My ambition is to let the audience reflect on the human consequences of a brutal reality where all taboos are violated.

With Nowhere to Hide, I want to show that we are all part of this reality made up of war, explosions, victims, terrorism. They affect us globally, and we are all responsible, no matter our geographical whereabouts. Meanwhile, I want to show the human resistance that is growing among survivors and to show the hope of rebuilding after the breakdown of civilization.

In the end, as humans, the only thing that can help us survive is to believe that the will to build will always be stronger than the desire to destroy.

Zaradasht Ahmed
Director, Nowhere to Hide
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The team at the Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC)
Nowhere to Hide (60 min.) follows nurse Nori Sharif in one of the world’s most dangerous and inaccessible areas: Diyala province in Iraq. Filmmaker Zaradasht Ahmed has given Nori a camera to film the survivors of the war, who hope for a better future after the 2011 withdrawal of U.S. troops. But soon a new kind of war erupts: one with invisible enemies, unpredictable battlefronts and no clear rules. Over five years, Sharif turns the camera on his own family as they join the more than 3.5 million Iraqis displaced from their homes and flee to the Sa’ad refugee camp. Hope of returning to life before the American invasion becomes increasingly difficult to sustain.

Viewers are left to wonder what will happen next. While news coverage has focused on placing blame for the chaos, Nowhere to Hide turns our attention to everyday Iraqis and lets them tell their stories.
Nowhere to Hide is well suited for use in a variety of settings and is especially recommended for use with:

- Your local PBS station
- Groups that have discussed previous PBS and POV films relating to Iraq, Middle East conflicts, civilians caught in war and citizen journalists, including *My Country, My Country*, *War Feels Like War*, *Last Men in Aleppo*, *Return to Homs*, *The War Show* and *5 Broken Cameras*
- Groups focused on any of the issues listed in the “Key Issues” section
- Academic departments and student groups at colleges, universities and high schools
- Faith-based organizations and institutions
- Cultural, art and historical organizations, institutions and museums
- Civic, fraternal, veterans and community groups
- High school students, youth groups and clubs
- Community organizations with a mission to promote education and learning, such as local libraries

Nowhere to Hide is an excellent tool for outreach and will be of special interest to people looking to explore the following topics:

- civilian casualties
- foreign policy
- human rights
- international humanitarian law
- Iraq
- Iraq War
- medical aid
- Middle East
- nation-building
- nursing
- peace studies
- politics/political science
- refugees
- internally displaced people (IDPs)
- Sunni-Shia conflicts
- tribal identity
- U.S. military
- U.S. “war on terror”

**USING THIS GUIDE**

This guide is an invitation to dialogue. It is based on a belief in the power of human connection, designed for people who want to use *Nowhere to Hide* to engage family, friends, classmates, colleagues and communities. In contrast to initiatives that foster debates in which participants try to convince others that they are right, this document envisions conversations undertaken in a spirit of openness in which people try to understand one another and expand their thinking by sharing viewpoints and listening actively.

The discussion prompts are intentionally crafted to help a wide range of audiences think more deeply about the issues in the film. Rather than attempting to address them all, choose one or two that best meet your needs and interests. And be sure to leave time to consider taking action. Planning next steps can help people leave the room feeling energized and optimistic, even in instances when conversations have been difficult.

For more detailed event planning and facilitation tips, visit [www.pov.org/engage](http://www.pov.org/engage)
Iraq War

The Iraq War began in March 2003, when the United States and a coalition of allies invaded Iraq and overthrew the authoritarian regime of Saddam Hussein. American troops occupied Iraq for eight years, attempting to install democracy and stabilize an increasingly fractured and volatile country. The occupation’s failure to establish an effective government after Hussein’s ouster led to an extended civil war, as various political groups and religious sects struggled for power. These groups include the majority Shiite Arabs, the Sunni Arab insurgency, the Kurds and, in later years, various extremist factions such as Al-Qaeda and ISIS.

