

Video Resources on Conscientious Objection and Military Service

Available from MCC: 21 S. 12th St., Box 500, Akron, PA 17501 717-859-1151
E-mail: mccresources@mcc.org Web address: <http://www.mcc.org/>

1. **Change of Command**
Produced by MCC
Tells the stories of six military veterans and their faith journey toward peace. 42 minutes in length, the video is divided into five different segments.

2. **Anybody's Son Will Do**
Produced by the National Film Board of Canada
Analyzes Marine recruit training at Parris Island, South Carolina.

3. **Blood Makes the Grass Grow**
Produced by Forward Presence Productions
Tells the stories of Gulf War conscientious objectors.

4. **It's Not Just a Job: The Realities of Military Life**
Produced by the War Resister's League
Analyzes military advertising through the eyes of military veterans.

5. **Beyond Vietnam: Lessons Unlearned**
The reflections of a Vietnam veteran about war, military service, and healing.

6. **"Journey to Pacifism" Siegfried Bartel's Story**
Produced by MCC Ontario and Rogers Cable TV
The reflections of a German army veteran from WWII, and how his Christian faith led him to a commitment to peace.

7. **The Different Path: Mennonite Conscientious Objectors in World War II**
Produced by MCC Ontario and Rogers Cable TV
Stories of Mennonite and Brethren in Christ conscientious objectors from WWI and WWII.

8. **Conchies: An American Story of Commitment and Courage**
Produced by Sisters and Brothers
How Mennonites, Brethren, and Quakers stood for peace during WWII through Civilian Public Service.

9. **Compelled by Conscience: Why We Need a Peace Tax Fund**
Produced by Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund
Examines the issue of conscience and taxes for war.

10. **Military Myths: I Want You**
Produced by The War Resisters League

11. **Peace by Peace: Women on the Frontlines**
Women working for peace. Points out that women and children are affected by war far more than men.

Web Resources on Conscientious Objection

1. **Mennonite Central Committee**
<http://www.mcc.org/ask-a-vet>
 - Profiles of military veterans who are now conscientious objectors
 - E-mail links to veterans willing to respond to questions from youth
 - The Peacemaker Registration Form
 - Questions for Youth to Consider
 - Reflections on faith and serving in the military
2. **American Friends Service Committee**
<http://webarchive.afsc.org/youthmil/Default.htm>
 - A monthly magazine about youth, war, and peace
 - Information on social change careers and youth leadership camps as an alternative to military service
 - What to consider when talking to a military recruiter
 - The delayed entry program
3. **Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors**
<http://www.objector.org/>
 - Questions and answers about draft registration
 - What to consider when talking to a military recruiter
 - The delayed entry program
 - Getting the military out of schools
4. **GI Rights Hotline**
<http://girights.objector.org/>
 - The 800 number to call for help in getting a discharge from the military
 - Information on various discharges
 - The delayed entry program
5. **Franconia Mennonite Conference Resource Center**
<http://www.fmc-online.org/RCcatalog/index.htm>
 - Browse the Resource Center for books, videos, and cassettes on conscientious objection, peace, and the military
6. **Third Way Cafe**
<http://www.thirdway.com>
 - Third Way Cafe provides a window to who Mennonites are. The site includes a photo gallery, a section on *Who are the Mennonites?*, dialogue on current issues, and commentary on social issues and policies from an Anabaptist perspective.

7. **Second Mile: A Peace Journey for Congregations**

<http://www.gosecondmile.org/>

- Second Mile is a peace curriculum that invites congregations and small groups to enter a journey of worship, study, action and reflection that will help them become active signs of Christ's peace in a broken world.

8. **Preaching Peace**

<http://preachingpeace.org>

- A tool for preachers who need more scriptural, historical, and exegetical information as they prepare their sermons.

9. **Preaching the Just Word**

<http://www.georgetown.edu/centers/woodstock/pjw.htm>

- A national program sponsored by the Woodstock Theological Center to assist priests and other ministers of the gospel to be more effective in preaching biblical and social justice.

Books on Conscientious Objection

1. **Why I am a Conscientious Objector**
By John M. Drescher
A look at the broad yet very basic issues every Christian must consider when confronted with military involvement, this book is a summary of what many Christians have believed since the beginning of Christianity.

2. **Joining the Army that Sheds No Blood**
By Susan Clemmer Steiner

3. **Seeking Peace**
By Titus Peachey and Linda Peachey
This collection of about 70 stories, mostly contemporary, concerns Mennonites around the world living their convictions regarding peace and the avoidance of war, and of conditions conducive to warlike thinking. The experience of trying to put peace into daily living in times of crisis is related in a straightforward manner which may lead readers to reflect on the issues—perhaps in a new light.

4. **Decide for Peace**
Published by Faith and Life Press
A personal journaling and study resource for youth.

5. **Engaging the Powers: Discernment and Resistance in a World of Domination**
By Walter Wink
One of the most pressing questions facing the world today is, “How can we oppose evil without creating new evils and being made evil ourselves?”

6. **Peace, Just Live It!: A Challenge to Youth for the 21st Century**
By Christine Neufeld
Encourages youth of today to ask hard questions in the face of new forms of violence emerging in our society. It addresses the challenges facing youth in the 21st century and develops the skills young people need to live as God's peacemakers.

7. **What Would You Do?**
By John Howard Yoder
Helps answer the age-old question—“What would you do if someone was attacking your mother, sister, or girlfriend?” Yoder provides a variety of responses to this classic question: his own thorough ethical analysis; the answers given by other writers such as Leo Tolstoy, Dale Brown, and Dale Aukerman; and a variety of real-life stories of people who have discovered alternative responses to violence.

8. **War is a Force that Gives Us Meaning**
By Chris Hedges
Hedges draws on his experiences covering conflicts in Bosnia, El Salvador and Israel as well as works of literature from the Iliad to Hannah Arendt's The Origins of Totalitarianism to look at what makes war so intoxicating for soldiers, politicians and ordinary citizens.

9. **Yes to Peace: Sermons on the Shalom of God**
By R. Scott Colglazier
What does peace mean for people of faith in the throes of the War on Terror, the war on Afghanistan, the war on Iraq, and the wave of nationalism that has gripped the United States? What is the peace-making role of the church in such times as these? The sermons together raise the broad question of definitions of peace. They address different dimensions of peace— inner and interpersonal, peace within the church, and peace in the social and political realm.
10. **Living Peace: A Spirituality of Contemplation and Action**
By John Dear
A spiritual handbook for readers who seek to make peace in their lives and in the world. The journey to peace is composed of an Inner Journey (involving solitude, silence, prayer, and mindfulness), and a Public Journey (involving direct political action), which, undertaken together, make possible reconciliation and transformation on a global level.
11. **Choosing Against War: A Christian View**
By John D. Roth
How might Christians look on the world differently if they—actually!—believed that God’s love was indeed stronger than our fears? In fresh, confessional language, Roth shares his convictions about Christian pacifism, inviting others to consider this possibility, all the while humbly admitting the difficulties.
12. **Threatened with Resurrection**
By Jim Amstutz
Examines key biblical texts and the model of Jesus to help guide us to the faith understanding that Christ’s way of peace challenges the assumption of protection of the self.

Curriculum on Conscientious Objection

1. **Thermostat (DVD and Study Guide)**
Presented by MCC
How can we turn toward peace in a time of fear? Includes topics on peacemaking, imagination, allegiance, security, terrorism, camouflage, and nonviolence.