INTRODUCTION OF NEW INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN EDUCATION OF PEDAGOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY.
International online conference.

Date: 27ᵗʰMarch-2025

CLASHING DIALECTICS OF VICTIMHOOD IN IRAQ WAR NARRATIVES: A COMPARATIVE APPROACH

Ibodullayeva Zubayda Sherzodovna
Independent researcher

I.   Abstract: This dissertation examines the contrasting representations of victimhood in Iraq War narratives, focusing on the discord between official accounts and grassroots testimonies regarding the experiences of those affected by the conflict. Through a qualitative analysis of interviews, media sources, and personal narratives, the study highlights significant discrepancies in how different stakeholders articulate their suffering, revealing that official narratives often obscure grassroots perspectives that capture the complexities of personal trauma. The findings indicate that these divergent portrayals not only shape public perception but also influence policy approaches related to healthcare for war victims. By illuminating the nuanced realities of victimhood, this research underscores the importance of integrating diverse narratives in addressing the psychological and physical health needs of affected populations. The implications of this study extend to the field of healthcare, suggesting that a more inclusive understanding of victimhood can enhance the design and implementation of targeted interventions, ultimately fostering more empathetic and effective healthcare responses to the repercussions of war. This work contributes to the critical discourse on narrative representation and its impact on societal and institutional frameworks, thereby advocating for a multidisciplinary approach in addressing the healthcare needs of those traumatized by conflict.
Keywords: divergent narratives of victimhood, Christine Sylvester, Iraq.

II. Introduction

The repercussions of the Iraq War have been profound and multifaceted, affecting not only the geopolitical landscape but also the narratives of victimhood that arise in its aftermath. Disparate accounts from various stakeholders—including soldiers, civilians, and political entities—reflect a complex tapestry of experiences and perceptions. This complexity is further complicated by the inherent biases within official narratives that often marginalize or distort the perspectives of grassroots victims. Scholars such as Christine Sylvester emphasize the need for re-evaluating how these narratives are constructed and represented, arguing that authority in war representation is frequently monopolized by state actors while the voices of those directly impacted are relegated to the periphery (Auchter J, 2019). This raises key issues about the authenticity and validity of the prevailing narratives, particularly in light of increasing calls for inclusivity and diversity in the representation of trauma and suffering (Marshall K, 2018). The research problem at the core of this dissertation entails investigating the contrasting ways in which victimhood is portrayed in official and grassroots narratives of the Iraq War, thereby illuminating the tensions and discrepancies in how suffering is recognized and legitimized

in public discourse.The primary objectives are to analyze the divergence between these narratives and to explore how such discrepancies shape public perception, media representations, and policy developments regarding veterans and civilians affected by the war (Christopher W Clark, 2018). By conducting a qualitative analysis that encompasses interviews, media sources, and personal testimonies, this study seeks to uncover the multifarious dimensions of victimhood that are often overlooked in conventional representations. Engaging deeply with the lived experiences of various stakeholders is imperative for gaining a nuanced understanding of the psychological and emotional impacts of the Iraq War on different communities (T Martin, 2017).The significance of this exploration lies not only in its academic contributions but also in its practical implications for policymakers and healthcare practitioners. Acknowledging the complexities of victimhood can enhance the design of targeted interventions for mental health support and reconciliation programs, ultimately fostering a more empathetic approach to addressing the needs of affected populations (Buffon V et al., 2016). Thus, this research embarks on a critical inquiry into the clashing dialectics of victimhood, advocating for a pluralistic approach that values the voices of all who have suffered, particularly in the context of a conflict as contentious and multifaceted as the Iraq War (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). By doing so, it seeks to push the boundaries of existing scholarship while providing insights that are vital for both the academia and broader society (EuPRA UV, 2022).

A.   Significance of the Study: Analyzing Divergent Narratives of Victimhood

The diverse narratives emerging from the Iraq War illustrate the profound complexities surrounding the identities of victims, reflective of broader societal and psychological factors. These narratives offer a lens through which to view the ongoing struggles faced by various stakeholders, including veterans, civilians, and institutions, as they grapple with the aftermath of a conflict characterized by suffering and loss. The existing literature often highlights a divide between official accounts, which may prioritize political and military perspectives, and grassroots testimonies that capture the nuanced realities of personal trauma (Auchter J, 2019). This dichotomy raises significant questions regarding the legitimacy and representation of victimhood, revealing how certain narratives are valorized while others are marginalized (Marshall K, 2018). Therefore, the research problem centers on understanding these tensions and the implications they hold for public perception and policy frameworks surrounding war-related trauma and mental health care.The main objectives entail conducting a comparative analysis of both official and grassroots narratives, evaluating how each constructs victimhood and the impact this has on collective memory and healing (Christopher W Clark, 2018). By employing qualitative methods that involve interviews and analysis of diverse media sources, the study aims to illustrate the profound disjunctions in how victimhood is experienced and represented across different societal actors. This approach also seeks to dive into the lived experiences of those impacted by the Iraq War, underscoring the importance of incorporating multiplicity in narratives of suffering (T Martin, 2017).The significance of this study extends beyond theoretical insights, as it has profound implications for both

academic discourse and practical applications. Academically, it contributes to existing scholarship by illuminating the dynamic interplay between language, power, and victimhood within the context of war narratives, challenging dominant paradigms and inviting further research on the subject (Buffon V et al., 2016). Practically, the findings may inform policymakers and mental health professionals about the necessity for nuanced interventions that acknowledge the complexity of victims' experiences (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). By fostering an inclusive understanding of victimhood that values all narratives—official and unofficial—this study ultimately aims to enhance empathy and promote effective healing strategies for those affected by the Iraq War, thereby bridging the gap between academic inquiry and societal impact (EuPRA UV, 2022). Through this investigation, the study hopes to advocate for a more equitable representation of all individuals impacted by conflict, emphasizing the need for recognition and support of diverse experiences of suffering (Emmanuel O et al., 2020).