The Iraq War is one of most complex and deadly wars in recent history. Hundreds of thousands of civilians have been killed and as of 2018 the death toll continues to rise. Seven years after U.S. troops officially withdrew, Iraq is the staging ground for ongoing violent conflicts; jihadist militias from elsewhere in the Middle East have crossed the border to join the fray. Although some Iraqis were able to flee the country as refugees, many are living in poverty and don’t have the means to escape. As of 2018, almost two million Iraqis remain internally displaced people (IDPs).

For an overview of the major events in the war, see the Iraq War Timeline at the end of this guide (page 16).

Sources


Iraq War Casualties

The exact number of people killed in the Iraq War is unknown. The U.S. military has not published an official death toll, but a number of groups have estimated that nearly 5,000 American troops have died in Iraq since 2003. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of Iraqis have been killed or wounded in military operations and clashes between rival factions. Iraqi deaths attributable to the conflict from 2003 to 2011 are estimated to number 400,000—a figure that includes about 240,000 violent deaths and fatalities caused indirectly by the war (for example, due to a lack of clean drinking water or illnesses that could have been treated if the healthcare infrastructure had not been destroyed). Since the official U.S. operation ended in 2011, it is estimated that an additional 82,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed. According to one report, as many civilians have been wounded as were killed in the war.

Although the U.S. is no longer sending troops to Iraq, American airstrikes have increased since the rise of terrorist group ISIS, also known as Daesh or the Islamic State, in 2014. Drone-operated missiles allow the U.S. military to carry out strikes against targets without risking the lives of American soldiers. The U.S. military acknowledged in June 2017 that “at least 484 [Iraqi] civilians have been unintentionally killed by coalition strikes,” but this figure is far lower than the estimates of independent groups. One watchdog organization estimates that the civilian death toll due to U.S. activities is much higher and posits that a minimum of 6,259 civilians (including Syrians) have been killed by more than 14,200 strikes conducted by the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq.

Sources
BACKGROUND INFORMATION


Diyala Province

Diyala province is a governorate in eastern Iraq that starts northeast of Baghdad and extends to the Iranian border. It is home to a mix of Shiite, Sunni and Kurdish Iraqis, although the turmoil in the region has displaced many residents. Baqubah, the province’s capital, emerged as a stronghold for insurgent fighters during the early years of the war. Diyala attracted insurgents because of its proximity to Baghdad and its dense foliage, which provided cover for militants. According to the New York Times, the insurgents in Diyala include “former members of the Saddam Hussein army and paramilitary forces, the Fedayeen; angry and impoverished Sunni men; criminal gangs; Wahhabi Islamists; and foreigners” who entered the region to fight against other militias.

By 2012, Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State had taken over large portions of Diyala. They recruited members in cities like Sadiya and Jalawla (Nori Sharif’s hometown), and through-
out the Diyala River valley. The Islamic State briefly controlled the Sadiya-Jalawla area in August 2014, but after two months of fighting, the Iraqi army and its allies retook the area. ISIS, the Iraqi army, Shia militias and Kurdish Peshmerga forces have continuously fought for control of the region, with Diyala’s civilians caught in the middle.

Nori Sharif and his family fled to the Sa’ad camp for internally displaced people (IDPs), which is located on the western side of the province near Baqubah. Between 2006 and 2014, about one million Iraqis were internally displaced. Risks faced by families returning to the Diyala province include “security incidents resulting in injuries of loss of life, contamination by explosive remnants of war (ERW) and improvised explosive devices (IED) [and] rights violations by military or security actors.”

Sources


Nori helps a man whose legs were injured during the war.
Photo courtesy of Zaradasht Ahmed

Institute for the Study of War. “Diyala.” http://www.understandingwar.org/region/diyala-%D8%AF%D9%8A%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%89
Immediately after the film, you may want to give people a few quiet moments to reflect on what they have seen or pose a general question (examples below) and give people some time to themselves to jot down or think about their answers before opening the discussion:

- If a friend asked you what this film was about, what would you say?
  - What did you learn from this film? What insights did it provide?
  - Describe a moment or scene in the film that you found particularly disturbing or moving. What was it about that scene that was especially compelling for you?

