



**Narrator:** After World War II, there was a clear notion of good and evil in war. Nazi Germany? Bad. Americans? Good. I can give anecdotal evidence to this. My father-in-law lived in part of occupied Russia, Azerbaijan. When the Allied forces came to liberate the region, he recalls how nice the Americans were, and that they left everything there: tents, tools, all kinds of things to help people rebuild.

The role of Americans in the Vietnam War was not as clear. Massive bombings by American forces as well as other atrocities, such as chemical warfare in the form of napalm, brought the American government and their choices under scrutiny. An international war crimes tribunal concluded that American tactics were, in fact, illegal and that the atrocities in Vietnam put the US on par with Nazi Germany. Meanwhile, everyday on the evening news, there were reports of American casualties.

If your parents were well off, you could go to college and avoid the draft, but if your folks didn't have money for college, you were drafted, making the war one of class, as well as race. African-Americans were drafted disproportionately to their white counterparts. This helped to create a young people's counterculture that reached out to the American public saying, "This war is not right. Our actions are not just." Frequently, they utilized music as a form of protest as well as cultural identity. Tradition was under attack, and the youth were revolting against tradition.

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