

THE ARMY NEEDS YOU

In the next few months, you, a family member or a friend, together with thousands of other South Africans, may be due to report for two years initial service or a camp. Going to the army is not easy for anybody. Your call-up is bound to raise many questions.

ASKING QUESTIONS

These questions are many and diverse. Each individual conscript has a unique situation and has different priorities in his life. Maybe you are worried about leaving family and friends for two years, or perhaps your call-up will interrupt an exciting career. It could be that you feel unhappy to be trained, as a soldier, to kill other people, or you could be questioning the role the security forces play in our society.

The biggest question of all may be "So what?". So what if I have all these genuine concerns - I still have to go, don't I? There isn't any other option.



YOU DO HAVE A CHOICE

And yet, there is always a choice. It is your life and you must give yourself the chance to make informed decisions about that life. And there, are alternatives, some even recognised by the government. They all involve personal cost, but it is your right, as a human being, to consider them.

KNOW YOUR OPTIONS ASK THE HARD QUESTIONS REMEMBER - THE CHOICE IS YOURS

Alternatives

NON-MILITARY ALTERNATIVE SERVICE

If you can prove you have religious objections to fighting in any armed force, you may be granted community service. You will serve 1 1/2 times the amount of time you owe the army in a civilian capacity.

IMPRISONMENT

If alternative service is not an option and you refuse to comply with your call-up, you face a maximum sentence of 1 1/2 times what you owe the army. That is, six years if you have done no national service. The actual sentence will probably be less thatn this.

EMIGRATION

Adapting to a new country, not being able to return home, even just getting the necessary residence and work permits or citizenship - none of these are easy. Yet every year hundreds of conscripts do emigrate because of conscription.

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For further information about alternatives, contact the Conscription Advice Service.

Common Queries

- Do I have to do township duty?
- What happens if I fail to report for a camp?
- I am a foreign citizen. Am I liable for military conscription?
- How do I apply to the Board for Religious Objection?
- I am on reserve. What are my "Dad's Army" obligations?
- How do I set about emigrating?
- What grounds for exemption are there?
- If I have south Africa and acquire foreign citizenship, do I have military commitments on my return?



About The Conscription Advice Service

We offer a counselling and advice service to anyone experiencing difficulties or problems regarding military conscription either the conscript himself or a friend or relative.

The service is non-directive. We do not try to influence the decision you have to make. Nor do we offer any magic solutions or easy way out. But we can help you to clarify the issues, and we can provide information about the options and their consequences, so that you will be eqipped to reach a well-considered decision that is right for you.

If necessary, we can refer you to a lawyer or minister of religion for specialist help. We can also provide practical advice if you decide to apply to the Board for Religious Objection.

Please don't wait until the last minute panic hits you. Our advice is free. Take advantage of it.

There is a counselor on duty every Tuesday from 4.30 to 7 p.m. at the Methodist church office, 79 Pritchard St. or you can contact us through the following people: **Neil 614-8106**

Olive 614-4189 Derek 640-1050 Nan 614-7458

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