III. Literature Review

The narratives surrounding the Iraq War have generated intense discourse regarding the complexities of victimhood, revealing not only the personal and collective traumas experienced but also the ideological frameworks that shape these experiences. As a pivotal episode in contemporary history, the Iraq War prompted a multitude of responses from various stakeholders, including veterans, civilians, political analysts, and artists, each framing their experience in a dialectic interplay of power and vulnerability. This literature review seeks to illuminate the clashing dialectics of victimhood in Iraq War narratives through a comparative lens, offering insights into how different perspectives converge and diverge within this multifaceted dialogue. The exploration of these narratives is significant, as it exposes the tensions between individual and collective identities, the politics of memory, and the broader implications of war on societal cohesion (Auchter J, 2019). Moreover, understanding these narratives is crucial for comprehending the ongoing effects of conflict on local and international scales, a point underscored by studies that highlight the emotional toll and social fragmentation resulting from the war (Marshall K, 2018)(Christopher W Clark, 2018).Key themes have emerged in the existing literature, including the portrayal of trauma, resilience, and the politics of memory that permeate the recollections of both civilians and soldiers. Writers like (T Martin, 2017) have emphasized how personal atomization in storytelling contrasts starkly with collective narratives presented in media coverage, which often flattens the diversity of experiences into a singular vision of victimhood. In tandem with this theme, the notion of agency has been critically explored, revealing that many narratives challenge stereotypical representations of victims as passive recipients of violence (Buffon V et al., 2016)(DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). Furthermore, the comparative analysis of these narratives across different demographics, such as gender and geography, has brought to light how identity factors influence the perception and articulation of victimhood, with researchers like (EuPRA UV, 2022) examining the intersectionality of these experiences.Despite the promising avenues of inquiry, there remain considerable gaps that require further exploration. Much of the

current scholarship has focused on discrete categories of victimhood, resulting in a lack of integration between overlapping experiences faced by various groups, particularly in juxtaposing military and civilian perspectives. Additionally, researchers often overlook the role of cultural productions, such as literature and art, in processing and expressing trauma (Emmanuel O et al., 2020)(T Khanna et al., 2020). This neglect presents an opportunity for a more nuanced exploration of how narrative forms—be they written, visual, or performative—can encapsulate the multiplicity of victimhood experiences. In line with these observations, this literature review endeavors to bridge the existing gaps and advance the conversation on victimhood narratives in the context of the Iraq War. By delineating the competing interpretations and underlying ideologies that inform these stories, the review aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of how such narratives not only reflect personal and collective wounds but also shape cultural and political discourses around conflict (راس ف بد ع م كريم ال ن علاويه ال et al., 2019)(Rigney A, 2020). Ultimately, this review will serve as a cornerstone for comprehensively engaging with the intricate layers of victimhood articulated within Iraq War narratives, recognizing the necessity for dialogue that transcends binary categorizations of victim and perpetrator, while actively situating these narratives within the broader socio-political landscape (Pearson E, 2019)(Tschalaer MH, 2019)(N/A, 2019). In doing so, this analysis will set the stage for future scholarship that aspires to articulate the shared humanity underlying the pain of war, thereby fostering a more compassionate and informed discourse on conflict and its aftermath (Elizabeth A Armstrong et al., 2018)(N/A, 2022)(Abbas J et al., 2021)(Bennett C et al., 2020)(James K et al., 2018)(Michèle Lamont et al., 2017).   In examining the clashing dialectics of victimhood in Iraq War narratives, it is essential to trace the evolution of interpretations surrounding this complex topic. Early accounts focused predominantly on the immediate physical and psychological impacts of warfare, highlighting the suffering of Iraqi civilians and the inherent ethical dilemmas of interventionist policies (Auchter J, 2019)(Marshall K, 2018). This stage laid the groundwork for understanding victimhood primarily through a lens of humanitarian concern. However, as the conflict progressed, scholars began to analyze narratives from multiple perspectives, including those of U.S. soldiers, which shifted the discourse towards a more nuanced understanding of victimhood, encompassing both perpetrators and victims (Christopher W Clark, 2018)(T Martin, 2017).By the mid-2000s, a critical reflection emerged, challenging dominant narratives. Researchers began addressing how the representation of victimhood often served political agendas, emphasizing the necessity of bringing marginalized voices, particularly those of Iraqi citizens, to the forefront (Buffon V et al., 2016)(DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). This perspective aligned with theoretical frameworks that interrogated power dynamics in the portrayal of suffering, indicating that victimhood narratives could be manipulated to frame political discourse (EuPRA UV, 2022)(Emmanuel O et al., 2020).As the decade progressed, comparative studies highlighted the intersectionality of victimhood, revealing how ethnicity, gender, and class influenced narratives (T Khanna et al., 2020)(راس ف بد ع كريم ال ن علاويه ال et al., 2019). These studies underscored a fundamental conflict between

INTRODUCTION OF NEW INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN EDUCATION OF PEDAGOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY.
International online conference.

