

but I feel that somebody's got to do it. Do you think that you'd be able to say, 'Well, no, I don't want to go, I don't think it's right, I couldn't kill,' if somebody hadn't done it before you?

Wolf: Okay, in World War II--I don't know if I would have fought or not. I really can't say. Rick.

Kline: In World War II we were attacked openly and they killed thousands of people in Pearl Harbor, and you might or might not have fought?

Wolf: Rick, I can't say. At that time, if I were thinking this way, I would have probably gone to prison. I don't know. It would have been a totally different generation, Rick. At that time it was okay to fight. I feel that killing is wrong.

I will serve my country, as a conscientious objector... be classified 1-0 and be an intern in an hospital.

Holman: What do you plan to do about the draft, Rick?

Kline: I don't plan to be drafted. I plan to enlist in the Marine Corps.

Holman: What about the draft. Is it a fair system? Kline: I'm not against the draft. I say the draft can be fixed, and maybe get around to some other type of draft system. I don't believe you can get rid of the draft.

Holman: What about you, Tony? Do you think we need a draft?

Olivia: Well, based on the information that I've heard on our armaments, we have enough missiles to literally destroy four planets of our size. If people want to join the army on their own free will, fine. It's okay by me. But you mentioned something about being scared, earlier. Yes, I'm scared.

Kline: So am I. Do you think I want to get shot?

Olivia: Well nobody in their right mind wants to get shot.

Kline: But I'm still not gonna' look for a way out. I've never done that in my life. I've never ducked a fight. I've never picked one, either.

Wolf: Didn't you feel that going over to Vietnam is picking a fight.

Kline: No. I don't think I'm picking a fight. I've

thought of it, and I think we're justified in being in Vietnam. I think that nine times out of ten, we are right. I think that there are more people that know more about it than I do. And there must be some reason, more than what they're telling us. But do you know how long it would take to clean out that war if they wanted to do it the way they should ...

Wolf: I am a very idealistic person. I feel that if everybody believed the way I did, that killing is wrong, and that going out to have a war is wrong. . . we wouldn't have war if everybody resisted the draft.

Holman: It has been suggested that the draft is unfair to those who don't go to college, to the poor, and to minority groups. How do you feel about that?

Olivia: The way the system is now, those who are illiterate, those who are in the ghettos--white and black--, all minorities, generally are those who are taken first.

Kline: I think that if they are illiterate, or if they are in the ghetto, maybe the armed services would be a better thing for them. They'd get three square meals a day, which they maybe never had before. And they'd get some inkling of an education, which they never had before. And there's individual pride--may they never had that before, either.

Olivia: Okay, Rick, there are advantages to minority groups being in the army. But what about their families? Kline: One less mouth to feed . . .

Wolf: Well like if he's a father, Rick . . .

Holman: I think we've given everyone a chance to express their views. Does anyone have any concluding comments?

Kline: I don't think we can get along without an armed forces. If they had a completely volunteer army, I wouldn't go either. I want to get it over with. I want nothing on my back. Also, I believe in my country 100 per cent.

Olivia: If I'm reading you correctly, you're going to serve your country and you're not going to resist. I also believe in serving my country. But I'm not gonna' go over there and kill possibly someone who looks more like me, than me. There are ways right here in the United States that I could serve my country much better.

## Student Forum

### the draft discussed

## To college or Canada Center counsels youth

The Twin Cities Draft Information Center (TCDIC) exists to "provide a counseling service for young men, promote the idea of resistance, and organize around the issues of the draft and the war."

Dan Holland, a full-time worker who recently spoke at Ramsey, brushed aside his shoulder length hair and said that all these activities have kept him and the center very busy.

"We counsel from 75 to 100 people every week, besides doing organizing at the induction center. We used to leaflet every day in Minneapolis to people going in for physicals. Then we would go in and talk to the officials.

"Now they all lock their doors, except one," he said.

Holland also commented about police - TCDIC relations. We haven't had any trouble from the cops. In fact, we are a part of their recruitment program. We take police recruits on tours of the West Bank, and answer questions like, "What is it like to smoke grass?"

At a recent counseling session, students ages 18 to 26 met with counselors in small conference rooms. Most students were dressed conservatively and informally. Feelings of urgency and hopelessness sat with them on the sofa.

The following are excerpts from sessions:

Student: "Hello, my name is Bill."

Counselor: "I'm Ed. You don't mind if I eat my lunch now, do you?"

Student: "No, not at all. (Pause)

My situation is that I tried to get a teachers' deferment, but it didn't go through. Now I am trying for a C.O. I'm 25 now and they could draft me."

Counselor: "You should have asked why your board turned down your claim. Ask your board what they think a C.O. is. You'll be more able to appeal your case if you know what your draft board expects, and if they are being legal in their demands."

Student: "I heard from some friends that it is very difficult to get a C.O."

Counselor: "It is difficult. You

have to convince your draft board that you have the religious training and beliefs to qualify."

Student: "I think that I have the religious training. I went to a Catholic school."

Counselor: "If you have any problems, contact me."

Student: "I hope I will get a C.O. If I don't, I'll probably leave the country--and go to Morocco."

The Draft Center began in September, 1967.

Dan Holland, Ed Plaster, Dave Gutknecht, and six other full time workers receive a subsistence salary each month from selling buttons, posters, books, and other fund raising. They are all draft resisters. Many have staged non-violent protests during their trials.

The Draft Center has succeeded in getting draft information in many Minnesota High Schools, and promoting discussions on the war.

## Service official calls draft system 'fair'

Major John Abrahamson, of the Minnesota branch of Selective Service, feels that the present draft system is fair.

All 131 local draft boards in Minnesota, and all others throughout the nation, must follow a single set of rules in selecting draftees. In a recent interview, the Major insisted emphatically that Selective Service does not deliberately give a high priority to draft protestors.

Major Abrahamson said that much of the anti-draft feelings today are caused by the "period of uncertainty." This is the six-year period during which a man is vulnerable to induction.

One complaint about the draft is that many people escape it with 2-S, college deferments.

"A deferment is in no way an exemption," Major Abrahamson explained. "For instance, a man who entered college four years ago may have thought there would be no draft when he got out, but it just didn't work out that way. He's actually more vulnerable to the draft now than when he began college."

Draft resistance is not much of a problem in Minnesota, according to Major Abrahamson.

He said he is tolerant of those who oppose the Selective Service.

"There's a place for dissent in this nation," he stated. "I think everyone should be heard. If I saw someone wearing an anti-draft button, I wouldn't generalize and call them chicken."

President Nixon has stated that he is aiming to replace the draft with an all-volunteer army. The Major is not so sure this is a good idea.

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