EDUCATING STUDENTS AND COUNTERING MILITARY RECRUITMENT INSIDE SCHOOLS

Suggested approaches for gaining access to the schools and suggested activities once inside.

August 10, 2017
STEP ONE: GAINING ACCESS TO THE SCHOOLS
SUGGESTED APPROACHES

- Start at the teacher, counselor level; someone who shares your values. Ask around.
- Frame yourself as a group who is providing a full range of post-graduate options.
- Work through school clubs e.g. social justice club.
- Plan an activity around a specific holiday e.g. Memorial Day.
- Offer to bring in guest speaker and/or film or be a guest speaker yourself in a civics/history class.
- Develop allies in the community: parent groups, teachers’ union. Ask what they think is best way to approach students.
SUGGESTED APPROACHES

• Ask what your contacts think is the best way to approach students.
• Have information available when approach the decision makers.
• Target periods in the school calendar where there is a “lull” e.g. before school is out for the summer, before grades are released.
• Facilitating/helping to facilitate a career fair.
• Appeal to sense of fair play.
• Do your homework; know the school culture.
• Know the history, leadership style of the school.
Do NOT start with the administration. If they turn you down you have no where else to go.

(However, there are exceptions to this rule too. Sometimes it works out).

Do NOT start out by making demands

Know your legal rights but use it as a last resort; not as a way to start out your campaign
USING EQUAL ACCESS TO COUNTER MILITARISM IN HIGH SCHOOLS

Using Equal Access to Counter Militarism in High Schools

A Case History: Project on Youth and Non-Military Opportunities 1984-995

By Rick Jaknikow

Download from projectyano.org
NOW THAT YOU’RE IN, HERE’S WHAT YOU CAN DO:
SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS
“Before You Enlist” (English & Spanish)

https://youtu.be/AUXCP3JKb-0
Bring speakers to the classroom
TABLING AT THE SCHOOLS
TABLING AT THE SCHOOLS
CAREER/COLLEGE FAIRS
Post secondary options were grouped by category e.g. jobs in the green industry, ways to serve your country without enlisting, etc.
TIP: Prize wheels & giveaways draw students
LEAFLETING AT SCHOOLS

• Non-students must stay on public property outside the school.

• Students can leaflet inside but must follow the school’s time, place and manner guidelines.
Winning the Peace
A national campaign to hand out palm cards at high schools.
See www.nnomy.org

TIP:
Leafleting at the start of school in the morning is much more effective than at the end.
YOUTH CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS, MEETUPS, GATHERINGS

Foundation for 2\textsuperscript{nd} Chances summit

Youth conference
Workshop for parents at a youth conference

Sometimes role-playing can be used
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Educating the public about the issues.

Annual holiday bazaar

Association of Raza Educators
Community Outreach

Youth arts festival in South Los Angeles
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Films & discussion on topics such as Afghanistan, sexual harassment in the military to educate the community about militarization of schools and develop allies.
PEACE CLUBS
Marches/
Demonstrations
Demonstrating at a recruiting office
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Zine produced with student input

Creating a zine
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Student zine
OTHER ACTIVITIES

Teen cemetery
Students working with VFP at Arlington West
On campus chalk art

Tabling for words of kindness for peacebuilders

Peace Week

drum circle
SCHOOL CAREER CENTERS: Request space to balance military literature with alternative information.

Addressing the school board.
YOU CAN DO IT
YOU ARE NOT ALONE
Gaining equal access to schools

Report: “Using Equal Access to Counter Militarism in High Schools”—download along with other educational materials and organizing tools from the Project YANO website.

www.projectyano.org

www.facebook.com/projectyano

National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth

Features a high school organizing kit and other resources, including a national directory of counter-recruitment organizations.

www.nnomy.org

www.facebook.com/groups/DemilitarizeOurSchools
MORE RESOURCES

• Guide to High School Leafleting and Petitioning: for students and non-students—
  www.comdsd.org/youth.htm

• “Before You Enlist” Video—Viewable online at
  www.beforeyouenlist.org

• Game (or Prize) Wheels—
  www.trainerswarehouse.com, or
  search the web for more choices or make your own.

• Tabletop Display Devices and Literature Holders—
  http://www.siegeldisplay.com

• Game Prizes—

• Resist, Inc.—grants
  www.resist.org

• Left Tilt Fund—grants
  www.lefttiltfund.org
HOW TO START A PEACE CLUB IN YOUR LOCAL SCHOOLS
CONTACTS FOR THIS PRESENTATION

San Pedro Neighbors for Peace & Justice – Chris Venn
diggory1@aol.com

Northwest Suburban Peace & Education Project
http://www.nwsubpep.org/

Project Great Futures
curiousarts2011@gmail.com

Project on Youth and Non-Military Opportunities
http://www.projectyano.org/

How to Start a Peace Club – Pat Alviso, Chris Venn, Libby Frank
mfsooc@earthlink.net
END OF SLIDESHOW