Mazrui, Ali. "Journal of Asian and African Studies." *The Warrior Tradition and the Masculinity of War* 12 (1977): 69-81.

In cultures which are otherwise vastly different, the role of the warrior has been reserved for men. “Our sons are our warriors.” This is virtually universal.

Again, in cultures which are otherwise vastly different, crimes of violence have been disproportionately committed by men. The jails of the world bear solemn testimony to the basic masculinity of violent crime.

Is there a connection between this masculinity of violent crime and the preponderant masculinity of the military profession? The barracks and the prisons have a majority of men. Is ts link between warriorhood and mafiahood accidental? Or are there organic interconnections between the two?

-pp. 69

-men have an instinctual attitude to be more aggressive and violent than women?

Images of valour, courage, endurance, and maturity have, in different societies, been intimately related to the role of the male in social and military affairs. Sexual division of labour has been both a cause and an effect of a range of social symbols defining boundaries or propriety and congruence. We have discussed this in a related context of the warrior tradition in relation to the origins of the State.

-pp. 69

The move from the spear to the intercontinental ballistic missile amounts to some extent to the demasculation of warfare. Face to face warfare make greater demands on individual courage than does destruction by remote control.

-pp. 70

-Technology reduces the masculinity of war and fighting, as the requirement of skill and strength for the warrior is replaced with mere technological advancements

-ie suicide bombers and child soldiers

Pre-eminent among the more obvious shared aspects is, firstly, the link between the warrior and the concept of manhood. These are quite fundamental linkages and carry a variety of implications.

Adulthood is related to notions of self-reliance. The adult is he who has a capacity to earn his own living and maintain his own homestead.

-pp. 75

One became a warrior when one was presumed to be capable of protecting cattle, or defending land, or collectively fighting to protect the clan. A heavy element of self-reliance was thus built into the concept of warrior because of its link with the concept of adulthood.

-pp.75

-confirms that warriors and soldiers are trained/made

But as military technology advanced, pure muscle became less relevant. The preponderance of men in the fighting profession became less justifiable in terms of the muscular technology of combat. To press the button of a B-52 on a bombing mission over North Vietnam was an assignment which did not need a man’s finger. Yet the great majority of those who fought in the Vietnam war were man.

-pp. 78

Is the explanation biological or cultural? Are men more violent because of upbringing and socialization or because of higher biological aggressivity in their nature?

Experiments have indicated a definite difference in levels of aggressivity between male and female in other creatures.

-pp. 78

A major reason behind the relative powerlessness of women in politics may lie in their military impotence. Sexual division of labour had reserved the role of the warrior disproportionately for the male of the species. In so doing it also helped to reserve the role of the ruler for the male also.

-pp. 78