Contents

	Acknowledgments	Page x
	Introduction: war, violence and the social	1
	The cumulative bureaucratisation of coercion	5
	Centrifugal ideologisation	8
	The plan of the book	11
Part I	Collective violence and sociological theory	
1	War and violence in classical social thought	17
	Introduction	17
	The 'holy trinity' and organised violence	18
	The bellicose tradition in classical social thought	28
	The contemporary relevance of bellicose thought	45
2	The contemporary sociology of organised violence	50
	Introduction	50
	The sources of violence and warfare: biology, reason or culture?	51
	Organisational materialism: war, violence and the state	70
	From coercion to ideology	79
	Conclusion	84
Part II	War in time and space	
3	— War and violence before modernity	89
	Introduction	89
	Collective violence before warfare	90
	War and violence in antiquity	92
	War and violence in the medieval era	102
		102



	The institutional seeds of early modernity: war, violence and the	
	birth of discipline	109
	Conclusion	116
4	Organised violence and modernity	118
	Introduction	118
	Modernity and violence: an ontological dissonance?	119
	The cumulative bureaucratisation of coercion	120
	The centrifugal ideologisation of coercion	130
	War and violence between ideology and social organisation	141
	Conclusion	145
5	The social geographies of warfare	146
	Introduction	146
	The old world	147
	The new world	165
	Conclusion	174
Part III	Warfare: ideas and practices	
6	Nationalism and war	179
	Introduction	179
	Warfare and group homogeneity	180
	The structural origins of national 'solidarity'	191
	Conclusion	200
7	War propaganda and solidarity	202
	Introduction	202
	War propaganda	203
	Killing, dying and micro-level solidarity	219
	Conclusion	232
	送	
Part IV	War, violence and social divisions	
8	Social stratification, warfare and violence	237
	Introduction	237
	Stratification without collective violence?	238
	Stratification through war and violence	242
	Warfare and the origins of social stratification	252

Contents

	Justifying social hierarchies	264
	Conclusion	273
9	Gendering of war	275
	Introduction	275
	The innate masculinity of combat?	276
	Cultural givens?	284
	The patriarchal legacy?	288
	Gender, social organisation and ideology	295
	Conclusion	307
Part V	Organised violence in the twenty-first century	
10	— New wars?	31
	Introduction	31
	The new-wars paradigm	312
	The sociology of new warfare	315
	Warfare between the nation-state and globalisation	319
	The objectives of contemporary wars	324
	What is old and what is new?	329
	Conclusion	332
	References	336
	Index	359