Walter has hinted that I should speak briefly, and address the subject of healing. I have been called a "healer" and given credit for other things during some of the other presentations earlier in this class, I appreciate the recognition, however, I feel that their are many of us involved in the healing process that should receive equal recognition. My normal mode of operation in this healing process is through organization and support, not through public addresses such as this, so I am glad that I have been given a limited amount of time. I would be very willing to talk with any of you individually after the quarter is over, I am on campus at extension 2584.

I will give you some brief personal background, to let you know where I am coming from. Born in San Diego

Raised in Palm springs

Enlisted in navy to keep from getting drafted in the Army.

never on a ship.

Sent to VN, attached to an army command

served as advisor to the Vietnamese navy, doing coastal patrol on small boats. Lived, ate, worked, played, slept with the vn.

Homecoming to a divorce, wife had had a child which was not mine while I was in vn.

Orange county

O.C.C.

very etc. very very etc. Berkeley more vets 3 mds

U.C.S.B. more vets

Vets counseling.

3 and now it relates to you.

Most important factor in all this is my 8 years here at U.C.S.B., I have grown to know you students very well. I have Lived with you, played with you, studied, worked, got hammered and even slept with some of you. So what I am gonna talk about is you.

Most of you probably took this class because you heard somebody say it was interesting, easy and maybe filled your humanities requirement. You probably thought the class would mainly be about the history, politics, religion, war & war crimes, how it related to central america and the chance of your going there. Well it obviously has touched upon some of these subjects but that not all ...

sure, there have been lectures, but it has been more like a series of experiences for you isntead of a series of lectures. Actually, you have been part of a series of rituals. Cleansing rituals for the veter ans which has been obvious but also, strangely, cleansing rituals for yourself. Why?

It has become very simple for me to understand through looking at it like an anthropologist. It primitive cultures a ritual of some sort is performed when the society is going to kill other human beings in war. When warriors are sent out to kill, they go through rites or rituals which make it o.k. for them to kill. When they take these rituals, they are made "other than human". They go, they kill, they come back. When they come back, they go through other rituals which makes them clean, they are ridded of the other than human state. This is important for the warriors, as individuals, but it is also important for the society or tribe. The tribe would not feel safe with the warriors still in their other than human state. Once they are cleansed, they are then welcomed back into the home tribe or society.

What is finally happening for the vn vets is this cleansing ritual. It started with the

wall as a national touch stone for cleansing. The books that have recently been written and the movies and television programs recently made are part of it. This class, and other classes like it and other presentations like it are all part of the cleansing process.

But, because of the delay in this process of cleansing, and because of the rapid changes taking place in our society during and since the war, there have been more and deeper affects on the rapid cleansing. For some vets that have committed suicide it is obviously too late. For society and its associated guilt, we are plagued with a continuing suspicion and lack of confidence. Our whole society has been changed as a result. We felt that we were all part of a huge betrayal. A betrayal of our early committments to freedom and respect of human life, and a deeper feeling of betrayal of our warriors. We were also betrayed by our leaders.

We felt beth betrayal and having been Our dreams and ideals of american goodness were shattered. We felt like we had lost control, our imput into society would not mean anything. We were exhuasted from this natiaonal emotional breakdown. As a result we turned toward personal survival. We turned inward. The only american ideals that seem to make sense anymore were those of individualism and the self made millionaire dream. The me generation took charge.

All the divisions that occurred during the war between hard hats and hippies, the californians the lower of the rapid of the vets and the antiwar protestors remained in

This all started happening before you all had much of a chance to do anything about it. it was in place by the time you got to U.C.S.B. you havent realized it but it has shaped alot of your thinking and goals and purpose in life. it has led most of you to believe that the most importantthing that you are doing here at U.C.S.B. is that you will get a high paying job upon graduation. Most of you are business econ or engineering majors. Your goal in your educational process here to have a BMW and a condo in Newport before you are too old to enjoy them. Sure you will help other people, after you have your security in place. You are caught up in the race after the great pie in the sky. On-campus interviews are just as important if not more so than finals, some of you prepare more for the interviews than you prepare for finals. Potential earnings. You measure your self worth in dollars.

place. We only trusted ourselves or those who looked like and talked like us.

Real self worth comes form being a part of a circle. The circle at the wall, the circle of friends, the circle of family and the circle of humanity. The circle was broken during the vn war, we are forming it again, and that is the healing process. The healing takes place within that circle. In that circle we realize we are not alone. In that circle we are part of the whole. As a part of the circle we come home. We are all returning home when we join the circle. We can deal with all are problems if we share them within the circle. Outside the circle, alone, we cannot.

The men that have talked to you in this class, have shared their pain with you. And in so doing they made their pain yours, some of you actually shed tears for them you felt that pain so close. We shared their pain. We actually made some of this pain go away from them. We came closer together. We came closer to home.