

Table 1 - Some aspects influencing decisions to act and partake in a violently performed conflict

Conflict factor	Explanation	Examples
Instability, scrimmage for resources and desperation	Self-preservation is one of the primary forces in life. If basic needs are not covered and safety not secured aggressive acts of desperation becomes more frequent and "legitimate".	
Division of people based on collective identities Distance in relationships - collective pressure	Group belonging (e.g. ethnicity, religion, culture) and collectivism is in many cultures stronger than individuality and personal relationships. As much as this is a positive thing it can be a strong decisive factor for aggression against other groups when resources are scarce or unequally distributed between people. The theories that it is harder to act in violence towards someone you have close personal bonds with does not hold in extreme situations On the positive side, all wars have shown tremendous acts of human compassion across ethnic and conflicting barriers. Even in the bloodiest conflicts people has sacrifices own safety to help people on the "conflicting" side.	Ethnic cleansing in Balkan and Rwanda.
Hierarchical structures	In cultures and structures with strong hierarchal systems, control mechanisms like misinformation is easier spread and used to create and uphold conflicts. Building of a strong civil society, with open access to communication and interaction. This makes it more difficult to spread propaganda and to have a totalitarian control of the population.	In Burma the regime successfully managed to put the different groups up against each other by controlling information and using it ...
Lawlessness	International law seems to have very limited consequence and impact on people's decisions of acting in extreme aggression. Chaotic situations might erase rational judgment	
Damage of mental health	Use of child soldiers, Rape and Terror is commonly used techniques to traumatize, degrade and break down people's mental health. When the mind is broken people are capable to do anything.	Sierra Leone – mutilation and systematic amputations