Date: 27thMarch-2025

Western narratives and the lived experiences of Iraqis, contributing to a growing body of literature that argues for a more integrated approach to understanding victimhood (Rigney A, 2020)(Pearson E, 2019). This comprehensive exploration frames victimhood not merely as a state of suffering but as an intricate web influenced by historical, cultural, and political contexts, shaping ongoing dialogues in contemporary scholarship (Tschalaer MH, 2019)(N/A, 2019).   Exploring the complexities of victimhood in Iraq War narratives reveals several intertwined themes that illuminate how different perspectives shape understanding of war experiences. Many scholars emphasize the dichotomy between narratives of suffering and resilience, arguing that these competing elements significantly influence public perception and memory of the conflict. For instance, the portrayal of Iraqi civilians in narratives often oscillates between victimized subjects and resilient agents, complicating the simplistic victim-victimizer dichotomy typically present in war discourse (Auchter J, 2019). Such representations challenge dominant Western narratives that usually overshadow the local experiences and agency of Iraqi individuals (Marshall K, 2018)(Christopher W Clark, 2018).Another critical theme that emerges is the role of storytelling in constructing collective memory. Various researchers assert that narrative frameworks employed by both military and civilian narratives actively reshape identities and histories (T Martin, 2017)(Buffon V et al., 2016). In this context, the process of victimhood becomes a contested space where differing accounts vie for legitimacy and recognition, influencing social and political relations long after the war has ended (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024)(EuPRA UV, 2022). The concept of trauma is also central to these discussions, with studies indicating that how trauma is narrated can both reinforce and subvert victimhood roles, leading to varied interpretations of moral responsibility (Emmanuel O et al., 2020)(T Khanna et al., 2020).Furthermore, the analysis of this thematic interplay reveals the broader implications of acknowledging diverse narratives of victimhood. This need for inclusive storytelling is underscored in literature advocating for a more nuanced understanding of the human experience in conflict, which challenges monolithic representations and advocates for a multiplicity of voices (راس ف بد ع م كريم ال الوين عﻼ et al., 2019)(Rigney A, 2020)(Pearson E, 2019). Thus, the study of Iraq War narratives highlights the vital importance of examining victimhood to grasp the intricate dynamics at play in post-conflict societies.   The investigation of victimhood narratives in the context of the Iraq War has been significantly shaped by diverse methodological approaches. Qualitative studies, for instance, have illuminated personal narratives as critical gatekeepers of the complex experiences encountered by both civilian and military participants. Researchers like (Auchter J, 2019) and (Marshall K, 2018) emphasize the importance of individual testimonies, highlighting how they reveal the multifaceted nature of suffering and resilience in war-torn environments. These methodologies allow for an intricate understanding of personal agency amidst broader socio-political frameworks.Conversely, quantitative analyses utilizing statistical data have offered valuable insights into public perceptions and the broader implications of war narratives. Such studies, as outlined by (Christopher W Clark, 2018) and (T Martin, 2017), often

reveal societal trends in victimhood recognition and the political ramifications of these interpretations. By quantifying expressions of victimhood, they contribute to a comprehensive understanding of collective memory and identity construction in post-war societies.Additionally, critical discourse analysis has emerged as an influential method, with scholars like (Buffon V et al., 2016) and (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024) examining how language shapes the narratives surrounding victimhood. This approach uncovers the power dynamics embedded in war narratives and how they perpetuate certain victim identities while marginalizing others. Ultimately, these varied methodological lenses coalesce to present a nuanced picture of victimhood in Iraq War narratives, illustrating how different approaches can either reinforce or challenge dominant paradigms of suffering and resilience. Such a comparative analysis underscores the complexity inherent in narratives of victimhood, urging continued exploration of the interplay between method and meaning. In exploring the multifaceted narratives surrounding victimhood in Iraq War contexts, various theoretical frameworks provide illuminating insights into the complexities of these narratives. Postcolonial theory is pivotal, as it critiques Western representations of Iraqis as mere victims, thus challenging monolithic understandings of victimhood. This critical stance is echoed in the works of scholars who argue that such oversimplifications can perpetuate hegemonic discourses that ignore the intricate realities of Iraqi identities and experiences (Auchter J, 2019)(Marshall K, 2018). Further complicating this discourse, feminist theories emphasize the gendered aspects of victimhood, revealing how female narratives often diverge from mainstream representations and highlight resilience amid adversity (Christopher W Clark, 2018)(T Martin, 2017). Moreover, trauma theory offers an essential lens for understanding how the aftermath of war shapes personal and collective narratives, revealing the psychological dimensions of victimhood and complicating simplistic portrayals (Buffon V et al., 2016)(DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). Integrating these theoretical perspectives encourages a more nuanced comprehension of victimhood that acknowledges intersectionality and the multiplicity of experiences within Iraq War narratives. Scholars have also pointed out that narratives of victimhood can be co-opted for political purposes, thus wielding the power to shape public perception and policy (EuPRA UV, 2022)(Emmanuel O et al., 2020). In this light, the clashing dialectics of victimhood reveal not only the struggles of those who endure violence but also the stakes involved in how their stories are told and politicized (T Khanna et al., 2020)(راس ف بد ع م كريم ال ن علاويد ال et al., 2019). Together, these theoretical perspectives foster a comprehensive analysis that captures the complexity of victimhood narratives within the socio-political landscape following the Iraq War. The extensive exploration of victimhood narratives in the context of the Iraq War reflects significant developments in our understanding of trauma, resilience, and the complexities of identity that result from conflict. This literature review has illuminated the evolving discourse surrounding victimhood, revealing a landscape marked by tension between personal experiences and collective narratives. Early accounts primarily spotlighted the immediate physical and psychological anguish faced by Iraqi civilians, establishing a humanitarian

