first of its kind to examine the sociological approach to the study of the military. The contents are compiled from the work of researchers at universities around the world, as well as military officers devoted to the sector of study. Beginning with a review of studies prior to contemporary research, the book provides a comprehensive survey of the topic. The scope of coverage extends to civic-military relations, including issues surrounding democratic control of the armed forces; military culture; professional training; conditions and problems of minorities in the armed forces; an examination of structural change within the military over the years including new duties and functions following the Cold War.

### Military Leadership Lessons for Public Service

When the United States entered World War II, it took more than industrial might to transform its tiny army—smaller than even Portugal's—into an overseas fighting force of more than eight and a half million. Peter Schifferle contends that the determination of American army officers to be prepared for the next big war was an essential component in America's ultimate triumph over its adversaries. Crucial to that preparation were the army schools at Fort Leavenworth. Interwar Army officers, haunted by the bloodshed of World War I's Meuse-Argonne Offensive, fully expected to return to Europe to conclude the "unfinished business" of that conflict, and they prepared well. Schifferle examines for the first time precisely how they accomplished this through a close and illuminating look at the students, faculty, curriculum, and essential methods of instruction at Fort Leavenworth. He describes how the interwar officer corps there translated the experiences of World War I into effective doctrine, engaged in intellectual debate on professional issues, conducted experiments to determine the viability of new concepts, and used military professional education courses to substitute for the experience of commanding properly organized and resourced units. Schifferle highlights essential elements of war preparation that only the Fort Leavenworth education could provide, including intensive instruction in general staff procedures, hands-on experience with the principles and techniques of combined arms, and the handling of large division-sized formations in combat. This readied army officers for an emerging new era of global warfare and enabled them to develop the leadership decision making they would need to be successful on the battlefield. But Schifferle offers more than a recitation of curriculum development through the skillful interweaving of personal stories about both school experiences and combat operations, collectively recounting the human and professional development of the officer corps from 1918 to 1945. Well crafted and insightful, Schifferle's meticulously researched study shows how and why the Fort Leavenworth experience was instrumental in producing that impressive contingent of military officers who led the U.S. Army to final victory in World War II. By the end of the book, the attentive reader will also fully comprehend why the military professionals at Fort Leavenworth have come to think of it as the "Intellectual Center of the Army."

### Handbook of the Sociology of the Military

For the ordinary soldier, the non-commissioned officer and the junior officer—the large proportion of the lower strata in military organisations—the expectations of levels of responsibility and decision-making are rapidly increasing. In 1999, US Marine Corps General Charles C. Krulak addressed this in his essay 'The Strategic Corporal: Leadership in the Three-Block War', which described the range of challenges

likely to be faced by marines on the modern battlefield and where a range of operations (fighting, peace works and humanitarian assistance) might occur simultaneously within a very limited precinct (three blocks). The chapters in this book use the metaphor of the 'strategic corporal' to focus on the demands facing junior leaders in military operations in the twenty-first century, and what might be done to enhance their ability to respond to them. The circumstances in which these decisions are made need to be better understood, by soldiers and their critical onlookers, be they villagers on the scene, senior military or political leaders remote from the operation, or anti-war activists thousands of miles away. Being 'strategic' is not just about a soldier's professional mastery. Increasingly it also means a genuine familiarity with legal and ethical issues, and an ability in low-intensity conflict to understand local culture and communicate with those in villages and neighbourhoods whose goodwill, or at least neutrality, are vital to ultimate success. In the non-war circumstances in which many Western militaries operate, such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief as well as peacekeeping operations, it means dealing with civil authorities in the distribution of aid or even the administration of justice if local institutions have broken down. Sometimes it involves negotiation and mediation. It may even mean having an understanding of the ways pervasive modern media works, and its potential to surveil—and sometimes derail—a mission. Sometimes it also means having a better understanding of the challenges that face the soldier's own defence force: including the malign effects of bureaucratic inertia and the 'outsourcing' of key capabilities to private contractors. The book combines theoretical discussions with practical examples, but it is not—as so many books about future conflict are—a discussion of the technology of future war. Rather, it provides opportunities for specialists in a range of security-related fields to consider the issues and challenges of military leadership, the role of civilians and contractors, the importance of International Humanitarian Law, and even whether strategic gains can be made without the deployment of troops ('strategic corporals' or otherwise).

