



NWTRCC Youth Advisory

Summary Report

April 2020

Make up of Group: 4 Women; Race: white, black, Hispanic, Filipino-American; From East & West Coast; Groups involved with: Citizen Action of New York, Campaign Workers Guild, Working Families Party, Black Lives Matter, People's Action Institute, AYPAL, California Latinas for Reproductive Justice, BAY-Peace, Anakbayan IE, Gabriela Oakland, Los Angeles Tenants Union, DSA LA Housing and Homelessness Committee, American Civil Liberties Union, DC Center for Immigrant Justice, DreamActivist DC, UCLA Labor Center, The Immigrant Youth Coalition, Los Angeles Tenants Union.

General Outreach Questions

1. Why do you join the groups that you join?

Love talking to people trying to convince them of seeing the way I see. Create community and experience people just as they are. To be around other Filipinos—to combat imperialism.

2. What are your goals for the groups that you are already in?

See POC community as leaders and mentors—have women of color have a seat at table. Telling stories part of the larger work—centered on joy not “misery porn”—pass around ways of sharing stories- shaping narratives. Strengthen solidarity work, create pathways for people to develop relationships with others.

3. How do you network or create relationships?

People’s Action Institute in Chicago does a great job doing this via 1-on-1 relationships, skype, in-person. It takes more time, but creates more meaningful long term relationships. Make space for reciprocal relationships. Show up for other organizations. Art builds are a great way of creating community.

4. What kinds of platforms do you use for organizing? Provide an example?

People feel safer with Signal. Also, Group Me & Slack. Facebook & Instagram to recruit new people: we live stream events with the hope they will go viral.

Comments on NWTRCC Materials:

NWTRCC Mission Statement

Does not state what war tax resistance is. Who is the audience? Seems geared toward more educated. Is there is Spanish version? What does protest/refusal mean?

Favorite Materials: WTR At a Glance, Newsletter & Podcast 7 (interviewing younger new women resisters)

WTR At a Glance: Information overload but in a GOOD way. I actually kept reading past my ten minute timer. Info helpful, comprehensive and I think this is definitely the first resource a person who is interested in learning more about NWTRCC should examine. Defining War Tax Resistance and what a war tax resister is was extremely helpful, I feel like I resonated with each one of them, especially Commitment, Integrity and Courage. I really also liked the next section about why people resist, I had no idea that there were so many different forms of resisting and I really appreciated that this document did not sugar coat the very real possibility of getting in trouble with the law.

Newsletter: The look, colors, & photos are great. Good varied content. Good connections with racial justice & other social justice issues. Good an showing sense of community. Needs articles by POC.

Facebook: used primarily for getting info on a specific event, not general info.

Blog: A new post each month is great, maybe once a week if really interesting material, Not regularly read by younger folks.

Instagram: Good for posting events, rapid response, & livestream events

Youtube: Good for seeing a groups actions & events.

Other Questions & Responses

What are ways that WTR can connect with POC? And what are obstacles?

Need talking points for why POC should be concerned about global war; we are focused more on getting jobs surviving. Our taxes are funding war and not housing. Difficulty in asking someone with housing instability to take on added paper work and risk. For Filipino people, our group focuses on impacts of imperialism, militarism and how that affects Filipinos

What would you see as the largest obstacles for you in considering WTR?

Affecting credit (for car/house), impact my relationships (partner & parents), scared of audit, confusion of paperwork, mental health support would be very important.