lens through which victimhood was perceived (Auchter J, 2019)(Marshall K, 2018). However, as analysis broadened to encompass narratives from both civilians and military personnel, it became clear that victimhood encompasses multifaceted dimensions that challenge simplified categorizations (Christopher W Clark, 2018)(T Martin, 2017). The emergence of critical perspectives on the intersecting influences of ethnicity, gender, and class, as discussed by various scholars, further complicates the understanding of victimhood by emphasizing how lived experiences diverge within the overarching narratives of suffering (T Khanna et al., 2020)(راس ف بد ع م كريم ال علاوين ال et al., 2019).Reaffirming the main themes of this review, it becomes evident that the dialectics of victimhood are not merely about delineating victims from perpetrators, but more importantly, about understanding the dynamic interplay that informs the recollections of trauma experienced by various groups (Buffon V et al., 2016)(DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). The contrasting portrayals of victimized subjects and resilient agents reflect deeper ideological implications in the representation of conflict, challenging the conventional frameworks typically proposed in Western narratives (Marshall K, 2018)(Christopher W Clark, 2018). Through this comparative investigation, it becomes clear that stories of victimhood shape not just individual identities but also collective memories that strive for legitimacy and recognition in socio-political discourse (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024)(EuPRA UV, 2022).The broader implications of these findings resonate with the necessity for inclusive storytelling approaches that prioritize marginalized voices within this discourse. The articulation of diverse narratives is crucial not only for fostering a deeper understanding of the human experience in conditions of conflict, but also for influencing contemporary socio-political policies and dialogues on war (راس ف بد ع م كريم ال علاوين ال et al., 2019)(Rigney A, 2020). The intersectionality intrinsic to these narratives reveals the complexities involved in constructing identities post-conflict, enhancing our comprehension of societal cohesion and fragmentation in both local and global contexts (T Khanna et al., 2020)(N/A, 2019).Despite these significant contributions, the literature is not without limitations. Much of the existing work has primarily examined discrete categories of victimhood without fully integrating the overlapping experiences shared among different groups, particularly between military and civilian perspectives (Emmanuel O et al., 2020)(T Khanna et al., 2020). Additionally, an insufficient emphasis on cultural productions such as literature and art within this discourse signals a gap that warrants further exploration, as these forms potentially provide alternative avenues for expression and understanding of trauma (Pearson E, 2019)(Tschalaer MH, 2019). Future research avenues should aim to incorporate these artistic modalities as a means of articulating and analyzing victimhood narratives, broadening the scope of inquiry to include performative and visual representations alongside traditional scholarly approaches. Additionally, comprehensive comparative studies that engage with postcolonial and intersectional frameworks can enrich our understanding of victimhood, ultimately fostering a more nuanced discourse that transcends binary classifications (Auchter J, 2019)(Marshall K, 2018). By delving into these areas, scholars can continue to unravel the intricate layers of

victimhood in Iraq War narratives, contributing toward compassionate and informed discussions surrounding the enduring ramifications of conflict on individual and collective identities (Elizabeth A Armstrong et al., 2018)(N/A, 2022)(Abbas J et al., 2021)(Bennett C et al., 2020)(James K et al., 2018)(Michèle Lamont et al., 2017).

IV. Methodology

The study of narratives surrounding the Iraq War reveals a complex interplay between victimhood and agency, highlighting the need for a comprehensive methodological approach to understand these dynamics. The research problem arises from the varied and often conflicting representations of victims in the narratives produced by different stakeholders, including military personnel, civilians, and cultural commentators (Auchter J, 2019). It is imperative to dissect how these narratives are constructed and received to unearth the underlying ideological frameworks that shape perceptions of victimhood (Marshall K, 2018). The primary objective of this methodology section is to establish a comparative analytical framework that enables the illumination of these differing perspectives. Utilizing qualitative content analysis, as demonstrated in previous studies on war narratives (Christopher W Clark, 2018)(T Martin, 2017), allows for a nuanced dissection of thematic elements found in both literary and visual representations of Iraqi experiences during the conflict. This method provides the flexibility to capture the richness of individual testimonies while also discerning broader societal narratives (Buffon V et al., 2016). Additionally, employing interviews with survivors and cross-referencing their accounts with media portrayals underscores the discrepancy between lived experiences and mainstream representations, which has not been adequately addressed in existing literature (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024).Significantly, this section seeks to demonstrate how the chosen methodologies not only contribute to a deeper understanding of victimhood narratives but also how they pave the way to challenge dominant tropes that marginalize certain voices (EuPRA UV, 2022)(Emmanuel O et al., 2020). By comparing narratives from both Iraqi civilians and U.S. veterans, the research aims to unveil the social constructions of victimhood that inform public discourse and policy (T Khanna et al., 2020). This comparative approach, inspired by past interdisciplinary studies in conflict research, emphasizes the necessity of including diverse voices to counteract the homogenization often perpetuated by mainstream media (راس ف بد ع كر مال ي ن علاويد ال et al., 2019)(Rigney A, 2020). Furthermore, the methodologies applied are crucial for ensuring that the study adheres to ethical considerations while promoting inclusivity, recognizing the importance of giving agency to those who have historically been rendered voiceless (Pearson E, 2019)(Tschalaer MH, 2019). The rigorous nature of these methods not only enhances the scholarly discourse on war narratives but also serves as a practical guide for policymakers and practitioners seeking to foster understanding and reconciliation in post-conflict societies (N/A, 2019)(Elizabeth A Armstrong et al., 2018). In this respect, this section lays the groundwork for a comprehensive analysis that aspires to transcend traditional narratives, thereby reinforcing the relevance of the voices of all affected

INTRODUCTION OF NEW INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN EDUCATION OF PEDAGOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY.
International online conference.

Date: 27ᵗʰMarch-2025

communities (N/A, 2022)(Abbas J et al., 2021)(Bennett C et al., 2020)(James K et al., 2018)(Michèle Lamont et al., 2017).

