

# THE DRAFT: your alternatives

---

**DO NOT KEEP THIS PAPER:** Copy the information you need and pass it on.  
**TO HELP:** Order copies or duplicate, and distribute where needed.

---

If you are of draft age, or soon will be, these are your choices:  
(1) MILITARY SERVICE (drafted or enlisted) (2) DEFERMENT OR EXEMPTION (qualifying for a deferred category) (3) CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR (I-O, available for 2 yrs. civilian alternative service, or I-A-O available for noncombatant military service. (4) EMIGRATION (leaving the United States) (5) RESISTANCE (failure to register or later non-cooperation).

---

Whatever you choose to do, you should know exactly what you are doing and why. The best book on the draft is, Guide to the Draft, 2nd. edition, by Arlo Tatum and Joseph Tuchinsky (Beacon Press). This should be read from cover to cover before taking any serious action. This book is available from most bookstores.

---

WHEN DEALING WITH YOUR LOCAL DRAFT BOARD: (1) Observe all deadlines on returning forms (usually 10 days). (2) Have your mail opened when away to observe deadlines. (3) Save everything your local board sends you, save a copy of everything you send to your board. (4) Send all mail "certified, return receipt requested", (about 50¢, it's worth it). (5) Always use your rights of personal appearance and appeal. This must be requested in writing within 30 days of being unsatisfactorily classified. (6) Send address changes to board. (7) Keep local board informed of changes that might affect your status. (8) Do not believe everything you hear about the draft. Do not rely on information given by local board clerks. (9) Read, think, and plan ahead. (10) Put all evidence in writing, you are usually judged on your file alone. (11) Use draft counselors-call them, visit them, (it's usually free).

---

IF YOU DECIDE TO ENLIST: Think about it. Would you be enlisting if there were no draft? Are you in control of your own life? If you do decide to enlist you should read, The Student's Guide to Military Service, (Bantam Press p3194), even if you are not a student. This book lists positions available for enlisted men. REMEMBER: Oral promises are meaningless in civilian and military life. Have your assignment promise in writing. Read the contract very carefully, are you sure you will get the assignment you want???

---

IF YOU ARE SEEKING A DEFERMENT: (1) Be sure to follow all rules above when dealing with local board. (2) Read Guide to the Draft. (3) Check with a draft counselor about the current status of the deferment you are seeking. Perhaps you qualify for one that you don't know about.

---

IF YOU DECIDE TO APPLY FOR C.O. STATUS: You should read: Handbook for Conscientious Objectors, available from CCCO. Price, one dollar. Address at end of sheet.

ALSO: (1) Write to CCCO, AFSC, and NISBCO, for C.O. literature and addresses of counselors. (2) Formulate your beliefs. (3) Find out the official position of your church, register there as a C.O. if possible. (4) Present your claim as soon as possible, although it is never too late. (5) You can claim C.O. status after an induction order, or after induction, but the longer you wait, the harder it is. (6) Present as full a case as possible, in writing. (7) Use draft counselors.

When you do get your C.O. status, (and you will if you are serious), use counseling to help you get the alternative service job you want. Start early: The law says the job choice is yours. (OVER)

IF YOU DECIDE TO RESIST: Re-read the sections on resistance, court cases, and prison, in Guide to the Draft. REMEMBER: If you intend to win in court you must make use of all your rights within the SS system (i.e. personal appearance, appeal, physical, etc.). You must make use of all your rights up to the point where you are asked to "step forward". If you do step forward you are in the Army, if you do not you go to court. Counseling and legal aid are a must when doing this. CCCO, AFSC, or, NISBCO may be able to help you in this kind of resistance.

Of course there are other kinds of resistance and non-cooperation. Resisters should know about, and write to, the following organizations:  
WAR RESISTER'S LEAGUE 339 Lafayette St. New York, N.Y., 10012.  
RESIST Rm. 4. 763 Massachusetts Ave. Cambridge, Mass. 02139.  
THE PEACEMAKER 10208 Sylvan Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio. 45241.

For example, Resist and The Peacemaker aid the families of men who are in prison for resisting the draft.

IF YOU DECIDE TO EMIGRATE: You should read the section on Emigration in Guide to the Draft. If you are thinking about Canada be sure to read A Manual for Draft-Age Immigrants To Canada, available from:  
Toronto Anti-Draft Programme, P.O. Box 764, Adelaide St. Station, Toronto 1, Ontario, Canada. (416) 481-0241. Price, two dollars. This should be read before attempting to cross the boarder.

You also might like to write to:  
Committee to Aid American War Objectors, 144 W. Hastings St. Suite 609 P.O. Box 4231, Vancouver 9, British Columbia, Canada. (604) 688-5944.  
Montréal Council to Aid War Resisters Case Postale 5, Succ. Wsmt., Montréal 215, Québec, Canada. (514) 482-6825.

Make use of draft counseling before going since laws and regulations sometimes change. Don't make quick decisions, once you have gone you probably will not be able to return. In all probability the boarder will remain open, so don't rush. It is a good idea to visit first and see if you like the country. Many of those now in Canada say they would not have gone had the situation been as it now is in the U.S.

You might write to the above groups for info. on other countries.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY IN THE ARMY: It is possible to apply for C.O. status from within the Army and thus get a discharge to do alternative service. (I-O, or I-A-O status can be applied for). CCCO has a new book out called: Advice for C.O.s in the Armed Forces. One dollar, available from CCCO. Contact CCCO, G.I. Counseling Services, 339 Lafayette St. N.Y., N.Y. 10012. (212) 533-8920, or any of the group listed above that you think might be able to help. If uncertain, call CCCO and ask what group to contact.

LIST OF AGENCIES:

CCCO Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, 2016 Walnut St. Philadelphia, Pa. 19103. (215) 568-7971.

CCCO Western Office, 437 Market St. San Francisco, Calif. 94105. (415) 397-6917.

Midwest Office: Midwest Committee for Draft Counseling, (MCDC). 711 S. Dearborn St. Chicago, Ill. 60605 (312) 427-3350

AFSC AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE, 160 N. 15th St. Philadelphia, Pa. 19102 (215) LO 3-9372.

NISBCO National Interreligious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors 550 Washington Blg. 15th & New York Ave. N.W. Wash. D.C. (202) 393-4868.

Permission is granted to publish, print, or reproduce this page.

Copies available: 100, \$2, 500, \$8, 1000, \$14. Order from:

Michael Lee & Jim Sunderland, 4400 Mass. Ave. N.W. Wash. D.C. 20016.

Σ19703