
War is a great horror. All right-thinking people agree on this. War has brought more misery to humanity than any other single thing. Why, then, do we as a species indulge in it so often and so easily? This question has never been as urgent as it is today. The world has never been more fractious and humankind’s ability to destroy itself has never been greater. One might think that the need to understand why we kill on an organised and industrial scale should be among our most urgent preoccupations. It need hardly be said, though, that this is not so. Malcolm Potts and Thomas Hayden are not afraid of the question. In their book they plumb the biological origins of what they call the “team aggression” impulse and describe how evolution has favoured its participants. They show how the impulse is an irremovable part of the creation of society and civilisations. Now, however, we have outgrown it, but the urge is still with us, embedded in our nature.

We might think, in the so-called “advanced” societies, that the drive to war is a low impulse that impels others, not us. But recent experience gives the lie. The reasons that were given by the UK and the USA for their wars that still rage in the Middle East were forced and artificial, and were rapidly dropped and changed when they wore thin. An open-minded person could only call the rationale for readers of this journal nothing less.

BOOK REVIEW

Lubrication...naturally

SYLK natural personal lubricant for the alleviation of atrophic vaginitis is now included within the NHS Drug Tariff Part IX and available on an FP10. Adopted and endorsed by a multi-professional group investigating the use of vaginal dilators following pelvic radiotherapy, as well as members of the National Committee of the National Forum of Gynaecology Oncology Nurses (NFGON) and other relevant groups within the NHS, SYLK:

- has a non chemical base derived from an extract of the kiwi fruit plant that effectively mimics a woman’s natural secretions and is the only paraben free lubricant
- has passed cytotoxicity, sensitisation and product stability tests. The pH of SYLK is controlled within 4.5 to 4.7, to equate with the vaginal environment
- is a class I medical device available in one 40ml size, sufficient for up to 150 applications

Free samples and consumer literature are readily available from:

SYLK Limited
FREEPOST, PO Box 340
Rickmansworth, WD3 5WD
Tel: 0870 950 6004
www.sylk.co.uk

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