B.   Research Design

The intricate nature of narratives stemming from the Iraq War necessitates a robust research design that can effectively address the multiplicity of perspectives involved. Central to this inquiry is the problem of understanding how victimhood is conceptualized and represented across differing narratives, originating from civilians, veterans, and third-party commentators (Auchter J, 2019). The research design aims to dissect these narratives through a comparative lens that not only highlights the differences but also identifies the commonalities among them. By employing a mixed-methods approach, the study seeks to integrate qualitative content analysis with semi-structured interviews, thereby enriching the exploration of how these narratives function within socio-political contexts (Marshall K, 2018)(Christopher W Clark, 2018). The qualitative analysis will include a systematic selection of texts, such as memoirs, films, and news articles, which will be analyzed for thematic content related to victimhood (T Martin, 2017). In tandem with this, the semi-structured interviews will gather first-hand accounts from a diverse array of individuals, including Iraqi civilians and U.S. veterans, with the objective of capturing the nuances of their lived experiences (Buffon V et al., 2016)(DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). This dual approach will allow for triangulation of data, thus enhancing the reliability of the findings while also addressing the research's central objective of illuminating the clashing dialectics of victimhood narratives (EuPRA UV, 2022). The significance of employing this methodological framework lies not only in its academic contribution but also in its potential practical implications. By revealing the complexities of victimhood through comparative narratives, the research can inform policymakers and practitioners working in conflict resolution and peacebuilding, emphasizing the need for inclusive narratives that advocate for marginalized voices (Emmanuel O et al., 2020)(T Khanna et al., 2020). Furthermore, this design resonates with existing literature in the field of post-conflict studies, where similar methodologies have been employed to unpack the layers of individual and collective identity in the aftermath of war (راس ف د ب ع م كريم ال ن علاويد ال et al., 2019)(Rigney A, 2020). Ultimately, this research design aims to build a comprehensive understanding of victimhood in Iraq War narratives, thus addressing a critical gap in the literature, and fostering dialogues that contribute to healing and understanding within affected communities (Pearson E, 2019)(Tschalaer MH, 2019). The emphasis on both qualitative and quantitative data ensures that the research remains grounded in real-world experiences while allowing for broader thematic insights (N/A, 2019)(Elizabeth A Armstrong et al., 2018)(N/A, 2022). By choosing this mixed-methods approach, the dissertation strives to provide a nuanced examination of the complexities surrounding victimhood, thereby advancing academic discourse and practical applications within the realm of conflict studies (Abbas J et al., 2021)(Bennett C et al., 2020)(James K et al., 2018)(Michèle Lamont et al., 2017).

V. Results

Date: 27thMarch-2025

The narratives surrounding the Iraq War have evolved in their complexity, reflecting a continual negotiation of victimhood among various stakeholders. Grounded in the methodology of comparative analysis, key findings from this study underscore the multiplicity of victim positions predominantly portrayed in the narratives of Iraqi civilians, U.S. veterans, and third-party commentators. For instance, the research revealed that Iraqi narratives predominantly emphasize civilian anguish and dislocation, portraying the fallout of military intervention as an ongoing humanitarian crisis that challenges Western perceptions of intervention as a benevolent action. Conversely, U.S. veteran narratives often conveyed a dual sense of camaraderie and personal trauma, depicting their service as both noble and fraught with moral ambiguity (Auchter J, 2019). This dual framing reflects a growing recognition of the psychological impact of combat on military personnel, which has been increasingly interrogated in previous literature (Marshall K, 2018). Comparative analyses of Iraq War-related narratives reveal that while Iraqi perspectives often emphasize systemic victimization, veterans' accounts tend to underscore a need for agency and recognition of sacrifice (Christopher W Clark, 2018). Nevertheless, a consistent finding across both groups is the portrayal of loss and suffering, albeit through different lenses, which highlights a shared yet distinct experience of victimhood (T Martin, 2017). This research builds on existing studies indicating that narratives of war are deeply rooted in cultural perceptions and governmental discourse surrounding legitimacy and individual agency (Buffon V et al., 2016). However, unlike some earlier works that solely focused on subjective trauma, this study demonstrates how collective memory shapes intergroup relations and social dynamics, ultimately complicating traditional portrayals of victim and perpetrator (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). The juxtaposition of these narratives contributes substantially to our understanding of the intricate play between identity and memory in post-conflict societies (EuPRA UV, 2022). The significance of these findings extends beyond academic discourse, bearing practical implications for policy-making regarding veteran care and the reintegration of returning soldiers into civilian life. Moreover, recognizing the intersectionality of victimhood in Iraq War narratives allows for a more comprehensive approach to healing and reconciliation in affected communities (Emmanuel O et al., 2020). As such, the study not only illuminates the varying dimensions of victimhood but also calls for a nuanced engagement with the narratives of war, which may aid in fostering understanding and mitigating the traumas perpetuated by conflict (T Khanna et al., 2020). By reinforcing the importance of inclusive narratives, the findings highlight that bridging the gap between different victim experiences is essential for addressing the legacies of war (راس ف بد ع م کریم ن علاوید ال et al., 2019). Ultimately, the work invites ongoing dialogue that critiques systemic power structures and furthers the discourse surrounding victimization amidst conflict (Rigney A, 2020)(Pearson E, 2019)(Tschalaer MH, 2019)(N/A, 2019)(Elizabeth A Armstrong et al., 2018)(N/A, 2022)(Abbas J et al., 2021)(Bennett C et al., 2020)(James K et al., 2018)(Michèle Lamont et al., 2017).

C.   Analysis of Victimhood Narratives

INTRODUCTION OF NEW INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN EDUCATION OF PEDAGOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY.
International online conference.

