Community of Resistance

We offer our help to those seeking their way among the narrow list of options allowed by the draft system and our help to those contemplating refusal of registration or other orders from selective service.

Among signers are some past and present non-registrants, including some who

have been imprisoned for non-registration and other disobedience to the draft system, some military veterans, and many others, We all consider open peaceful refusal of draft and war a powerful stand for peace.

- 1. We offer our help to all youths in obtaining draft information and counseling according to their needs and desires, co wring various forms of compliance and resistance, so that they may work out their own stands, whatever they may be.
- 2.To those contemplating peaceful rejection of the draft system and its orders we offer companionship in what may seem a lonely stand. We offer to maintain friendship with them if their choice is to obey the draft system.
- 3. We shall help resisters publicize their announcements or acts of peaceful resistance if they desire it. And in case of prosecution we shall accompany them in court and publicize the events in accord with their wishes.
- 4. Though we want it understood that non-registration is not a position with much chance of legal vindication (and may be punishable by sentence of up to 5 years and/or \$10,000 fine), we offer to assist in locating legal counsel for those who desire it. We cannot commit ourselves to financial support of legal cases.
- 5. We shall keep contact with resisters during possible imprisonment and locate supporters near their places of imprisonment. And we shall assist them upon release from prison.
- 6. We offer moral support and companionship to the families and friends of resisters. We shall attempt to raise funds for those who were financially dependent on imprisoned resisters.

Our names and addresses on this statement are our invitation to young people to turn to us for the offered support, and an invitation to other signers and non-signers to join with us in carrying out our promise of community. The power of this stand will come from the work of the signers to give it publication and fulfillment.

It is remotely possible that our announcing ourselves as a community of support for resistance may be considered illegal. We do not commit ourselves to any particular response in case prosecutions occur, nor can we commit ourselves to financial support of legal moves, but we do offer each other the same support we offer the resisters themselves.

Address		CA	
	_	Signature	•
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Please keep and show around this statement. If you can join in making it, let that be known in your locality. If you wish please send me your name and address (and phone if you wish it published) and I will keep a list of signers for occasional publication. If you wish your name withcrawn from the list of signers, notify me. Thank you. List of signers on reverse.

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California

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Los Angeles Catholic Worker Community, 632 N. Brittania St. L.A. 90033, 267-8789, 972-9656, and its members: Jeff Dietrich, Catherine Mcrris, Bruce Gemung, Kent Hoffman, Pam McOmber, Nancy Mintie, Jose Caxaca, Judy Ricks, Rosemary Occhiogrosso, Tony Trafecanty, Joan Trafecanty, Kathy Munson, Katrien Vervisch, Mary Smith, Glenda Wilson, Mark Hallahan, Greg Johnson.

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The purposes of the Community of Resistance statement are 1. To offer support which is personal, specific, non rhetorical—and thus more meaningful to both signers and the public. Non-registrants have appreciated this approach (which perhaps can be used for other issues toc). 2. To suggest the continuum among positions of compliance and disobedience. I'd like all youths, whatever they do about draft and recruitment, to have a recollection of a peace movement which respected them at a difficult time. 3. To attempt a statement which has a local usefulness and can be signed by people of all categories, draft age or not, registered or not, and yet which does project resistance. 4. To remind draft counselors that there is a resistance position, there are those who will help resisters, and that thorough counseling will mention this option and this support.

Just about everything in the statement was in effect written by my associates and organizing partners in the Resistance, my family, friends and myself years ago in our support for each other, or comes from my reflections on that experience.

If you like the statement and want to use it—it's yours! The best use would be with youths and counseling centers where you are, and among associates in the anti-draft movement. If you care to send me your name and address (and phone # if you want it published—it would be useful to youths wishing anonymity) I will add them to a list. I'll also "unlist" you when requested. But it's what you do with