

2015 Back-to-school Kit for Counter-recruitment and School Demilitarization Organizing

National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth



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WHAT IS IN THIS KIT?

The kit is a catalog of basic material useful to educating young people and school personnel about the realities of military enlistment and war. The catalog also includes some information on alternatives to enlistment, as well as items written for organizers seeking to reach out to local schools.

All of the material in this catalog was carefully reviewed for relevancy and accuracy as of the summer of 2015. A task force of knowledgeable organizers did the research. It does not include all of the available literature on this topic because much of what exists is out of date or is no longer being produced by the original sources. Consequently, we focused on identifying items that we felt were basic and most useful for effective organizing and educating. New items may be added to future kits as they become available.

HOW TO USE THE KIT

It's very simple: Read the descriptions in the catalog and then go to the links that are listed to view or download documents that are relevant to your local organizing. In some cases, you will be able to reprint them for local reproduction; or, you will be able to order copies in bulk if they are offered by the original source.

HOW THE KIT IS ORGANIZED:

The catalog groups items into the following subject categories:

Counter-recruitment	Non-military Career, College and Service Alternatives	Gender and the Military	JROTC
Delayed Entry Program (DEP)	Privacy (Opt Out Forms/ ASVAB etc.	Resources for Organizers	NNOMY Contact Information

Most of the material is optimized to meet legal equal access standards for distribution by nonstudents inside schools (i.e., it only addresses the realities of military enlistment and war, or presents alternative options). Items are specially marked to indicate if they have content that is not optimized for what the federal courts have allowed or if they are included in the catalog for other special purposes.

This kit can be accessed online at <http://bit.ly/stopkidsgoingtowar>

NOTE: If you wish to print the catalog, be sure to choose the landscape setting in your print menu (i.e., horizontal).

Catalog of Counter-recruitment Materials

NOTES:

An item marked with an asterisk () has some content that may fall outside the legal boundaries that apply to general distribution by NONstudents inside schools. Some activists may have used the item with no problem, but it is possible for schools to deny NONstudents equal access to distribute the item.

An item marked with a double asterisk () is not intended for general distribution to students inside schools. It is designed for distribution to school staff or offered here to inform organizers.

Counter -recruitment

Title	Description	Link
Before You Enlist (video)	Short video (14 minutes) exploring the dangers and false assumptions about the military.	http://www.beforeyouenlist.org
The Military's Not Just A Job; It's Eight Years of Your Life – ENGLISH (brochure)	General counter-recruitment brochure for young people, addresses the typical reasons people enlist, questions to ask a recruiter, etc.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/Notjstj_b-white_8-13a.pdf Order in bulk: https://www.warresisters.org/store/military-not-just-job-its-8-years-your-life
The Military's Not Just A Job; It's Eight Years of Your Life – SPANISH (brochure)	General counter-recruitment brochure for young people, addresses the typical reasons people enlist, questions to ask a recruiter, etc.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/Notjstjspan_b-white_8-13a.pdf Order in bulk: https://www.warresisters.org/store/military-not-just-job-its-8-years-your-life

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Title	Description	Link
Thinking of Joining the US Military to Gain Citizenship? – English/Spanish	Intended for non-citizens looking to join the military for immigration benefits; to let them know what to be aware of immigrationwise before approaching a recruiter.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/CITIZENSHIP_AND_ENLISTMENT_Span-English.pdf
GI Rights Hotline Cards (business card)	A card with essential information about service members’ rights and contact information for the GI Rights Hotline.	http://girightshotline.org/PDF/Accordion.GI.Rights.pdf
Know Before You Go . . ‘Cause There’s No Reset Button (brochure)*	This brochure breaks down the enlistment contract and life in the military and provides new stats about sexual assault in the military, racial disparities in becoming an officer, and stop-loss.	https://www.warresisters.org/store/know-you-go-cause-theres-no-reset-button
What Is Nonviolence (brochure)*	Actually a promotional piece for the War Resisters League but has a good explanation of nonviolence. Good for peace clubs.	https://www.warresisters.org/store/what-nonviolence
Military Recruitment: Information for School Guidance Counselors (brochure)**	Adapted from an essay by Titus Peachy, a Mennonite. Advice on helping students understand all their options. Geared to school counselors.	http://www.nsubsep.org/images/stories/MilitaryRecruitmentCounselorNW.pdf

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Title	Description	Link
Stg. Abe: The Honest Recruiter (multi-page)	The enlistment agreement of the U.S. Armed Forces pointing out many snares along the way.	https://www.quakerhouse.org/content/sergeant-abe-honest-recruiter
The Post 9/11 GI Bill (brochure)	Explores some of the "gotchas" with the new GI Bill.	http://bit.ly/nnomy_post911gibill
The Ground Truth (video)*	(2006) Addresses issues soldiers face after returning from Iraq; e.g., PTSD and inability to meld back into "normal" society. Personal interviews with veterans and family members/friends. Contains some profanity and violent scenes. We suggest you give a copy to classroom instructor to preview for appropriate classroom setting.	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Ground_Truth Trailers online, rent (\$3.99) or buy (Amazon has for \$10).
Arlington West (video)	<p>Documentary of experiences by family members and troops from Iraq and Afghanistan</p> <p>Documental sobre la experiencia de familias y sus soldados durante las guerras de Irak y Afghanistan</p>	<p>https://vimeo.com/72495403 English version</p> <p>https://vimeo.com/72494826 Spanish version</p>

