

MUST YOU BE A PACIFIST?

No. Many C.O.'s believe in individual self-defense.

WHAT DOES "...WAR IN ANY FORM..." MEAN?

It is meaningless to ask the question, "Would you live in the fought in the Revolutionary War?" You live in the nuclear age, 1967. It is in this context you must base your claim. You cannot be expected to express your opinion of present and future wars by making a statement about the past. Furthermore, it is impossible now to know how you would act if faced with a hypothetical situation.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

If you are conscientiously opposed to the war, there is a good chance you are a C.O. You should talk to a draft counselor now.

WHEN SHOULD YOU APPLY?

You can file any time. Few men know they are C.O.'s when they register at age 18, although in practice, the sooner the better. Those who sign the C.O. claim in Section VIII of Form 100 (the questionnaire form) have an excellent chance of gaining C.O. status. Sometimes Form 100 is given to men at the time of registration. Since the form is so important, if you are uncertain about anything do not fill out the form immediately. You have 10 days to do so. After receipt of induction notice, however, boards do not have to consider a claim.

HOW DO YOU APPLY?

There is a special form (SSS Form No. 150) for conscientious objectors. Unless a registrant indicates he is a C.O. on Form 100 (the classification questionnaire) he must request Form 150 from his local board. The procedure is complex, and it is advised that all C.O. applicants be counseled from the beginning.

WHERE ARE THE C.O. COUNSELORS?

See addresses on back. The counseling is free.

DOES A C.O. APPLICATION JEOPARDIZE OTHER CLASSIFICATIONS?

No. All appeals and claims are considered independently of each other. You are always given the lowest possible classification, i.e., I-V-F instead of II-S, II-S instead of I-O, although you may qualify for more than one.

WHAT ARE YOUR CHANCES OF BEING GRANTED A I-O?

If your claim is well-presented, your chances are good. The initial decision lies with your local board, and there is no way of knowing how they will act.

THE NEW DRAFT LAW AND C.O.'s

The new law omits mention of a Supreme Being. Consequently, more men should be eligible. However, it should be noted that this was not Congress's intent. Hence it is important to talk to draft counselors who will be informed with new test cases, which will inevitably occur.

Also under the new law, there is no Justice Department investigation of C.O. applicants.

"War will exist until that distant day when the conscientious objector enjoys the same prestige as a warrior does today." --John F. Kennedy

STUDENT DEFERMENTS

UNDERGRADUATES

Under the new draft law, student deferments (II-S) will be given to persons pursuing a "full-time" course of study at a college or university until either:

- 1) he receives a baccalaureate degree
- 2) he fails to pursue a full time course of instruction
- 3) he attains the age of 24

When any of these situations occur, he will be liable for induction along with 19 year olds (the "prime age group").

GRADUATE STUDENTS

It is still unclear which graduate students will be deferred, other than medical, dental and other occupations which may be deemed critical. Congress has expressed intent to let those presently accepted or enrolled in graduate school continue their course of study.

STUDENT DEFERMENTS AND CONSCIENTIOUS

OBJECTION

A student in no way jeopardizes his student deferment when he applies for C.O. If you are a student and a possible conscientious objector, act now. You cannot hide from the draft. Under the new law, students will be drafted when they graduate or turn 24, a difficult time of life to spend 2 years in the army. It is depressing to evade the draft by staying in school; confrontation is a positive action. All citizens in the country have a responsibility to denounce (or support) the policy that is killing in their name.

"To sin by silence when they should protest, makes cowards of men." --A. Lincoln

NON-COOPERATION

An increasing number of men are refusing to cooperate with the draft. Non-cooperators refuse both military and conscripted alternative military service. Non-cooperation takes many forms:

- refusal to register
 - return of draft card
 - refusal of induction
- There is no exception in the draft law for non-cooperators. They face a maximum penalty of \$10,000 fine and 5 years in jail. (Recently maximum penalties have not been given). Those who do not cooperate with the draft are likely to be prosecuted.

CANADA

Persons currently are not barred entry into Canada because they are trying to avoid induction. There are 3 statuses a non-Canadian may have in Canada: Landed Immigrant, Student, and Visitor. The best is Landed Immigrant, which is permanent. After 5 years as a Landed Immigrant, a man is eligible for citizenship. Becoming a Landed Immigrant does not affect one's American citizenship. For further information see references at end of this leaflet.

WHEN DO YOU LOSE YOUR CIVILIAN STATUS?

You remain a civilian until your name is called at the end of the induction process and you take a step forward. To take this step forward is to be inducted into the military service. You become subject to military law. Also, be sure not to sign anything unless you know what it is.

UNFAIRNESS IN THE SELECTIVE SERVICE LAW

At a recent convention of the National Lawyers Guild, the following defects in the law were noted:

- 1) Those under 21 who cannot vote are conscripted without representation (this is particularly relevant under the probable new policy of 19 year-olds first).
- 2) Complete autonomy of local boards denies due process and equal protection under the law.
- 3) Draft boards assume one available for induction, unless exemption is proved. The burden of proof should be reversed, requiring the board to prove availability.
- 4) The exclusion of minority representation on boards denies equal protection.
- 5) Failure to supply statutes and regulations to registrant denies due process (compare with income tax forms).
- 6) Refusal of boards to allow witnesses at appearances denies due process.
- 7) Denial of right to appear in person before board denies due process.
- 8) Deferrals discriminate against minorities and the poor (particularly true of student and medical deferments).

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS

- 1) Know your rights.
- 2) Keep aware of changes in the draft law and deferments.
- 3) Keep copies of all correspondence with your draft board.
- 4) Send all correspondence "registered mail, return receipt requested"
- 5) Observe deadlines:
 - a) Register within 5 days of your 18th birthday unless you've decided you cannot cooperate at all).
 - b) Any unacceptable classification must be appealed within 30 days of date posted.
- 6) Notify your local board immediately upon change of any status. Failure to do so constitutes delinquency, which means you can be inducted immediately.
- 7) Notify the board of every change in address immediately.