

New Statement of Purpose Proposal

Rational for New Statement of Purpose

Feedback from NWTRCC's Youth Advisory Council (YAC) indicated that NWTRCC's statement of purpose needed updating. The YAC admired the statement, but noted that it got bogged down in its length instead of focusing on NWTRCC's core message.

Following a discussion of the statement at the November 2020 CC meeting, an ad hoc committee was formed to rewrite the statement (Lincoln, Chrissy, Ruth Benn, Erica Leigh, Bill Glassmire, DeCourcy Squire, Sue Barnhart, and Cathy Deppe).

The new statement uses almost half the words to convey the same message, which we believe also helps its readability.

Proposed Statement of Purpose

The National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee (NWTRCC) is a coalition of groups and individuals across the U.S. working to maintain and build a national movement of resisters to military taxes. NWTRCC opposes militarism and war; we refuse to be complicit in paying taxes for such violence.

War tax resistance methods include refusing to pay federal income taxes, redirecting tax money to community needs, supporting peace tax fund legislation, and living in ways that eliminate tax liability.

We acknowledge the deep links between militarism and the social ills of poverty, racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, transphobia, economic exploitation, environmental destruction, and militarized law enforcement. We believe war tax resistance can help build a world of justice, community, harmony with nature, and peace. We seek collaboration with others working for a non-militarized society.

Current Statement of Purpose

The National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee (NWTRCC) is a coalition of groups from across the U.S., formed in 1982 to provide information and support to people involved in or considering some form of war tax resistance (WTR). Affiliate organizations and individual supporters are joined together in a common struggle for a more just and peaceful society.

We oppose militarism and war and refuse to complicitly participate in the tax system which supports such violence. NWTRCC sees poverty, racism, sexism, homophobia, economic exploitation, environmental destruction and militarization of law enforcement as integrally linked with the militarism which we abhor. Through the redirection of our tax dollars NWTRCC members contribute directly to the struggle for peace and justice for all. NWTRCC promotes war tax resistance within the context of a broad range of nonviolent strategies for social change, and is firmly embedded in the peace movement.

NWTRCC's goal is to maintain and build a national movement of conscientious objectors to military taxes by supporting, coordinating and publicizing the WTR actions of groups and individuals. These actions include: war tax resistance, protest, and refusal; the redirection of military taxes to meet human needs; support of the U.S. Peace Tax Fund Bill and adjustment of lifestyle to avoid tax liability. WTR actions are undertaken in accordance with each individual's moral, religious or political conscience, and with the hope that such actions will contribute to a change in the priorities and policies of the U.S. government.