

## When Does Deterrence Succeed and How Do We Know?

Although deterrence is an ancient strategy, it has assumed special prominence in the nuclear age where the purpose of military establishments has increasingly become preventing instead of winning wars. Deterrence theory and strategy have gained widespread acceptance, but the main propositions of deterrence theory have never been subjected to the usual testing prescribed by social science. This monograph reviews existing studies of deterrence and identifies their inadequacies. Lebow and Stein then build on this critique to reformulate deterrence theory and elaborate a new research programme to test its central propositions.

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Richard Ned Lebow is Professor of Political Science and Director, Peace Studies Program at Cornell University. He was educated at the University of Chicago, Yale University, and the City University of New York. His publications include *Between Peace and War: The Nature of International Crisis* (1981) and *Nuclear Crisis Management: A Dangerous Illusion* (1987). He co-authored (with Robert Jervis and Janice Gross Stein) *Psychology and Deterrence* (1985) and is currently completing (with Janice Gross Stein) *Who Is the Enemy? Rethinking Soviet-American Relations*.

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