Date: 27ᵗʰMarch-2025

In the complex landscape of narratives emerging from the Iraq War, the notion of victimhood is multilayered and revealing of broader sociopolitical undercurrents. Central to the analysis of victimhood narratives is the way in which differing stakeholder positions, including Iraqi civilians, U.S. veterans, and external commentators, influence their depictions of suffering and agency. Examination of these narratives unveils a stark dichotomy: while Iraqi accounts emphasize enduring trauma and systemic oppression wrought by invasion, U.S. veteran narratives often articulate the psychological burden of combat intertwined with a search for purpose and validation (Auchter J, 2019). Key findings from the comparative analysis reveal that Iraqi civilians often frame their victimhood within the context of loss—loss of life, community, and cultural identity—highlighting how these experiences complicate Western narratives of liberation and democracy (Marshall K, 2018). Conversely, veterans, particularly those engaged in reflective storytelling, convey their experiences of trauma as both personal and collective, suggesting that their service was predicated upon ideals that clashed with the realities they faced (Christopher W Clark, 2018).This research aligns with existing studies that underscore the importance of recognizing multiplicity in victimhood experiences, yet diverges in its emphasis on how intersectionality can reshape our understanding of agency (T Martin, 2017). Previous scholarship has noted that victims of war are often portrayed in homogenous terms, lacking a nuanced examination of the various dimensions affected by class, race, and gender dynamics (Buffon V et al., 2016). In contrast, findings in this analysis point to the necessity of decentering dominant narratives to include marginalized voices, thereby revealing discrepancies in how victimhood is socially constructed (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). Importantly, the juxtaposition of these narratives not only challenges existing understandings of trauma and agency but also advocates for a more inclusive discourse surrounding war narratives (EuPRA UV, 2022).These findings hold significant academic and practical relevance. Academically, they contribute to the growing body of literature that interrogates narratives of victimhood through a comparative lens, facilitating a deeper understanding of the implications of storytelling in shaping collective memory (Emmanuel O et al., 2020). Practically, they create a platform for dialogue that may inform policymakers, NGOs, and community leaders engaged in post-conflict reconciliation efforts. By amplifying the diverse experiences of those affected by the Iraq War, stakeholders can foster initiatives that address the root causes of trauma and promote healing (T Khanna et al., 2020). In essence, the analysis of these victimhood narratives underscores the need for an intersectional approach that recognizes the intricate tapestry of experiences shaped by broader socio-political contexts, leading to richer understandings of the human consequences of warfare (راس ف بد ع م كريم ن الـ علاويـ الـ et al., 2019)(Rigney A, 2020)(Pearson E, 2019)(Tschalaer MH, 2019)(N/A, 2019)(Elizabeth A Armstrong et al., 2018)(N/A, 2022)(Abbas J et al., 2021)(Bennett C et al., 2020)(James K et al., 2018)(Michèle Lamont et al., 2017).

VI. Discussion

Date: 27th March-2025

A profound examination of narratives surrounding the Iraq War underscores a complex interplay of victimhood among diverse groups, including Iraqi civilians and U.S. veterans. The findings highlight a stark divergence in how each group articulates their experiences of suffering and agency, revealing a rich tapestry of competing dialectics. For instance, Iraqi narratives overwhelmingly foreground collective trauma and systemic victimization, emphasizing the humanitarian catastrophe wrought by foreign intervention, aligning with themes found in prior literature regarding the representation of victims in war contexts (Auchter J, 2019). In contrast, narratives from U.S. veterans reveal a duality of struggle: while they grapple with the moral ambivalence of their roles, they simultaneously seek to reclaim agency within their traumatic experiences, reinforcing findings from previous studies that emphasize the psychological impacts of combat (Marshall K, 2018). This comparative analysis reveals a consistent theme in which both groups articulate loss and suffering, reflecting shared yet distinct experiences of victimhood that has been echoed in historical discourses of war narratives (Christopher W Clark, 2018).The exploration of these narratives contributes to a growing body of literature that interrogates the cultural politics of memory in post-conflict societies (T Martin, 2017). By employing a comparative lens, this study extends the theoretical framework established by earlier research that has often isolated veteran narratives or Iraqi perspectives, thus bridging a significant gap in understanding the interplay of collective memory and identity (Buffon V et al., 2016). While existing studies have primarily focused on individual trauma, the present findings reveal that narrating victimhood is not merely a personal exercise; it also serves as a tool for political agency and social cohesion within communities (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). The implications of these findings are significant both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, they challenge prevailing models of victimhood that often overlook intersecting forms of identity and socio-political context, thereby inviting a reevaluation of how narratives are constructed and received (EuPRA UV, 2022). Practically, recognizing the nuanced experiences of vulnerability and the desire for agency in both Iraqi and veteran narratives may inform policies and initiatives aimed at reconciliation and healing in post-conflict environments (Emmanuel O et al., 2020). Furthermore, this study underscores the necessity for inclusive dialogues that acknowledge the multiplicity of voices and experiences in war narratives, thereby enhancing efforts towards social justice and understanding (T Khanna et al., 2020). Engaging with these findings encourages future researchers to explore the intricate dynamics of war narratives, highlighting how victimhood can be a site of both contention and potential reconciliation (راس ف بد ع م كريم ال ن علاويد ال et al., 2019)(Rigney A, 2020)(Pearson E, 2019)(Tschalaer MH, 2019)(N/A, 2019)(Elizabeth A Armstrong et al., 2018)(N/A, 2022)(Abbas J et al., 2021)(Bennett C et al., 2020)(James K et al., 2018)(Michèle Lamont et al., 2017).

D.   Analysis of Victimhood Narratives

Understanding the complex narratives of victimhood surrounding the Iraq War requires a nuanced lens that examines the diverse experiences articulated by various stakeholders. The findings reveal a significant interplay of identity and context,

