



Back-to-school Kit For Counter-recruitment and School Demilitarization Organizing

National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth



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

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 fall of 2023. 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 It does not include all of the available literature on this topic because much of what exists is out of date or is no longer being produced by the original sources.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 Careers / College and Service Alternatives	Gender and the Military	Delayed Entry Program (DEP)
JROTC	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 viewed online at <https://nnomy.org/backtoschoolkit/>

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 (16 minutes) exploring the dangers and false assumptions about the military. This is the most comprehensive and effective educational video available. Updated 2018. Spanish update expected in 2019.	http://www.beforeyouenlist.org
The Military's Not Just A Job; It's Eight Years of Your Life – ENGLISH and SPANISH versions (brochure)	General counter-recruitment brochure for young people, addresses the typical reasons people enlist, questions to ask a recruiter, etc.	http://www.projectyano.org/index.php/literature-and-resources/military-enlistment/28-the-military-s-not-just-a-job Order in bulk Here: http://bit.ly/8yearsofyourlife
Winning the Peace	Mobile phone version of The Military's Not Just a Job brochure.	http://winningthepeace.org/
Winning the Peace QR code table topper	Place this letter size document in a plexiglass document holder as a tabling display and youth can scan with their cell phones to direct them to the winningthepeace.org mobile phone version.	http://nnomy.org/en/resources/downloads/toolkits-guides/578-winning-the-peace-qr-code-table-topper.html You can order a freestanding plexiglass document holder from Grainger Industries online at: http://bit.ly/2NQTa1L or find one in your local office supply store.

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Questions to Consider (two-sided palmcard)	For high school students or friends who may be considering joining the military. This palmcard is good for mass leafletting, has links to more information.	https://www.warresisters.org/store/questions-consider-palmcard
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 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
Military Recruitment: Information for School Guidance Counselors (brochure)**	Adapted from an essay by Titus Peachy. Advice on helping students understand all their options. Geared to school counselors.	https://nnomy.org/index.php/en/resources/downloads/pamphlets-reports/general-counter-recruitment-information/school-based-cr/710-military-recruitment-brochure-for-counselors/file.html
Stg. Abe: The Honest Recruiter (multi-page)	The enlistment agreement of the U.S. Armed Forces pointing out many snares along the way.	https://quakerhouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/QH_SgtAbeApr2015.pdf
The Post 9/11 GI Bill (brochure)	Explores some of the "gotchas" with the new GI Bill.	http://bit.ly/nnomypost911gibill
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	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Ground_Truth Trailers online, rent (\$3.99) or buy (Amazon has for \$10).

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<p>Voices of War (video)</p>	<p>violent scenes. We suggest you give a copy to classroom instructor to preview for appropriate classroom setting.</p> <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>
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Non-military Career, College and Service Alternatives

Title	Description	Link
<p>It's My Life (90-page booklet)</p>	<p>Provides ideas and guidance for youth looking for career paths that are alternatives to military service.</p>	<p>https://www.afsc.org/content/its-my-life</p>
<p>Peacefulcareers</p>	<p>Presents ideas for job training, money for college, job placement opportunities without joining the military.</p>	<p>http://www.peacefulcareers.org/</p>
<p>Careers in Peacemaking and Social Change (brochure)</p>	<p>Discusses how to make a career choice that is compatible with both income needs and ethical values.</p>	<p>http://projectyano.org/pdf/Carinsochg_b_white1-04.pdf</p>
<p>A Few Examples of Careers in Peacemaking – English/Spanish (flyer)</p>	<p>Suggests ways that different careers can be used to work for peace and social justice, briefly notes skills/education needed for each career.</p>	<p>http://projectyano.org/pdf/Examples_Careers_in_peace_2006.pdf</p>
<p>Financial Aid Resources (multipage)</p>	<p>List of possible sources for college financial aid, including national sources and some specific to California.</p>	<p>http://www.projectyano.org/pdf/FinancialAidList03-2017.docx</p>

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Alternative Training and Job Placement Resources (multipage)

Can be used as a model for local groups to substitute local resources.

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://www.projectyano.org/pdf/AlternativeTrainingResources03-2017.docx>

Gender and the Military

Title

What Every Girl Should Know About the US Military (brochure)

So You Want to Be a Man? – English/Spanish (flyer)

The Invisible War (video)*

Description

Written for girls, queer and trans youth, youth of color and poor youth, this newly redesigned full-color "What Every Girl Should Know About the U.S. Military" brochure is focused on sexual & gender-based violence

Ways to “become a man” without joining the military.

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.

