POLEMISTOGENESIS

The unintended or taken-for-granted impact of military action
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COMMUNITY OF PROFESSIONS

- are not easy to access (only after intensive (self-)selection, long training and socialization)
- Have a ‘licence to operate’
- Regulate their own business
- Want protection and support from society
- Are inner-directed
IVAN ILLICH: IATROGENESIS

• clinical iatrogenesis – damage through clinical action (wrong diagnosis, treatment, norms)

• social iatrogenesis – damage through medical (over)consumption and medical interference in social/political issues -> medicalization of society

• Cultural iatrogenesis – damage through autosuggestion, ‘disease trap’, learned helplessness,
BACKGROUNDS

• Professionalization through specialization, emphasis on functional rationality (= pigeon holing)

• Perverse dynamics in control of public services (→ performance paradox)

• Meta-dynamics: taken-for-grantedness, unintended consequences, workplace silence/open secrets
POLEMISTOGENESIS

• Clinical polemistogenesis - collateral damage (omelette)/taken for grantedness (e.g., casualties at the other side are hardly noticed). This includes non-intervention!

• Social polemistogenesis – expanding influence of the military (politically, particularly in US; budgetwise at the expense of.....; contentwise, f.i. disaster management; framing policies vis-a-vis social challenges as “wars on...”) 

• Cultural polemistogenesis - unintended consequences such as Libya, peacekeeping, wartime inequalities in Israel
INSIDE POLEMISTOGENESIS

• Sacrificing own troops to gain operational dominance (spectacular example: Vietnam)

• Inside casualties, injuries and psychological trauma
ANALYSIS OF SOLUTION

• Health care knows: mediation, manipulation, ingestion and incursion

• Incursion is seen as most important and requires largest budgets

• Similarly the military values incursion most and trains their personnel particularly for this type of activities

• Ambidexterity and virtuous structures, cultures and policies could prevent this one-dimensionality