

BY DR. GLENN ON NOVEMBER 11, 2014 • (1 COMMENT)

## For Veterans, The Battle Continues

For ER physician and Iraq war veteran <u>Dr. Sudip Bose</u>, everyday is veteran's day—a day to not only honor our soldiers but to bring public awareness to the personal battles they face upon coming home. He founded <u>THE BATTLE CONTINUES</u> a nonprofit organization that advocates for veterans. He is a decorated CNN hero who treated Saddam Hussein after his capture, a CBS consultant, and a keynote speaker who has shared the stage with the President of the US.



There are a number of personal battles waged upon returning home. According to the Veterans Administration, experts estimate that from 10-30% of veterans from the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, and

Vietnam suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and that's only the reported and diagnosed cases. Another sobering statistic: While 17% of combat troops are women, female military personnel develop PTSD disproportionately due to sexual assault within the ranks. One of my patients described having PTSD as like living with a nightmare day and night.

Furthermore, some veterans must live with traumatic brain injury (TBI). For example, Purple Heart recipient <u>Cory Remsburg</u> was injured by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan, leaving him in a coma for three months, partially paralyzed, and blind in one eye. Introduced to the nation at this year's State of the Union address, he spends six hours a day in physical, occupational, and speech therapy. The battle continues.

What can you do to honor our veterans? Thank them for the sacrifices they have made for the security and freedom you enjoy everyday. Educate yourself on the physical and psychological abrasions they have endured and be compassionate. Support organizations that support our troops and their families in making the transition back to civilian life. They may have left the front lines, but the battle continues.

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