At the end of your discussion, to help people synthesize what they’ve experienced and move the focus from dialogue to action steps, you may want to choose one of these questions:

- If you could require one person (or one group) to view this film, who would it be? What would you hope their main takeaway would be?
- Complete this sentence: Nori Sharif’s story is important because ________.
- Complete this sentence: I am inspired by this film (or discussion) to ________.
- What is the meaning of the film’s title, Nowhere to Hide?
- If you could ask Nori Sharif a single question, what would you ask him?

- What did you learn from this film that you wish everyone knew? What would change if everyone knew it?
Understanding War

Nori Sharif says, “No one understands this war, not even me... It is difficult to diagnose this war. It is an undiagnosed war. You only see the symptoms, the killing, displacements, the blood baths. But you don’t understand the disease. It is hidden in the body.” How would you “diagnose” the war that Sharif and his family are living through? What are the underlying causes?

Sharif recalls an old expression: “Wars are planned by the elite, the dumb will die in it, and the opportunists benefit from it.” He continues, “But our war overrides these principles. We see thousands of people killed, not only the dumb ones. And even the opportunists don’t benefit from it anymore.” If no one benefits, why does the war continue? Why is it so difficult to end an armed conflict once it starts?

On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 meaning “totally effective” and 1 meaning “causes more problems than it solves,” how would you rate war as a method of problem solving? Was there anything you saw in the film that influenced your answer?

The Role of the U.S.

What was it like to hear Sharif describe the U.S. military’s actions in 2003 as an “invasion” or to hear Iraqis celebrate the departure of U.S. troops as liberation from “occupation”? How do these Iraqi perspectives compare with official U.S. government descriptions of the country’s military mission in Iraq? How do they differ from perspectives expressed in your community?

Sharif says, “This area was a very peaceful place before the American invasion. Life used to be simple here. But since the invasion, this has become one of the most dangerous places in Iraq.” He is grateful that his family has avoided harm, but “at the hospital I meet so many people who have had their lives destroyed by the war. Directly or indirectly.” In your view, does the U.S. have a moral obligation to repair damage from the war? What might such efforts include? Assuming that the Iraqis requested it, would you support the return of U.S. troops to Iraq? Why or why not?
DISCUSSION PROMPTS

The Aftermath

What did you learn from the film about the aftermath of the U.S. withdrawal from Iraq?

Like those around him, Sharif welcomes the departure of U.S. troops, but he also observes that “for the people I treat at work, the war has taken its toll. For them it’s not over. The war continues on, inside them.” What do you think he means? What do Sharif’s patients need in order to heal their wounds?

What did you learn from Sharif’s experience about how armed conflict creates refugees? Did anything in the film influence the way you think about proposed U.S. policies that discourage or ban refugees from Muslim countries?

In the refugee camp, Sharif is happy that he can contribute something by working in the health clinic. Why is meaningful work important to human well-being?

Sharif says, “All you hear these days are explosions and shots being fired. Mostly shots. It is becoming a normal part of the daily life.” Even his young daughter says she has gotten used to it. What is the long-term impact of becoming desensitized to violence? Why would normalizing violence make it more difficult to normalize democracy?

Hope and Resilience

Sharif declares that without his family, “I am nothing. But if you ask me if I can guarantee my children a better future, I doubt if I can do that. Not even for a single day.” How does Sharif’s family sustain him? What do you think it feels like for him to know that he can’t protect them?

At one point Sharif surmises, “The purpose of this war is to make you confused and unable to think straight. Brain-dead...To paralyze your will, and determination.” Despite that, he remains resilient: “Right now we cannot tell when or how the war will end. But in the meantime, we can’t just sit and wait for the war to finish. We may lose a generation or...
two, but in the end the will to build will win over the forces of destruction. Because life must go on.” What do you think accounts for Sharif’s resilience? Without picking up a weapon, what does he do that could be considered an act of resistance?