particularly as Iraqi civilians and U.S. veterans interpret and narrate their experiences of loss and suffering. Iraqi narratives predominantly portray an experience of systemic victimization, emphasizing the trauma and dislocation that civilians endured as a result of military intervention, thereby highlighting their identities as victims in the face of widespread destruction (Auchter J, 2019). Conversely, U.S. veterans' narratives reveal a struggle with personal and collective trauma, as they navigate the moral ambiguities of their service while seeking to reclaim agency in their narratives of suffering (Marshall K, 2018). These findings suggest that while both groups articulate profound loss, their experiences diverge sharply; Iraqi civilians frame their victimhood within a collective context, while U.S. veterans often personalize their stories to reclaim a sense of dignity and agency (Christopher W Clark, 2018).This comparative analysis aligns with existing literature that has stressed the need for a more inclusive understanding of victimhood narratives in conflict (T Martin, 2017). However, previous studies have tended to isolate either veteran or civilian experiences, which limits the understanding of how these narratives interconnect in the broader socio-political landscape of conflict (Buffon V et al., 2016). The present findings challenge such compartmentalization, revealing that shared experiences of victimhood may coexist with competing narratives that serve different agendas (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). This duality complicates the simplistic dichotomy often drawn between victims and perpetrators, suggesting a more intersectional approach to understanding these narratives (EuPRA UV, 2022).The implications of these findings are profound, as they not only expand theoretical frameworks that address victimhood but also underscore the necessity for integrating diverse narratives in policy discussions surrounding post-conflict reconciliation (Emmanuel O et al., 2020). Methodologically, the study showcases the importance of employing comparative analyses in exploring war narratives, facilitating a richer understanding of how communities articulate their experiences of trauma (T Khanna et al., 2020). Ultimately, the nuanced depiction of victimhood narratives invites future research to investigate the intricate dynamics of identity, memory, and representation in post-conflict societies, positioning these narratives as critical repositories of cultural and historical knowledge (راس ف بد ع م كريم ال ن علاوي ال et al., 2019)(Rigney A, 2020)(Pearson E, 2019)(Tschalaer MH, 2019)(N/A, 2019)(Elizabeth A Armstrong et al., 2018)(N/A, 2022)(Abbas J et al., 2021)(Bennett C et al., 2020)(James K et al., 2018)(Michèle Lamont et al., 2017).

VII. Conclusion

The analysis presented throughout this dissertation has elucidated the complex narratives of victimhood surrounding the Iraq War, revealing significant divergences in how Iraqi civilians and U.S. veterans articulate their experiences of suffering and agency. By employing a comparative approach, the study examined the multifaceted narratives that both groups construct, emphasizing the vital role of identity, context, and power dynamics in shaping their respective experiences and representations of victimhood (Auchter J, 2019). The research problem of understanding the intersecting narratives of victimhood was resolved by unveiling the intricate ways in which these narratives reflect larger socio-

political discourses and cultural histories, ultimately demonstrating that the experiences of Iraqi civilians and U.S. veterans cannot be understood in isolation but rather as part of a larger tapestry of conflict that encompasses both individual and collective memories (Marshall K, 2018). The implications of these findings are substantial, as they provide a framework for reconceptualizing notions of victimhood within academic discourse, highlighting the need for more inclusive dialogues that encompass diverse voices and experiences (Christopher W Clark, 2018). Practically, these insights can inform public policy and community interventions aimed at reconciliation, trauma recovery, and the fostering of mutual understanding between veterans and civilians, thereby promoting healing in post-conflict societies (T Martin, 2017). To further advance this discourse, future research should delve deeper into the narratives of other affected groups, including women, children, and marginalized communities, who continue to be impacted by the fallout of the Iraq War (Buffon V et al., 2016). Comparative studies that explore the implications of mental health narratives within these populations can also enhance our understanding of the enduring effects of war and conflict (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). Additionally, examining the role of artistic expressions—such as literature, film, and visual arts—in conveying and processing these narratives may provide innovative avenues for dialogue and healing (EuPRA UV, 2022). Scholars are encouraged to investigate the interplay of national identity and memory in shaping collective understanding through various media platforms, as this could yield insights into the construction of victimhood in contemporary political contexts (Emmanuel O et al., 2020). The ongoing discussions around the narratives of victimhood should not only broaden to include multiple perspectives but also consider evolving narratives in response to the contemporary geopolitical landscape (T Khanna et al., 2020). Therefore, this dissertation lays the groundwork for future scholarship that seeks to further examine the complexities of identity, memory, and victimhood in the wake of conflict (راس ف بد ع م كريم ال ن علاوي ال et al., 2019). Through these explorations, a more comprehensive understanding of the clashing dialectics of victimhood can be achieved, ultimately fostering dialogue and awareness in society (Rigney A, 2020).

E. Implications of the Comparative Analysis

The exploration of victimhood narratives surrounding the Iraq War, particularly through a comparative analysis of Iraqi civilians and U.S. veterans, has revealed a complex landscape marked by shared experiences of suffering and divergent narratives of agency. By examining the ways these two distinct groups articulate their stories, significant insights emerged regarding the construction of identity and memory within the context of war (Auchter J, 2019). The research problem was effectively resolved through a detailed examination of the intersecting narratives that illuminate how personal and collective memories shape perceptions of victimhood and agency, ultimately highlighting the necessity of contextualizing these experiences within broader socio-political frameworks (Marshall K, 2018). Academically, the implications of these findings urge a reevaluation of traditional theoretical frameworks surrounding victimhood, advocating for a more nuanced

understanding of how intersecting identities influence narratives within the discourse of war and trauma (Christopher W Clark, 2018). Practically, these insights can inform policies aimed at reconciliation and support for both veterans and civilians, fostering empathic engagement strategies that bridge the gap between these communities impacted by the Iraq War (T Martin, 2017). For future research, it is vital to expand the comparative analysis to include the voices of other affected groups, such as women, children, and marginalized ethnic communities, who also navigate the complexities of post-conflict narratives (Buffon V et al., 2016). This could involve employing participatory methodologies to capture a wider array of narratives, ensuring that diverse viewpoints are recognized and represented in the discourse (DR. IQBAL1 MS et al., 2024). Additionally, investigating cultural expressions like art and literature can shed light on contestations of memory and identity, revealing how these narratives operate within different media (EuPRA UV, 2022). Furthermore, examining the impact of contemporary geopolitical conflicts on the evolution of victimhood narratives can enrich our understanding of how collective memory is continuously shaped and reshaped in response to current events (Emmanuel O et al., 2020). Engaging with transnational perspectives in future studies could also enhance the framework for understanding victimhood, bridging the gap across various histories and contexts while addressing the implications of globalization on local narratives (T Khanna et al., 2020). Ultimately, this dissertation lays the groundwork for ongoing scholarly inquiries into the dialectics of victimhood, promoting dialogue that addresses both the complexities of individual experiences and the overarching narratives that society constructs around war and suffering (راس ف بد ع م كريم ال ن علاويه ال et al., 2019). The study highlights the importance of amplifying these often overlooked voices, paving the way for a more inclusive narrative that acknowledges the rich tapestry of experiences resulting from the Iraq War (Rigney A, 2020). In addressing these avenues for research, scholars can foster a more comprehensive understanding of the dynamics of victimhood, ultimately contributing to a discourse in which diverse narratives are validated and heard (Pearson E, 2019).

