

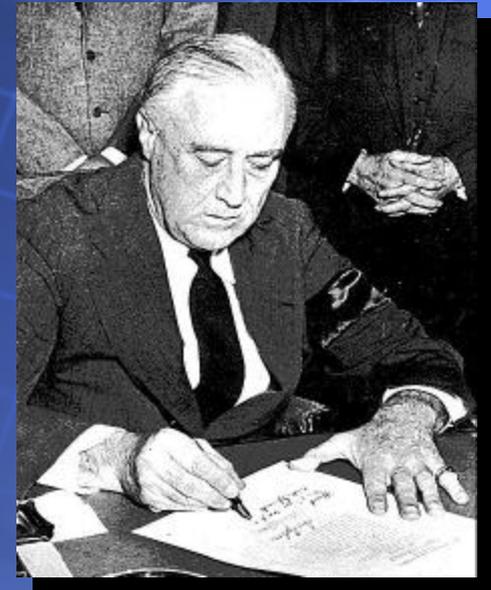
THE SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

A Teacher's Guide

The Military Selective Service Act

Establishes the Selective Service System (SSS)

Mandates that SSS missions include delivery of manpower to Armed Forces in emergencies and administers the Alternative Service Program.



President Franklin Roosevelt signed the Military Selective Service Act

THE LAW

Who gets drafted now?

Nobody right now

Congress must act to reinstate the draft

Only males are required to register with the Selective Service System



**A man registering on-line
with Selective Service**

THE LAW

What if I don't register?

**DON'T TRASH
YOUR FUTURE...**



REGISTER WITH SELECTIVE SERVICE 

You're an 18-year-old man. Your first step to a better future: Register with Selective Service. You'll stay eligible for college loans and grants, for job training and all sorts of state and federal jobs. Pick up a form at any post office.

Or, **Save a stamp. Save time. Register on-line.**
Use the Internet to register at: www.sss.gov
Contact: _____

No Federal grants or loans

No Federal job training programs

No Federal employment

No U.S. citizenship for immigrants

What if I don't register?

In most states, no state grants or loans

In many states or cities, no government jobs



What if I don't register?

Prosecution by Department of Justice

Fine of up to \$250,000

Prison term of up to 5 years Both fine and prison term

A matter of fairness

Men who do not register increase the likelihood of involuntary service for those who do register

THE LAW

The ways a man can register

By initiating a registration on-line through the Agency's web site at <http://www.sss.gov>

By filling out a Selective Service registration form at any U.S. Post Office

By completing a registration reminder postcard which he may receive in the mail shortly before his 18th birthday

By telephone, if he receives a registration card in the mail from Selective Service with a PIN number allowing telephone registration

THE LAW

At a High School participating in Selective Service's Registrar Program

At any U.S. Embassy or consular office

By agreeing to be registered when completing a Federal student financial aid application or when applying for entry into a Federal job training program

By completing the Immigration and Naturalization Service, "Application to Adjust Permanent Status", Form I-485 or the State Department Visa Application Form OF230

History of the Selective Service

The First Recorded Drafts

Compulsory military service

Origins: Roman Empire, U.S. - Colonial times

The First U.S. Draft Laws

First attempted during the Civil War

In 1863, a law was enacted providing for an All-Federal Service

History of the Selective Service

The First U.S. Draft Laws

Court upheld constitutionality -

**government has right to wage war
and citizens have an obligation to
serve**

**Law provided 300,000 troops for
nine months of service**

*A lottery drawing
during the Civil War*



History of the Selective Service

The First U.S. Draft Laws

1917 - Comprehensive draft law allowed for conscription for duration of hostilities



Lottery drawing during World War I

History of the Selective Service



The Draft

Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 - first peacetime draft

About 10 million men drafted and served

Act expired in 1947, but was reinstated in 1948 due to military manpower shortages

History of the Selective Service

The Draft

Provided 1.5 million men during the Korean conflict

Draft continued through the Vietnam War
1964 - 1973

Provided over 1.8 million men



History of the Selective Service

The Draft

The draft ended on June 30, 1973

Registration ended on March 29, 1975

1980 - President Carter reinstated registration after the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan



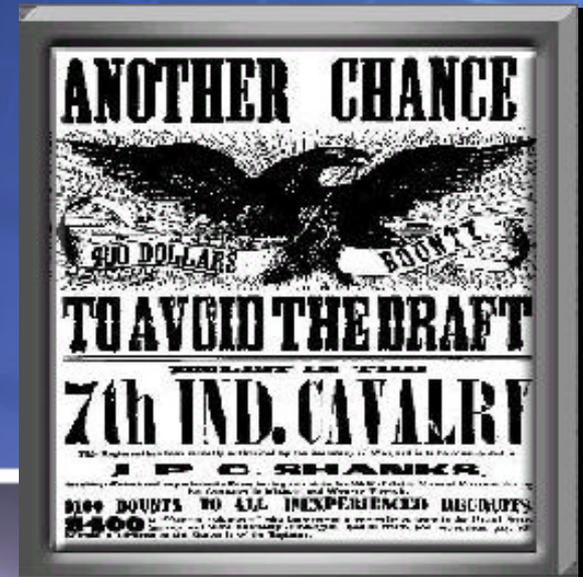
History of the Selective Service

The Draft

Civil War: \$\$ would keep you exempt from serving in the North

Occupations such as pharmacists, journalists, lawyers, and teachers were exempt from serving in the South

An advertisement during the Civil War



History of the Selective Service

The Draft

World War II - guidelines for draft interpreted in different ways

Unequal treatment of registrants in various parts of the country resulted



Young men being inducted into the military during World War II

History of the Selective Service

The Draft

The Fair System: History - Vietnam War Issues



College students deferred

Political influence resulted in preferential treatment

Minorities and poor drafted disproportionately

Changes to the System

Restructuring of some categories of deferments, particular student deferments resulting in fewer reasons for excusing a man from service and shorter deferment periods

A lottery based on birth dates began in 1969

Changes in the first age group: Men reaching age 20 first, then 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 19, and lastly 18

Changes to the System

The Lottery

Used for random selections

Two drums used - one containing 366 days of the year, the other containing 366 sequence numbers

One birthday and sequence number are drawn



Selective Service employees conduct a lottery exercise

Changes to the System

Local Boards

Made up of U.S. Citizens at least 18 years of age, who are not members of the military

Purpose: Decide claims for certain classifications that would exempt or defer a young man from service

Examples include:

- conscientious objection**
- ministerial student**
- minister of religion**
- hardship**

Members are trained initially in a one-day conference and attend yearly training sessions to maintain their skills

Changes to the System

Classification Process

Registrant files paperwork stating nature of claim

Board reviews claim - registrant may appear to describe his circumstances

The board votes on the claim



Board Members meet to review registrant's claim

Changes to the System

Classification Process

Example: Conscientious Objector

Religious, moral, or ethical beliefs prohibit him from participating in war

Usually assigned to non-combat duty or civilian service



Quakers and other organized "peace church members" generally would be granted Conscientious Objector status due to their religious beliefs

Changes to the System

Classification Process

Example - Ministerial Student

Those studying to be a priest,
minister, or rabbi

Allowed to stay in school if making
satisfactory progress



Men studying to be ministers
can be deferred from service

Changes to the System

Classification Process

Example: Hardship Case

individuals who are supporting someone and whose absence would result in unreasonable hardship on this person

Men whose absence would result in hardship in those who depend on them for support, may be deferred from the draft



Selective Service System

THANK YOU