**Media and News Literacy**

Sharif hesitates before agreeing to film his experiences. Why might he be reluctant?

How did the stories in Nowhere to Hide compare/contrast with news reports you have seen about Iraq? What do you think accounts for any differences?

Sharif is aware that “people here are forgotten, along with their stories. Neither the media nor the authorities are interested in these people. The only thing you hear about this area is that people who live here are either killers or terrorists.” Prior to viewing the film, what did you know about the impact of the war on civilians? What were your most reliable sources of information? Why did/do you think those sources are credible?

In terms of reliability, accuracy, comprehensiveness and fairness, what are the advantages and disadvantages of accounts from everyday people (like Sharif) who record events that they are living through? In contrast, what are the advantages and disadvantages of reports from people with critical distance, such as foreign journalists or documentarians?

At the wedding, many people are eager to be filmed. What do you think the appeal is of being on camera?

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Additional media literacy questions are available at: www.pbs.org/pov/educators/media-literacy.php
• Research and consider supporting the work of one of the civil society organizations working in Iraq. You might want to start your investigation at iraqicivilsociety.org.

• Screen the film as part of a teach-in that fosters dialogue among a diverse set of representatives, including pacifists, Iraq veterans, Iraqi immigrants, and policy makers who support military intervention. Be clear that, like the Diyala conflict itself, there are many more than just two sides.

• Track news coverage of the ongoing “war on terror” being waged by the United States. Note the presence or absence of stories about the impact on civilians like Nori Sharif. Engage with journalists to ensure that their reporting goes beyond statistics and military footage of long distance explosions to cover the reality for non-combatants on the ground.

• Show up at town hall meetings with your political representatives and share with them your views on U.S. policy governing the acceptance of refugees from places like Iraq.
RESOURCES

**FILM-RELATED WEB SITES**

**NOWHERE TO HIDE**

tenthousandimages.no/portfolio-item/nowhere_to_hide/

The film’s official website offers background about the conflict, the filmmaker, the protagonist and the film.

Connect with the film team on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/nowheretohidedocumentary/) and Twitter (@NTHDoc).

**Original Online Content on POV**

*The Nowhere to Hide website—pbs.org/pov/nowheretohide—offers a streaming video trailer for the film; an interview with the filmmaker; a downloadable discussion guide, a reading list and a lesson plan for educators.*

**CENTER FOR CIVILIANS IN CONFLICT**

https://civiliansinconflict.org

This organization’s mission is to work with armed actors and civilians in conflict to develop and implement solutions to prevent, mitigate and respond to civilian harm.

**COMBATTING TERRORISM CENTER AT WEST POINT:**

“LOSING MOSUL, REGENERATING IN DIYALA: HOW THE ISLAMIC STATE COULD EXPLOIT IRAQ’S SECTARIAN TINDERBOX”

https://ctc.usma.edu/losing-mosul-regenerating-in-diyala-how-the-islamic-state-could-exploit-iraqs-sectarian-tinderbox

This report analyzes the various fighting forces in the Diyala province.

**HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH: “IRAQ: EVENTS OF 2017”**

hrw.org/world-report/2018/country-chapters/iraq

This review of human rights in Iraq includes information on each of the major entities still involved in ongoing armed conflicts.

**INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF WAR: “IRAQ”**

understandingwar.org/iraq

This non-partisan think tank created to provide U.S. military leaders with information that can inform decision-making performs ongoing research on the area.

**NGO COORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR IRAQ**

https://www.ncciraq.org/en

Funded by the United Nations and USAID, this umbrella organization coordinates the efforts of NGOs working to help Iraqis. Of special interest is this demographic profile of the region featured in the film: ncciraq.org/images/infobygov/NCCI_Diyala_Governorate_Profile.pdf

**NIQASH**

niqash.org/en

This is a clearinghouse of current reporting on Iraq by journalists who are supported and trained as part of a German civil society initiative.

