

OPEN LETTER FROM WOMANPOWER TO YOU

Perhaps you wonder: Who are these women who march outside this Induction Center? Why are they here and what have they got to do with us?

Collectively, we call ourselves WOMANPOWER. Individually, some of us are the same age as your own mothers. And indeed, many of us have sons your age. Some of us are grandmothers. Some of us are young enough to be your sisters or sweethearts.

There is one thing that brings us together at this time and place:

WE ARE OPPOSED TO THE UNJUST ILLEGAL VIETNAM WAR. WE ARE OPPOSED TO THE DRAFT WHICH WE BELIEVE TO BE INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE AND, THEREFORE, IN VIOLATION OF YOUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO LIFE AND LIBERTY.

We say: "We whose hands have rocked the cradle draw the line here!"

To you young men in various stages of being drafted, we wish to call your attention to the draft counseling services offered by the Draft Help Office right across the street at 597 - 15th Street (at the corner). If you wish to stay out of the Army, we urge you to see a counselor before you take that final step forward that puts you under full control of the military, that robs you of your freedom, that may rob you of your life. The office is open all day - go in, have a cup of coffee, and rap with the guys. You have nothing to lose - perhaps much to gain.

To the employees of the Selective Service System, we ask you to squarely face the fact that what you are doing is not "just a job." We ask you to look at the immoral murderous nature of your work. You are helping to send all our sons - yours, ours, and all our neighbors - to their deaths, to kill and be killed in senseless brutal combat in places our military forces have no business to be, and in violation of all people's rights to self-determination.

Did you know?

- * Draft resistance is sky-rocketing. More and more young men are refusing to go. Former Alaska Senator Ernest Gruening urges American youth to refuse to be drafted. In February, 1969, he said, "I want to see thousands of young men refuse to go."
- * The American Civil Liberties Union, in May of this year, announced a policy of "head-on challenge" of the constitutionality of the draft laws, saying: "Military conscription is a severe infringement of individual liberties" and that "it is a shame for a free nation to continue for 30 years a form of involuntary servitude without regular and conclusive showings of its necessity."
- * We hope you will consider these things; and consider, too, what 18 year old Melvin E. Newlin wrote to his parents in his last letter from Vietnam before he was killed. "If you ever want to go to hell before you die, just go to Vietnam," he said. "There's nothing here to fight for...not even a piece of green grass...Lots of boys out here are getting killed and they don't know what they're getting killed for."

WOMANPOWER demands an end to the killing. Our older generation has been silent for too long. We are here in solidarity with the young men going through these doors. WE ARE ON YOUR SIDE!

Labor-donated

WOMANPOWER
530A - 42nd St.
Oakland, Cal.

Object - object - object -

Parasenko

Trespass requires permission to
be on school -

Trespass requires permission to

Procedures: ==

Did you tell us why we had to
leave -
Did you talk to us in hall -

County Counsel (Eutton)