

BEWARE OF THE DRAFT

The issue of militarism is especially important to young people not only because the military robs our schools of money, but because youth are the ones who are called on to fight in wars. Right now it is the law that 18-year-olds must register for the draft, but hundreds of thousands of young men have chosen not to. If you have questions about the draft or draft registration, contact one of the local or national organizations listed on this flyer.



picture courtesy of "Addicted to War"

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN!

This leaflet was produced by the National Youth & Militarism Program of the American Friends Service Committee and a network of organizations around the country.

National Youth and Militarism Program of the
American Friends Service Committee
1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-241-7176 Email: youthmil@afsc.org
www.youth4peace.org

Local Contact(s):

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

If you would like to demilitarize your school, there are many things you can do. You can start a peace and justice club and bring speakers to your school or write an article about recruiting for your school newspaper. You can begin a petition drive or help to distribute literature like this leaflet. You can organize a rally or teach-in. Be creative!

The National Youth & Militarism Program has other materials besides this flyer, including an organizing packet that lists some possible activities and explains your right to hand out leaflets and circulate petitions at school. Contact any local group that is listed on this flyer or write to The National Youth & Militarism Program. *Return coupon to local contact. If none is listed, return to the National Youth & Militarism Program of the American Friends Service Committee.*

☐ Send me information on how I can counter the military's presence at my school.

☐ I would like to distribute these leaflets to other students. Please let me know how I can get more.

Name

Address

CityState

ZipPhone

E-mail

School

IT IS TIME TO TEACH

PEACE



MAKE OUR SCHOOLS
MILITARY-FREE
ZONES

AFSC/NATIONAL YOUTH & MILITARISM PROGRAM

END MILITARISM!

Militarism means glorifying war and the military way of life at the expense of the rest of society. Militarized societies take money from schools, housing and jobs and spend it instead to build huge armies. People are taught to follow orders and to not think for themselves. Blind obedience is encouraged. All of the military propaganda, recruiters and JROTC classes in U.S. schools are examples of militarism. These things are meant to make the military popular among students, even though military spending robs our schools. They also teach people that violence can be heroic and that war is normal. Shouldn't our schools be teaching peace rather than promoting violence?

RECRUITERS DON'T BELONG IN OUR SCHOOLS!

Military recruiters are allowed to run around loose in our high schools presenting only one side of a controversial subject. They are sales people who take advantage of student's trust and often mislead them. Recruiters may seem friendly and concerned about your career, but many promise jobs and training that they have no power to give. Their job is to get you to sell yourself to the military and to do it they don't always tell you the truth.



MILITARY RECRUITERS DON'T TELL YOU EVERYTHING

Recruiters never tell you how discrimination is a serious problem in the military. People of color are more likely to be given low-level jobs and passed over for promotion. They are more likely to end up on the front line in combat as well. In the military, women still are not treated as equals, and two out of every three of them are sexually harassed. Also, recruiters don't talk a lot about war in their sales pitch. Many soldiers who were sent to the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq never thought they would end up risking their lives in such a place.

MISLEADING PROMISES

Some people join the military because they don't see any other choices for jobs and educational opportunities. They think joining the military will solve their problems. Often, however, they are disappointed when they don't get the skills and benefits that they hoped for. For example,



unemployment among young veterans is higher than among non-veterans of the same age, and a study sponsored by the military found that disadvantaged youths aren't any better off after going through the military. For information on careers or job training outside of the military, try contacting any local organizations that are listed on the back of this flyer. We need jobs not war!

YOU CAN GET OUT OF A DELAYED ENLISTMENT

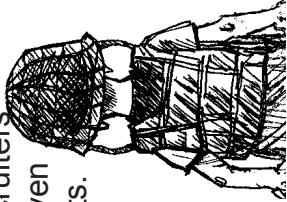
Some students have joined the military through the Delayed Entry Program (DEP). Under the DEP, you sign up now but don't enter the military until months later. If you later change your mind, recruiters will say you can't get out of the DEP. This is not true! If you want help to get out of the DEP, contact some of the groups listed on this flyer.

STOP THE MILITARY'S INVASION OF STUDENT PRIVACY!

In most school districts students' names, addresses and phone numbers are given to military recruiters without first getting students' permission. The recruiters then bother them with many unwanted phone calls at home. You should have a right to keep your name private. Demand that your school not give your name to recruiters without your permission!

SAY NO TO THE ASVAB TEST!

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a military test given in many schools. Recruiters use the test scores to get even more information on students. The ASVAB tests you for military jobs. It does not really test you for civilian jobs. Do you think that everyone should be measured by the military's standards? Remember, you don't have to take the ASVAB and you can demand that your school give other aptitude tests instead.



TEACH PEACE - NOT JROTC AND KILLING!

Young people are assaulting and shooting each other in record numbers. The last thing schools should teach is how to kill. The military uses JROTC to teach young people to think and act like soldiers, to give and take orders. It discourages young people from thinking for themselves, missing the whole point of true education. Further, many districts spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on JROTC while cutting back on other needed programs. Some of this money could be used for classes that teach ways to settle conflicts without violence.

