

The lust for war

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No one wants war, but the history of mankind has never managed to do without it. It is there every day in various locations around the world, and it is constantly present at a microscopic level in everyday life. From its inception, one concern of psychoanalysis has been the destructive aspects of our unconscious desires and fantasies. While the contribution of psychoanalysis in terms of prevention may be marginal, the structures it lays bare provide the crucial impulses and insights for an ethically motivated confrontation with the fascination with violence.

The paper draws on the work of Freud and Lacan.