



## CREATING NONVIOLENT COMMUNITIES

Imagine redirecting your \$500 or \$1,000 or \$5,000 of resisted tax money toward creating a nonviolent world. Many war tax resisters are donating resisted tax money to peace groups, or to refugees from – or people living in – nations ravaged by war and to groups opposing bigotry, abuse of civil liberties, militarization of law enforcement and police violence.

Others are improving their communities by donating resisted tax money to food banks, shelters, health clinics, community organizing and environmental projects. They are investing resisted taxes in local economic efforts like worker-owned cooperatives and organic public gardens.

To help speed conversion from a militarized to a peaceful and more equitable economy, resisted taxes could be used to teach technical and entrepreneurial skills, invest in job-creating small businesses, and further the use of appropriate and human scale technologies which provide jobs and protect the environment.

Networks of community organizations could become the shadow institutions that eventually replace state institutions created and maintained through the threat of violence.

Consider war tax resistance as a means of making this commitment to creating a nonviolent world. Join those of us who are redirecting our money away from war and destruction and towards peace and life.

*“The vision I see is not only a movement of direct democracy, of self- and co-determination and non-violence, but a movement in which politics means the power to love and the power to feel united on the spaceship Earth...”*

—Petra Kelly

Local Contact:

*Single copies of are free with a self-addressed stamped envelope.  
Multiple copies 20¢ each; \$16/100 from:*



### NATIONAL WAR TAX RESISTANCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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NWTRCC is a coalition of local, regional and national groups supportive of war tax resistance. NWTRCC will put you in touch with groups in your area if you contact us at the address below. Contributions will help us continue our work and are appreciated!

*NWTRCC sees poverty, racism, sexism, homophobia, economic exploitation, environmental destruction and militarization of law enforcement as integrally linked with the militarism that we abhor. Through the redirection of our tax dollars, NWTRCC members contribute directly to the struggle for peace and justice for all.*



# Creating a Nonviolent World Through War Tax Resistance



NATIONAL WAR TAX RESISTANCE  
COORDINATING COMMITTEE

[www.nwttrcc.org](http://www.nwttrcc.org)



## VISIONS OF A NONVIOLENT WORLD

We live in a world where competing nation states use war to force settlement of the differences among them. One where central governments use military force against ethnic, religious, class, and regional groups. However, individuals and groups around the globe are visualizing a world without violent conflicts. In this new world, nation states, and competing groups within them, would resolve their conflicts nonviolently. Citizens would train themselves in nonviolent

action to resist domestic repression and reform their institutions, and in nonviolent civilian based defense to help resist external invaders.

Such visionaries may label themselves Gandhian, pacifist, anarchist, decentralist, libertarian, feminist, Green or bioregionalist. However their goal is the same:

*A true revolution of values will lay hands on the world order and say of war:*

*“This way of settling differences is not just.”*

—Martin Luther King, Jr

a world beyond war, a nonviolent world.

War tax resistance is a powerful commitment to creating such a nonviolent world. It is an effective strategy for protesting and eventually dismantling the structures of violence and war, because war tax resistance takes resources away from the military and redirects them to fulfilling human needs.

## PAYING FOR WAR

Almost half of your federal income taxes and your federal tax on landline telephones go to pay for past, present and future wars. Since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the United States has spent over 10 trillion dollars on war and homeland security. The U.S. has waged war on Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya, threatened and bombed other nations, and provided weapons to support a

number of other conflicts. It has built up over 800 military bases in more than 60 countries, effectively surrounding both China and Russia. U.S. leaders still threaten the use of nuclear weapons.

This spending ensures that the U.S. maintains superpower dominance. Generous military aid and arm sales are dispensed to allied governments, regardless of their records on aggression and human rights.

The United States government claims that all this military spending ensures world peace, but millions of us are convinced that it means only more war, oppression, impoverishment, and environmental destruction. How much are you paying for war this year? \$500? \$1,000? \$5,000?



*“Although the structures of war and domination are strongly entrenched, they must inevitably change, as all things change. We can become agents of that transformation and bring a new world to birth.”*

—Starhawk

## METHODS OF WAR TAX RESISTANCE

War tax resistance is an act of civil disobedience. One should not undertake it without being informed of the possible consequences. Contact a war tax resistance counselor, local war tax resistance group, or NWTRCC for more information and support.

## Methods include:

- Refuse to pay some or all of your federal income tax.
- Attach to your 1040 tax form a letter explaining why you refuse to pay for war. Send copies to your Congressional representatives.
- Refuse to file a 1040 tax form.
- Refuse to pay the federal excise tax on a local landline telephone bill.
- Intentionally earn less than a taxable income.
- Support passage of the Peace Tax Fund bill in Congress.
- Join others to organize war tax resistance and to provide mutual support.
- Redirect resisted tax money to human needs.

## POSSIBLE IRS RESPONSES

The Internal Revenue Service’s responses to war tax resistance are not consistent. The IRS rarely responds to telephone tax resistance because the amount is so small. Telephone companies should not cut off service because of non-payment of the federal excise tax.

In response to income tax resistance the IRS will add interest and penalties to unpaid taxes; they may send tax due notices. It may send an agent to your home or workplace to request payment.

The IRS may acquire a lien on a resister’s assets. Once it does so, it may then try to collect resisted taxes, plus interest or penalties, by attaching bank accounts, garnishing wages, or seizing property. Over the last 40 years the IRS has rarely chosen to criminally prosecute war tax resisters.

*“It is a blasphemy to say nonviolence can be practiced only by individuals and not by nations, which are composed of individuals.”*

—Mohandas Gandhi