Against A Tide of Evil: The responsibility to protect

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Historical mortality

Scourges of humanity	In millions +/-
Famines	100
Wars	200
Acute pestilences	300
Mass atrocities	400

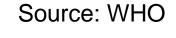


Sources: Many



Comparative mortality rates (sub Saharan Africa)

Year	Cause	Mortality rate /100,000/ year
1994	Genocide	12,100
1999	HIV/AIDS	553
1997	Malaria	165







What are mass atrocities?

- Violence and coercion to kill, terrorise, degrade, cause pain & suffering on large scale
- Doing the same to a smaller group targeted on grounds of identity

INCLUDES:

- Genocide and ethnic cleansing
- Crimes against humanity
- War crimes





Are we getting more quarrelsome and cruel?

	More Quarrelsome? War deaths	More Cruel? Genocide deaths
5000BC - AD1900	40 m 290 /100,000/year	133 m 970/100,000/year
20 th Century	111m 4,440 /100,000/yr	192m 7,700 /100,000/yr
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What is Genocide?

Actions with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, through:

- Killing members of the group
- Causing them serious bodily/mental harm
- Deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part
- Imposing measures to prevent births within the group
- Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.





Risk factors for genocide

Risk factor	Relative risk
History of prior genocide	3.1
Autocratic regime	3.0
Openness (measured by trade exports/imports)	2.5
Elite represents a minority in a multi-ethnic society	2.3
Elite rulers promote exclusionary doctrines	2.3
High magnitude of internal war and regime crises	1.6



Source: after Harff 2004



The pathogenesis of genocide

- > Dehumanisation
- Distancing
- > Desensitistion





The public health approach

Primary prevention

Secondary prevention

Tertiary prevention

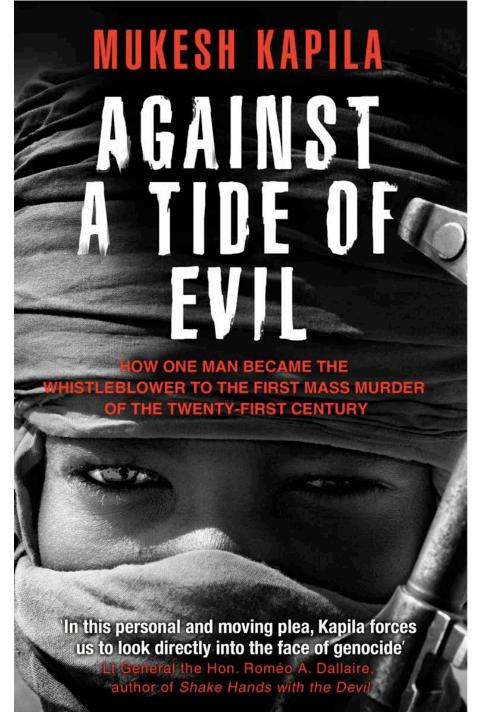




Why "never again" becomes "ever again"

- 1. Cynicism
- 2. Helplessness
- 3. Denial
- 4. Ambiguity
- 5. Prevarication
- 6. Risk aversion
- 7. Distraction
- 8. Buck passing
- 9. Purity
- 10. Specificity aversion
- 11. Calculated Naivety
- 12. Empathy deficit







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