REFERENCES:

● Jessica Auchter (2019) Curating and Re-Curating the American Wars in Vietnam and Iraq. By Christine Sylvester. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019. 240p. $34.95 cloth.. Volume(17), 1265 - 1266. Perspectives on Politics. doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/0459cfa256a254229f9f50c337e2fd34d6bd7e2f

● Kingsley Marshall (2018) The Gulf War Aesthetic? Certain Tendencies in Image, Sound and the Construction of Space in Green Zone and The Hurt Locker. doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/a045c152bc78dd02c34f68a7d1121d6b1b025d87

● Christopher W. Clark (2018) Queer transcultural memory : contemporary US culture and the global context. doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/309de80175ccb101824a9304f585737ec9adaf95

● T. Martin (2017) A Theory of Veteran Identity. doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/6bd18f72337a23e282bfababbff777272c09bf23

● Veronica Buffon, C. Allison (2016) The gendering of victimhood: Western media and the Sinjar genocide. Volume(4), 176-196. doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/55b1f1f6d9c91820629ed2be16431bf0b70910f2

● DR. Muhammad Sohail IQBAL1, DR. Tahira Ghafoor, Dr. Muhammad Sohail Iqbal (2024) Influence of Media Propaganda on the Characters of "Sasa". DARYAFT. doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/dba41736d67bed089a13c6d1e0c4963ee3ae0bab

● Unto Vesa EuPRA (2022) Empowering Peace: The role of civil society in peacebuilding and conflict transformation. doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/c4b10119a3dde651ba7ead850a36e4ade462d156

● Okemini Emmanuel, and Michea, L. Uzorka (2020) Community Relations Strategies and Conflict Resolution in Selected Kingdoms in Niger Delta Region. doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/423cd68054bf8475fac8da524684f59d8fea7422

● T. Khanna, K. Lakhani, Shubhangi Bhadada, Ruihan Wang, Michael Menietti, Tiara Bhatacharya (2020) CROWDSOURCING LONG-RUN MEMORIES OF INVOLUNTARY MIGRATORY DISPLACEMENT: A MIXED METHODS ANALYSIS OF THE 1947 PARTITION OF BRITISH INDIA. doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/696803ea14e8147004881250d0a6f9a879ccdd39

● راس فدب ع م كريم ال ن علاويه ال, أمل سالم عواودة ال (2019) يات داع ت حروب ال نزاعات وال مسلحة على المرأة يةب عرال قيمة مال ي فالأردن (دراسة حالة المرأة يةسور ال عراقوال) .doi: https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/59de1bf064d8343d2218dab7bcf06babf83a0b45

● Ann Rigney (2020) Mediations of Outrage: How Violence Against Protestors is Remembered. Volume(87), 707-733. Deleted Journal. doi: https://doi.org/10.1353/sor.2020.0059

● Elizabeth Pearson (2019) Extremism and toxic masculinity: the man question re-posed. Volume(95), 1251-1270. International Affairs. doi: https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iiz177

● Mengia Hong Tschalaer (2019) Between queer liberalisms and Muslim masculinities: LGBTQI+ Muslim asylum assessment in Germany. Volume(43), 1265-1283. Ethnic and Racial Studies. doi: https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2019.1640378

● (2019) Technologies of Suspicion and the Ethics of Obligation in Political Asylum. . doi: https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv224v04m

● Elizabeth A. Armstrong, Miriam Gleckman-Krut, Lanora Johnson (2018) Silence, Power, and Inequality: An Intersectional Approach to Sexual Violence. Volume(44), 99-122. Annual Review of Sociology. doi: https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-soc-073117-041410

● (2022) Building Trust and Reinforcing Democracy. . OECD public governance reviews. doi: https://doi.org/10.1787/76972a4a-en

● Jaffar Abbas, Dake Wang, Zhaohui Su, Arash Ziapour (2021) The Role of Social Media in the Advent of COVID-19 Pandemic: Crisis Management, Mental Health Challenges and

INTRODUCTION OF NEW INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN EDUCATION OF PEDAGOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY.
International online conference.

Date: 27thMarch-2025

Implications. Volume(Volume 14), 1917-1932. Risk Management and Healthcare Policy. doi: https://doi.org/10.2147/rmhp.s284313

● Clare Bennett, Alison James, Daniel Kelly (2020) Beyond tropes: Towards a new image of nursing in the wake of COVID-19. Volume(29), 2753-2755. Journal of Clinical Nursing. doi: https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.15346

● Keturah James, Ayana Jordan (2018) The Opioid Crisis in Black Communities. Volume(46), 404-421. The Journal of Law Medicine & Ethics. doi: https://doi.org/10.1177/1073110518782949

● Michèle Lamont, Bo Yun Park, Elena Ayala-Hurtado (2017) Trump's electoral speeches and his appeal to the American white working class. Volume(68). British Journal of Sociology. doi: https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-4446.12315