

BEFORE YOU ENLIST . . .

Are you or your son/daughter considering enlistment in the military?
Before you make a commitment, be sure to consider the following:

- Are you already signed up through a “Delayed Entry” program for a multi-year active duty enlistment? **You can change your mind – without consequences – any time before you actually leave for basic training.** Contact us for details.
- The military has **no legal obligation** to provide you the job assignment and training promised by the recruiter in the enlistment contract. (DD Form 4, Enlistment Document)
- Education benefits have many restrictions and can be changed without notice. Early discharge or any discharge other than honorable results in the **reduction or elimination of promised benefits.** Only 48% of post-9/11 veterans report having been able to use them. (Washington Post 2014)
- **Military service does not prepare you for civilian jobs.** While you are in the military, your peers will be in college, trade school, Job Corps, or getting work experience.
- The **unemployment rate for young post-9/11 veterans** in 2013 was 30% higher than the comparable rate for nonveterans (Bureau of Labor Statistics 2014).
- **Discrimination in the Military** – Women, African Americans, Asians and Hispanics are less likely to be promoted than white males and continue to be underrepresented in the senior officer ranks. (Rand 2012)
- There is a high risk of **sexual assault** in the military for both men and women. One out of five women veterans report that they experienced “Military Sexual Trauma” (MST) while serving. (HHS, 2010) Of the 65,264 veterans treated for MST in 2009, 40% were men. (Veteran Affairs 2010)
- At least 20% of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans have **post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)** and/or major Depression, and 19% of returning service members report suffering a **traumatic brain injury (TBI)** while deployed. (Rand 2008)
- Being in the military **doubles your risk of suicide.** More service members die from suicide than from combat, and 5,000 veterans commit suicide each year.

“The military is not a social welfare agency; it’s not a jobs program.” - Former Vice President Dick Cheney



Louisville Chapter, Fellowship of Reconciliation

<http://www.louisville-for.org>

Email: FORnonviolence@gmail.com