### America's School for War

If you have been struggling to get the reputation and fame of a world-class global buyer, you are fortunate. I have written this self-help guide to help you become that world-class buyer. In less than three to four years (depending on your education level), if you read this book and apply the attributes, you will achieve your career goals and earn the reputation of being world-class. In this self-help book, you will learn the thirteen specific skills required to become a world-class buyer, such as transportation, billing terms, cash flow, profit, long-term contracts, partnering versus strategic alliance, mentoring, ethics and morals, business modeling, and effective presentations, just to name a few. Also included in the book are the eight steps in supply category management, negotiating for damages, seven key attributes for success, and the fifteen common traits of winners. Last but certainly not the least are very helpful hints found after each chapter, which are summarized in the closing chapter 25. I hope you had as much pleasure reading the book as I had writing it. Look for my upcoming sequel, *The Definitive Guide to Obtaining a 100% Investment Return*. Enjoy!

### The Strategic Corporal Revisited

How do educators, clergy, attorneys, and the concerned public come to terms with meaningful, workable ethics in an age that eschews any attempt to define truth and error? Michael A. Milton has addressed that question in the new monograph, *From Flanders Field to the Moviegoer: Philosophical Foundations for a Transcendent Ethical Framework*. Milton draws on English literature, sociology, history, public policy, and theology to mark milestones in the cultural journey from the philosophical crisis after World War I, the end of modernity and the introduction of the "theater of the absurd" in post-modernity. Rather than merely a survey, this monograph proposes a "way forward" in teaching metaphysical ethics. Originally given as a paper before American and British defense leaders in Washington, DC, Milton's original paper is now expanded for use in undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate classrooms, as well as libraries and professional military education.

### THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO BECOMING A WORLD CLASS GLOBAL BUYER

Virtue ethics has emerged as a distinct field within moral theory - whether as an alternative account of right action or as a conception of normativity which departs entirely from the obligatoriness of morality - and has proved itself invaluable to many aspects of contemporary applied ethics. Virtue ethics now flourishes in philosophy, sociology and theology and its applications extend to law, politics and bioethics. "The Handbook of Virtue Ethics" brings together leading international scholars to provide an overview of the field. Each chapter summarizes and assesses the most important work on a particular topic

and sets this work in the context of historical developments. Taking a global approach by embracing a variety of major cultural traditions along with the Western, the "Handbook" maps the emergence of virtue ethics and provides a framework for future developments.

#### From Flanders Fields to the Moviegoer

James H. Toner is professor of international relations and military ethics at the U.S. Air War College and author of *Morals Under the Gun*.

#### Military Review

The Routledge Handbook of Military Ethics is a comprehensive reference work that addresses concerns held in common by the military services of many nations. It attempts to discern both moral dilemmas and clusters of moral principles held in common by all practitioners of this profession, regardless of nation or culture. Comprising essays by contributors drawn from the four service branches (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine corps) as well as civilian academics specializing in this field, this handbook discusses the relationship of "ethics" in the military setting to applied and professional ethics generally. Leading scholars and senior military practitioners from countries including the US, UK, France, China, Australia and Japan, discuss various national cultural views of the moral dimensions of military service. With reference to the responsibilities of professional orientation and education, as well as the challenges posed by recent technological developments, this handbook examines the difficulties underpinning the fundamental framework of military service. This book will be of much interest to students of military studies, war theory, ethics philosophy, sociology, war and conflict studies, and security studies.

#### The Handbook of Virtue Ethics

This book raises questions about the just war tradition through a critical examination of its revival and by juxtaposing it with a literary phenomenology of war. Recent public debate about war has leaned heavily on a just-war tradition dating back many centuries. This book examines the recent revival of that tradition in the United States and Britain, arguing that it is less coherent and comprehensive as an approach to the ethical issues arising from war than is generally supposed, and that it is inconsistent in important ways with the theology on which it was originally based. A second line of criticism is mounted through close readings of modern texts in English - from Britain, Australia and the USA - that together constitute a more subjective, bottom-up understanding of the moral dilemmas of military life. In this second tradition the task of representing war is seen as more problematic, and its rationality more questionable, than in just war discourse. Works by William Shakespeare, Sir Walter Scott, James Fennimore Cooper, Stephen Crane, John Buchan, Robert Louis Stevenson, Joseph Conrad, Tim O'Brien and Kurt Vonnegut are featured. The book will be of great interest to students and scholars of security studies, military studies, theology and international relations.

#### True Faith And Allegiance

This handbook presents a panoramic view of the field of giftedness. It offers a comprehensive and authoritative account on what giftedness is, how it is measured, how it is developed, and how it affects individuals, societies, and the world as a whole. It examines in detail recent advances in gifted education. The handbook also presents the latest advances in the fast-developing areas of giftedness research and practice, such as gifted education and policy implications. In addition, coverage provides fresh ideas, from entrepreneurial giftedness to business talent, which will help galvanize and guide the study of giftedness for the next decade.

