Are you thinking of joining the military?

This is one of the biggest decisions of your life.
Make the best decision for YOU!

- What do YOU want out of life? Seriously, what are your dreams?
  - College?
  - To make enough money to support yourself and your family?
  - Adventure?
  - To move away from a bad home situation?
  - A rewarding job?

You deserve these things.
What career alternatives are out there?*

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**DO YOUR RESEARCH!**

**WATCH**

Before You Enter
beforeyouenlist.org

**READ**

Veteran and Service Members’ Narratives
bit.ly/YWNarr

**LISTEN**

Go here for more links, info, and stories
bit.ly/YWBrochure

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**DRAFTED?**

Do you know about...

- Being sex and gender diverse in the military
- Different opportunities to pay for college
- College debt and the military
- Getting out of the DEP (Delayed Entry Program)
- Military discharges and Conscientious Objection

First, the MOST CRITICAL but OFTEN OVERLOOKED question to ask yourself:

Am I willing to kill without hesitation, be it civilian, woman or child, or be killed myself in service to a mission? I may have serious doubts about?

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**WHAT WILL LIFE IN THE MILITARY BE LIKE?**

Even when off duty or on leave, you must obey your commanders without hesitation or face punishment.

No matter what job you’re assigned, every position is a potential combat position.

You may end up being paid less than the minimum wage for your hours.

Military life is dangerously stressful: very boring or highly traumatic.

You can suffer a physical, mental, or moral wound as a result of your military service.

Some military families end up qualifying for food stamps!

The military is not a safe space where you can be yourself.

Racism and white supremacy are REAL problems in the military.

The military always puts the needs of the mission first. Service members come second.

**MILITARY FOR WOMEN**

Being a woman in the military is tough.

Military Sexual Trauma (MST) covers everything from sexual harassment to rape and murder.

Official MST rates are 1 in 4. (Including for male on male rape)

But much goes unreported.

Reporting MST can result in career-ending retaliation.

Your body is not your own.
Even your hairstyles and body mass still feel they have to work twice as hard as males to get half the respect!

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**REVENGE**

Women in the military still feel they have to work twice as hard as males to get half the respect.

Family plans can fail! Maintaining your family or relationship while deployed is stressful and difficult. Who will take care of your kids when you’re gone?

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*For career alternatives: https://bit.ly/YWMilAlt

For those that came before

Joining the military will change you forever!

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When I joined, I knew that women in the military faced an uphill battle, but I didn’t fully understand how serious the issues were and how reluctant leadership is to doing anything about it. The truth is that there’s a culture of pervasive sexual discrimination, harassment and assault that is incredibly harmful to all troops, but especially to gender minorities.

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Before Enlisting
Research and writing by:
The National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth
Printed copies can be ordered at:

Military life after your service
You will be changed by your military experience.

Military training is designed to break down individuals and make them into one part of a unit. You learn to follow orders without thinking, at an instant’s notice. It makes it hard to reflect and make wise choices.

MORAL INJURY
You may come home with profound shame and regret about things you participated in.

SUICIDE
In 2018, there were more than 17 Veteran suicides per day.
(including all veterans)

Mental health disorders and substance abuse
Drug and alcohol abuse is way high in veterans.

Permanent damage from war wounds
- Amputations
- Blindness
- Burns
- Brain Trauma
- PTSD
- Fertility Problems
- Miscarriages

Other physical wear and tear injuries
- Hearing loss
- Back/Knee/Neck trauma
- Exposure to Toxic Chemicals (e.g. depleted uranium, burn pit exposure, etc.)
- Exposure to toxic water in military bases
- Ionizing Radiation
- Toxic Embedded Fragments

MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA
41.5% of women

4% of men

War Resisters League - www.warresisters.org

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- Liquor Bottle
- Toxic Waste
- Crutches
- telescope, liquor bottle, toxic waste, crutches
- War Resisters League - www.warresisters.org

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