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

*Nowhere to Hide*
IRAQ WAR TIMELINE

The Iraq War has faded from American headlines, but on the 15th anniversary of the U.S. invasion, the bloodshed shows no signs of abating. Why did United States and coalition forces invade Iraq in March 2003? Who is responsible for the ongoing violence in the region? Politicians, historians and the public are still debating these questions; their answers span international politics, disputes over natural resources and struggles for dominance between religious sects. What is undisputed is that Iraqi civilians continue to bear the burden of a complex and deadly war.

Many excellent resources provide background information about the Iraq War—see the “Resources” section of this guide for POV’s recommended reads. The timeline below is a broad overview of the war, with information about key moments in the conflict. America’s “war on terror” is widely regarded as a response to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, but to understand the full context, it is useful to begin with the Gulf War during the presidency of George H. W. Bush.

1979–1990
Saddam Hussein’s Rule

Starting in 1979, Iraq was ruled by Saddam Hussein, the despotic leader of the Ba’ath party. Despite Hussein’s record of human rights abuses, the United States supported Iraq in the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s. The U.S. sought stability in the region, in part because of its dependence on the Persian Gulf-based oil industry.

Saddam Hussein in 1979, the year he became president of Iraq

1991
The Gulf War

The Gulf War broke out in January 1991 after Saddam Hussein invaded the small oil-rich nation of Kuwait. Under the command of President George H. W. Bush, the U.S. decided to intervene, claiming it was acting to protect Kuwait from Iraqi conquest. The brief Gulf War ended in February 1991 after the U.S. chased the Iraqi military out of Kuwait. According to some estimates, more than 3,500 Iraqi civilians were killed in the Gulf War. President George H. W. Bush chose not to occupy Iraq and overthrow Hussein, but instead to call on Iraqi dissidents to oust him from the inside. The president’s calls did not have the desired effect and the dictator remained in power.

1990s
Containment

Under the President Bill Clinton administration in the 1990s, the U.S. and other nations had a policy of containment toward Iraq. The United Nations established sanctions and arms inspection programs aimed at deterring Saddam Hussein from developing weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). The Iraqi people experienced severe poverty under these sanctions. Although the U.N. Security Council established a program in 1996 meant to bring resources to impoverished Iraqis (the “Oil for Food Program”), corruption and mismanagement at the United Nations allowed Saddam Hussein to
intercept those funds. Hussein pocketed billions of dollars from the program, while Iraqi civilians remained trapped in a stifled economy.

2001
September 11 Attacks

The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks (also known as 9/11) marked a turning point in U.S. policy toward Iraq. The attacks, which killed nearly 3,000 Americans, were attributed to the Islamist terrorist group Al-Qaeda and its leader, Osama bin Laden. President George W. Bush declared a "war on terror," and in October 2001 he launched a war in Afghanistan, where Bin Laden was believed to be hiding.

2002
Decision to Invade Iraq

President Bush, along with his vice president, Dick Cheney, and secretary of defense, Donald Rumsfeld, made the case for invading Iraq for two reasons. First, they suggested that the terrorist group Al-Qaeda had links to Iraq. Second, they argued that Iraq’s leader, Saddam Hussein, had weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) that he might provide to terrorist groups.

The U.N. conducted 700 arms inspections in Iraq between November 2002 and March 2003 and declared that Iraq did not have WMDs. The U.N. and allies such as France and Germany tried to dissuade the U.S. from taking military action against Iraq. Nonetheless, American foreign policy leaders insisted that Iraq posed a threat to the United States, and Congress passed a bipartisan resolution authorizing the Iraq invasion in October 2002.

U.S. intelligence later found that both of the administration’s initial claims about Iraq were false. In 2006, Bush admitted that Saddam Hussein had no involvement in the 9/11 terror attacks. In October 2004 the Iraq Survey Group—a multinational fact-finding mission commissioned by the U.S. Department of Defense—announced its finding that Iraq had not produced or stockpiled weapons of mass destruction since U.N. sanctions were put in place in the early 1990s.

