

What does the Lord require?

Selective Service requires your signature on a registration form and can apply pressure on you until you comply or suffer the consequences. It may seem less clear what God wants you to do in this case, though Micah sums it all up when he says, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). Whether you decide to register, register as a conscientious objector, or refuse registration altogether, you can do these three things—do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.



As the culmination of *Call of Conscience*, you have the opportunity to declare what you believe and demonstrate that you have considered both the religious and political consequences of your actions. Not everyone will agree with you, but they will respect you for the careful way you have considered these important issues.

Questions



Write responses to the three "Questions about Conscientious Objection."

If you haven't done so already, finish drafting your answers to the three questions from Selective Service that will form the centerpiece of your case for conscientious objection. Also, gather materials for a file that you can deposit at the denominational offices of the Church of the Brethren as evidence that you have arrived at your position after careful thought. Letters of reference from adults, teachers, mentors, even people with whom you disagree, will strengthen your case. Additional information, such as newspaper clippings, evidence of volunteer work, mission trips, and attendance at church youth conferences, plus copies of relevant papers you've written at school, will also support your claims.



3) Journal ideas

- Write a critique of some of the pieces of recruiting material you have received from the branches of the military.
- Write your own definition of patriotism.
- Use the Internet to find meaningful quotations by peacemakers and transfer your favorites to your journal.
- Watch a film about war or peace and make a list of your strongest impressions.



4) What do I believe

“What Do I Believe About War?” Go to <http://www.centeronconscience.org/co/conscientious-objection-and-the-draft.html> to study more about registering for the draft. If you have not already been given a copy of the “comprehensive guide,” scroll to the bottom of that page to download it. Go over the information with your pastor, youth group leader, or mentor to be sure you understand the information. Decide which approach you will take to registration. Look at the types of conscientious objection listed on page 7 and decide which kind of objector you are.

4) Read



Read selections from *Shoes of Peace: Letters to Youth from Peacemakers* (Brethren Press). Ask your advisor or pastor to help you find a pacifist (or even a veteran turned pacifist) to talk to you personally about religious, moral, and ethical attitudes about war.

5) Your CO file

Be sure to finish your CO file. Work with your leader to get a copy sent to the Church of the Brethren denominational offices. If you have questions, write to peace@brethren.org.