Non-military Career, College and Service Alternatives

Title	Description	Link
It's My Life (90-page booklet)	Provides ideas and guidance for youth looking for career paths that are alternatives to military service.	http://www.afsc.org/document/its-my-life
Careers in Peacemaking and Social Change (brochure)	Discusses how to make a career choice that is compatible with both income needs and ethical values.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/Carinsochg_b_white1-04.pdf
A Few Examples of Careers in Peacemaking – Spanish /English (flyer)	Suggests ways that different careers can be used to work for peace and social justice, briefly notes skills/education needed for each career.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/Examples_Careers_in_peace_2006.pdf
Financial Aid Resources (multipage)	List of possible sources for college financial aid, including national sources and some specific to California. Can be used as a model for local groups to substitute local resources.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/FinancialAidList03-2015.pdf
Alternative Training and Job Placement Resources (multipage)	List of employment training and placement programs for youth in San Diego County. Can be used as a model for local groups to substitute local resources.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/AlternativeResources03-2015.pdf

Gender and the Military

Title	Description	Link
What Every Girl Should Know About the US Military English/Spanish (brochure)	Written for young women and featuring the voices of women veterans, talking about some of the problems for women in the US Military.	https://www.warresisters.org/store/what-every-girl-should-know-about-us-military
So You Want to Be a Man? – English/Spanish (flyer)	Ways to “become a man” without joining the military.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/so_you_want_to_be_a_man.pdf
The Invisible War (video)*	2012 documentary that investigates the epidemic of rape within the U.S. Military. Personal stories of several men and women victims of sexual assault in the military.	http://invisiblewarmovie.com/index.php

JROTC

Title	Description	Link
How JROTC Contributes to the School Funding Crisis (flyer)**	Explains how JROTC subsidy is calculated and why it becomes an added expense for schools. For organizers.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/JROTC%20and%20school%20funding.pdf
Is JROTC an Extra Expense for Local Schools? (flyer)**	Uses personnel budget from one school to illustrate how JROTC can cost more than other educational programs. For organizers.	http://projectyano.org/pdf/JROTC_cost.pdf

Delayed Entry Program (DEP)

Title	Description	Link
Signed Up for the Military and Want to Get Out? (flyer)	Explains how the DEP Program works and how to get out of it.	http://bit.ly/nnomy_depdoc

Privacy (Opt Out Forms/ ASVAB etc.)

Title	Description	Link
JAMRS Fact Sheet and Opt Out Form (flyer):	Explains the Joint Advertising and Market Research & Studies (JAMRS) database with a form for opting out of the survey and recruitment databases.	http://www.nwsubpep.org/images/stories/JAMRSFactSheetWithOptout.pdf
Two Important Items for Families with High School Students--Opt-Out and ASVAB Testing (flier)	Flier on opting out from high school recruiting lists (bilingual opt-out form included) and opposing the use of the military's aptitude test (ASVAB) in schools.	http://www.projectyano.org/pdf/ASVAB_bilingualOpt-out_form_8-21-15.pdf
Best Practices for ASVAB (multi-page)**:	Points out the fact that, unlike career exploration tools developed by third parties, the ASVAB does not automatically protect student information. It explains how the different options work with the ASVAB test. Geared to school counselors. (5/2013)	http://www.nwsubpep.org/images/stories/ASVAB-CEPBestPractices.2013.FINAL.logo.6.pdf

Resources for Organizers

Title	Description	Link
Using Equal Access to Counter Militarism in High Schools (multi-page) **:	Chronicle of efforts to gain access to schools in San Diego County from 1984 to 1995 (updated 7/06): outreach strategies, legal basis for equal access, lessons learned, school district letters.	http://www.projectyano.org/pdf/Equalaccess2006.pdf
Resources for adopting a recruiting policy in schools. (multi-page) **:	Packet with resources and links from a webinar on establishing policies to regulate recruiting in K-12 schools.	http://bit.ly/nnomy_CR_K-12
Starting Up a Project to Counter Military Recruiting (flier) **:	Ideas and resources for starting a local counter-recruitment project.	http://www.projectyano.org/pdf/Starting_a_C-r_Project.pdf
Actions Students Can Take to Counter Military Recruiting in Their Schools (flier) **:	Ideas and resources for high school students.	http://www.projectyano.org/pdf/Student_Actions_List_9-14-15.pdf
Team Member Guidebook (Draft) – tabling section (multi-page)**	Although in draft form, the chapter on tabling is very useful. For organizers.	http://bit.ly/nnomy_teamguidebook

Where you can find the 2015 Back-to-school Kit

- **You can Download a PDF of this kit at:** http://bit.ly/nnomy_crkit2015
Visit the website for the 2015 Back-To-School Kit at: <http://bit.ly/stopkidsgoingtowar>
Please visit Stop Kids Going to War on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/stopkidsgoingtowar>

Contact NNOMY

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Help Support the work of The National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth

- **Please consider making a donation to this important activism at:** <http://bit.ly/donatetonnomy>

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