March 2003
The Coalition Invades

The U.S. and its allies invaded Iraq on March 20, 2003 with what the U.S. named a “shock and awe campaign” of aerial bombardments and ground operations. The coalition of American, British and Australian forces swiftly defeated the Iraqi army and overthrew Saddam Hussein’s regime. On May 1, 2003, President George W. Bush delivered a now-famous speech declaring victory in Iraq while standing in front of a banner that read “Mission Accomplished.”
April 2003
The Fall of Baghdad
After the fall of Baghdad, the country descended into chaos. According to many observers, U.S. and coalition forces were unprepared to govern Iraq post-invasion. With no apparent government or legal authority, looting, kidnapping and violence broke out across the country.

Iraqi forces pressure ISIS in west Mosul.

May 2003
Coalition Provisional Authority
Diplomat L. Paul “Jerry” Bremer III was appointed head of a new temporary administration governing Iraq called the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA). One of Bremer’s first actions in office was to dissolve the entire Iraqi army on May 23, 2003. This put 400,000 former soldiers out of work. He also banned all former members of Saddam Hussein’s Ba’ath party from public service positions, including government jobs. These decisions were both highly controversial: unemployed young men filled the streets requesting pay, and many of the still-armed former military members joined a growing insurgency against the American occupiers.

The statue of Saddam Hussein topples in Baghdad’s Firdos Square on April 9, 2003.

May–September 2003
Rising Insurgency
In July 2003 the CPA appointed the Iraqi Governing Council, a temporary group that included representatives from every Iraqi ethnic group, to lead the country. However, the Iraqi public had little confidence in this body. During the first summer of the occupation, guerilla violence surged across the country, with bombings, assassinations and terrorist attacks against both Americans and Iraqi civilians. Three major opposition sources jockeyed for dominance: Sunnis allied with the Hussein regime; Shiite militias led by Muqtada al-Sadr; and Islamist groups from outside of Iraq who crossed the border for the opportunity to claim power and fight the United States.

April 2004
The Abu Ghraib Torture Scandal
In April 2004, photos surfaced showing American soldiers torturing and sexually abusing Iraqi inmates at Abu Ghraib prison. To many Iraqis, these photos were representative of the U.S. military’s inhumane interrogation techniques and disregard for Iraqi human rights. The Abu Ghraib scandal worsened already-tense relations between Iraqis and Americans.
IRAQ WAR TIMELINE

June 2004
Official Transfer of Sovereignty
In June 2004 the U.S. officially handed over sovereignty from the Iraqi Governing Council to the interim government and appointed Shiite Ayad Allawi as prime minister. The interim government was tasked with setting up democratic elections for a legislature and constitutional assembly.

2005–2006
The Elections and Civil War
In January 2005, Americans helped coordinate nationwide democratic elections to establish a transitional national assembly, a body run by Iraqis that would write Iraq’s new constitution. Many boycotted the election, with the result that the elected leaders were almost all Shiite and lacked a strong popular mandate.

Nouri al-Maliki, the leader of the Shiite party United Iraqi Alliance, was elected prime minister. During this period, sectarian violence and terrorist attacks increased. These included Sunni reprisal attacks against a Shiite government that Sunnis regarded as illegitimate. Sunni and Shiite militias took control of neighborhoods within cities across the country and killed or expelled residents of the other sect. Iraq fell deeper into a devastating civil war.

2007
Coalition Troop Surge
In 2007, President Bush ordered a “troop surge” and deployed an additional 30,000 American troops in an attempt to reduce the violence in Iraq. This was a new military strategy: rather than prioritizing armed conflict, the army reportedly shifted its focus to “winning the hearts and minds” (a frequently cited aim of U.S. military action to gain popular support among locals) of the Iraqi people. Although there was an initial decrease in sectarian violence, large-scale attacks continued throughout Iraq, and there were suicide bombings with massive casualties. 2007 was the deadliest year of the Iraq War up to that point.

