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Garry Trudeau  
Universal Press Syndicate  
4520 Main Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111-7701

Dear Mr. Trudeau:

Why aren't we, as Americans, supporting our veterans? Is it just the same old story of the last 60 years?

I think there is some of that, but I also think that Americans really don't understand how bad the current war is.

Command rape is a big deal, and you cover that.

PTSD is more prevalent than you portray. It's not just B.D. It's one third of the people over there. Those guys in B.D.'s old squad: one third of them have PTSD and you're not making that clear.

Brain injury is much worse that you show. It's not just the people with visible injuries. *Every* person who is near an IED when it goes off gets his or her brain scrambled a little (or a lot). The effects can continue to get worse for years as brain cells die prematurely.

I know that you have a strip to write and can't possibly cover all of these issues. You are doing a lot of good. What I hope is that you will let people know about Eric Newhouse's book, *Faces of Combat, PTSD and TBI*, as a way to reinforce and expand your message.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Blaschko  
President, Idyll Arbor