#### Routledge Handbook of Military Ethics

This comprehensive overview examines the many facets of military ethics as they are applied during times of armed conflict and times of peace. An Introduction to Military Ethics: A Reference Handbook presents the philosophical and conceptual foundations of military ethics, offering an excellent foundation for exploration and discussion of these issues. It focuses first on the 2,500-year legacy of the "just war theory" and its application through history. It then moves to the application of that tradition in the modern era, showing how acts of terrorism by nonstate participants require a new theory and way of thinking about when and how armed force can be justifiably employed. Further, the author analyzes how new theories might alter the fundamental identity of traditional defensive military forces. The book

also addresses peacetime ethical issues, such as gender integration and the role of religion in the military. The book is essential reading for military officers and students, as well as those policymakers who confront decisions about how to deploy military force during the War on Terror.

#### More Than Just War

Who are the future members of the Army profession and how is their competence to be certified to their client, the American people? This is a contemporary analysis of the Army profession, its knowledge and expertise, with conclusions and policy recommendations.

#### Airpower Journal

This two-volume collection of essays addresses the Latino/a experience in present-day America, covering six major areas of importance: education, health, family, children, teens, and violence. The Latino/a presence in this country predates the United States itself, yet this group is often marginalized in the American culture. Many noted experts explore the ideology behind this prejudicial attitude, examining how America views Latinos/as, how Latinos/as view themselves, and what the future of America will look like as this group progresses toward equitable treatment. Through the exploration process, the book reveals the complexity and diversity of this community, tracing the historical trajectories of those whose diverse points of origin could be from almost anywhere, including the Americas, Europe, or other places. Written with contemporary issues at the forefront, this timely collection looks at the resolve of the Latino people and considers their histories, contributions, concerns, and accomplishments. Pointed essays address disparate quality-of-life issues in education, health, and economic stability while depicting individual and group efforts in overcoming barriers to mainstream American society. Each chapter discusses key challenge areas for the Latino American population in everyday life. An engaging "Further Investigations" feature poses questions about most of the essays, leading to critical thinking about the most important topics affecting Latino/as today.

#### International Handbook on Giftedness

In this new edition of the classic book on the moral conduct of war, Sidney Axinn provides a full-length treatment of the military conventions from a philosophical point of view. Axinn considers these basic ethical questions within the context of the laws of warfare: Should a good soldier ever disobey a direct military order? Are there restrictions on how we fight a war? What is meant by "military honor," and does it really affect the contemporary soldier? Is human dignity possible under battlefield conditions? Axinn answers "yes" to these questions. His objective in *A Moral Military* is to establish a basic framework for moral military action and to assist in analyzing military professional ethics. He argues for the seriousness of the concept of military honor but limits honorable military activity by a strict interpretation of the notion of war crime. With revisions and expansions throughout, including a new chapter on torture, *A Moral Military* is an essential guide on the nature of war during a time when the limits of acceptable behavior are being stretched in new directions.

#### Aerospace Power Journal

Much has changed in warfare in recent years, with America now dominant on the international scene and terrorism the new enemy. In light of these changes, the need for moral grounding in military actions is a more pressing concern than ever. When it was originally published, *Moral Issues in Military Decision Making* reflected the concerns posed by nuclear stalemate and the lessons of Vietnam. In that highly-praised work, Anthony Hartle outlined the essential elements of the Professional Military Ethic created for American military forces. In this new edition, he reexamines the moral foundations for America's military leadership in the post-9/11 era. Considering world affairs since the first edition - the Gulf War, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Iraq, 9/11, and the emergence of the United States as an unrivaled military power - Hartle explains how these events have raised ethical issues that differ dramatically from those of the Cold War. by the war on terrorism, homeland defense, asymmetric warfare, the proliferation of American military interventions, and the UN's role in peacekeeping operations. Using meticulously analyzed case studies - twice as many as in the first edition - he considers such moral dilemmas as torture, challenging superior officers, use of overwhelming force, and responding to fire in the presence of civilian shields. In this revision, Hartle examines further the status of professional military ethics in light of current affairs, changes in the articulation of military values, and recent research. In a new chapter on human rights, he relates moral principles directly to values embedded in the Constitution and argues that overwhelming American military power cannot succeed unless it is accompanied by

the moral force of the values it seeks to protect. difficulties of applying conventional laws of war and human rights doctrine in military operations. Hartle convincingly shows that national security is as much about the preservation of moral principles as it is about the protection of America's citizens and borders. His book demonstrates that the American military must continue to observe those principles in order to be effective in its primary mission.

United States Naval Institute Proceedings

An Introduction to Military Ethics