How does religious ethnocentrism contribute to the war in the Middle East? This question allows us to determine if religious ethnocentrism is the sole reason for causing a war within the Middle East amongst neighboring nations. This inquiry should matter to others because although the war is in the Middle East, it still affects the rest of the world. From a sociological perspective, it is a power struggle as well as a pride factor since this war has been going on for more than a thousand years.

Religious ethnocentrism
- Thinking your religion is better
- Lack of sensitivity
- Acting upon religious ethnocentrism
- Power struggle
- The power over the other/land ownership
- Tradition
- Passed down by families
- Education
- Taught in class biasedly
- Household rules
- Told to stay away from the “enemy”/Loyalty to your faith

After researching countless academic journals and considering our prior knowledge of the subject, my group reached a conclusion. Much of the war occurring in the Middle East now is not a mere coincidence. This war that is tearing apart a nation was fought many years ago (The Crusades) and will continue to be fought by the children of the current oppressors. Religious ethnocentrism, as with folk tales, is passed down from generation to generation. Families are brought up believing their practice of faith is superior to the rest. This egocentric way of thinking is the main cause for so much turmoil. This war is no longer just about having faith in something, but about defending one’s ego.

References