

6. I have closely examined ninety-three wars that took place within the last 200 years. I use the word "war" to include both external conflicts (between two or more countries) and internal or civil wars. In 84% of those cases the wars were precipitated by a recent change in the government. Specifically, those 84% occurred soon after a conservative leader of that country took over from someone who was more liberal. The terms "conservative" and "liberal" are applied after examining and rating the leader on a scale from 1 to 10 for variables related to economic beliefs, religious pronouncements, social welfare programs, military buildup, judicial appointments, immigration laws, and the treatment of criminals. From these results, we can safely conclude that approximately four out of every five future wars around the world will occur after a conservative leader replaces a liberal leader.