**THE MYTH**

**WARS ARE FOR PEACE & DEMOCRACY**

*if someone says something like this

your talking points

*don't forget to mention*


**DEBUNK**

Wars for democracy are unsuccessful.

The US has a long history of invading and occupying others.

War is more likely to happen when there is oil.

Forcing democracies does not work.

Wars brew hatred and violence in the aftermath.

Wars are fought for money.

**THE EVIDENCE**

Studies provide general trends and examples of specific wars:

Foreign governments are 100 times more likely to intervene in civil wars when the country at war has large oil reserves.

Oil-dependent economies have favored stability and support dictators rather than emphasizing democracy.

The war in Iraq led to deep resentment of the US and helped grow violent extremism.

Afghanistan is categorized as an authoritarian regime, ranking at 152 of 167 countries on the Democracy Index (2012).

In 2013 Iraq ranked among the eight most corrupt nations in the world.