2008–2011
U.S. Withdrawal
After the election of President Barack Obama, who ran in part on an anti-war platform, the U.S. began to wind down its occupation of Iraq. The U.S. officially ended U.S. combat operations in August 2010 and withdrew most of its troops from Iraq by December 2011.

Meanwhile, the violence and instability in Iraq continued. The Islamist terrorist group Al-Qaeda had gained a foothold in the country and was feeding on the anger of the disfranchised Sunni population. Al-Qaeda militants merged with the Islamic State terrorist group (also known as ISIS or ISIL), under the leadership of jihadist Abu Omar al-Baghdadi.
2012–2014
The Islamic State in Iraq

ISIS stoked conflicts between the Sunni and Shia populations, and mobilized Sunni resentment against Prime Minister Maliki. Meanwhile, in late 2012 fighting escalated between the Iraqi army and the Kurdish militia (the Peshmerga) in the north. Violence between jihadist groups from Syria’s civil war began to spill across the border into Iraq. During this period, ISIS and Al-Qaeda militants gained strength: in 2014 ISIS seized parts of the predominantly Sunni Anbar province, as well as the city of Tikrit and Iraq’s second-largest city, Mosul. Meanwhile, the Kurdish separatist forces took control of the northern city of Kirkuk. Territories continue to change hands in response to scattered conflicts.

2014–2016
No End in Sight

Although the official occupation is over, the United States continues to intervene to fight insurgent groups, carrying out airstrikes against ISIS targets. Since 2001, the U.S. has used remote-controlled, unmanned drones to carry out airstrikes against suspected militants in Iraq and neighboring countries. An investigation by The New York Times found that in 2014, as many as one in five coalition airstrikes resulted in civilians deaths—31 times more than the number provided by the U.S. The total number of civilian casualties in the Iraq War remains unknown, as figures reported by the government differ vastly from those estimated by independent experts and watchdog groups.

Sources


IRAQ WAR TIMELINE


Marines fire on targets in Umm Qasr, Iraq.
HOW TO BUY THE FILM

To order Nowhere to Hide for educational or home use, visit https://www.eastvillageentertainment.com/nowhere-to-hide.

POV

Produced by American Documentary, Inc., POV is public television’s premier showcase for nonfiction films. Since 1988, POV has been the home for the world’s boldest contemporary filmmakers, celebrating intriguing personal stories that spark conversation and inspire action. Always an innovator, POV discovers fresh new voices and creates interactive experiences that shine a light on social issues and elevate the art of storytelling. With our documentary broadcasts, original online programming and dynamic community engagement campaigns, we are committed to supporting films that capture the imagination and present diverse perspectives.

POV films have won 37 Emmy® Awards, 21 George Foster Peabody Awards, 12 Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Awards, three Academy Awards®, and the first-ever George Polk Documentary Film Award. The POV series has been honored with a Special News & Documentary Emmy Award for Excellence in Television Documentary Filmmaking, three IDA Awards for Best Curated Series and the National Association of Latino Independent Producers (NALIP) Award for Corporate Commitment to Diversity. Learn more at www.pbs.org/pov.

POV Spark (www.pbs.org/pov)

Since 1994, POV Digital has driven new storytelling initiatives and interactive production for POV. The department has continually experimented with web-based documentaries, producing PBS’ first program website and the first Snapchat-native documentary. It has won major awards for its work, including a Webby Award and over 19 nominations. Now with a singular focus on incubating and distributing interactive productions, POV Spark continues to explore the future of independent non-fiction media through its co-productions, acquisitions and POV Labs, where media makers and technologists collaborate to reinvent storytelling forms.

Front cover: Sarah.
Photo courtesy of Nori Sharif

POV Engage (www.pbs.org/pov/engage)

The POV Engage team works with educators, community organizations and PBS stations to present more than 800 free screenings every year. In addition, we distribute free discussion guides and standards-aligned lesson plans for each of our films. With our community partners, we inspire dialogue around the most important social issues of our time.

American Documentary, Inc. (www.amdoc.org)

American Documentary, Inc. (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

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