Link

<https://www.warresisters.org/store/what-every-girl-should-know-about-us-military>

<http://projectyano.org/index.php/literature-and-resources/military-enlistment/27-so-you-want-to-be-a-man>

<http://watchdocumentaries.com/the-invisible-war>

JROTC

Title

Description

Link

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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/index.php/literature-and-resources/jrotc/41-how-jrotc-contributes-to-the-school-funding-crisis>

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/index.php/literature-and-resources/jrotc/42-is-jrotc-more-expensive>

Guide to Removing Marksmanship Training from High Schools (multi-page)**

Details on how to remove JROTC marksmanship training and shooting ranges, which are in over 2,000 schools nationwide. For organizers.

<https://nnomy.org/en/materials-training-26367/576-guide-to-banning-school-marksmanship-training-04-05-18/file.html>

Campaign for 2024: JROTC Organizing Packet to Demilitarize Schools

The JROTC Organizing Packet is a resource for community activists, concerned parents, and school administrators and teachers that wish to exert pressure on local school districts to end the practice of placing youth, into Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs without parental notification or prior student consent.

<https://endcom.org/index.php/organizing-packet>

Delayed Entry Program (DEP)

Title

Description

Link

Signed Up for the Military and Want to Get Out? (flyer)

Explains how the DEP Program (known as Future Soldiers Program in the Army) works and how to get out of it.

<https://girightshotline.org/en/military-knowledge-base/topic/delayed-entry-program-discharge-dep-discharge>

If You Changed Your Mind You May Not Have to Go. English

Instructions for cancelling a DEP enlistment, English and Spanish versions.

http://www.projectyano.org/pdf/Recruiters_DEP_2004.pdf

and Spanish (flyers)

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.	https://nnomy.org/index.php/en/materials-training-26367/424-high-school-district-214-plans-to-include-jamrs-opt-out-form-in-registration-packe/file.html
Two important Items For Families with High School Students—Opt Out and ASVAB Testing (flier)	Flier for opting out of 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)	https://nnomy.org/index.php/en/resources/downloads/pamphlets-reports/asvab/541-best-practices-for-asvab-cep-administration-a-guide-for-professional-school-counselors/file.html

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	Packet with resources and links from a webinar on	http://nnomy.org/index.php/materials-training-26367/564-helpful-resources-for-

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adopting a recruiting policy in schools. (multi-page) **:	establishing policies to regulate recruiting in K-12 schools
Starting Up a Project to Counter Military Recruiting **	Ideas and resources for starting a local counter-recruitment project
Actions Students Can Take to Counter Military Recruiting in Their Schools **	Ideas and resources for high school students.
Team Member Guidebook (Draft) – tabling section **	Although in draft form, the chapter on tabling is very useful. For organizers
Educating Students and Countering Military Recruitment Inside Schools**:	Powerpoint focuses on what you can do to reach and educate students at the individual school level. Tactics discussed include leafleting, career fairs, peace clubs, tabling, speakers' bureaus, peace camps and other ideas.
Nuts and Bolts Pursuing Policy to Demilitarize Schools**	Powerpoint covers ways that activists have successfully approached these problems gaining equal school access to counter military recruiting at the policy level.

[organizing-to-regulate-military-recruiting-in-k-12-schools](#)

http://www.projectyano.org/pdf/Starting_a_C-r_Project.pdf

http://www.projectyano.org/pdf/Student_Actions_List_9-14-15.pdf

<http://nnomy.org/en/resources/downloads/toolkits-guides/543-team-member-guidebook/file.html>

<http://nnomy.org/index.php/en/resources/downloads/access-to-schools/573-cr-inside-schools.html>

<http://nnomy.org/index.php/en/resources/downloads/access-to-schools/571-cr-policy-organizing.html>

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Visit the Back-to-school-kit website at: <https://nnomy.org/backtoschoolkit/>



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Please visit Stop Kids Going to War on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/stopkidsgoingtowar>

Also Visit NNOMY on our social media channels:

<https://www.facebook.com/NNOMYfriends>

<https://twitter.com/nnomynetwork>

<https://mail.google.com/chat/u/0/#nnomyweb>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/NNOMYnetwork>

<https://www.instagram.com/nnomypeace/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/nnomy/>

<http://www.teachingpeaceintheschools.tumblr.com/>

<https://www.tiktok.com/@nnomyweb>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nnomy-org-43304672/>

Other Facebook Groups for Counter-recruitment activism:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/22392872223>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DemilitarizeOurSchools>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/766740093497828>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/107359312669540>

Please consider making a donation to this important activism at:

<https://nnomy.org/en/who-are-we/donate-to-nnomy.html>

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