

WAR IS A BIPARTISAN EFFORT IN THE UNITED STATES:

A POST-ELECTION MESSAGE FROM THE WAR RESISTERS' LEAGUE

(This is excerpted from their November 7, 2020 statement. Read the full statement at: <https://www.warresisters.org/our-next-commander-chief-not-donald-trump>.)

The most important advances for justice and peace come from grassroots organizers and people's movements, not the White House. And as we look ahead, we know that this is where our power lies. **War is a bipartisan effort in the United States.** The normalization of white supremacy under the Trump administration and millions of Americans' endorsement of this blatantly racist administration affirms that we have a long road ahead of us. **Joe Biden and Kamala Harris' record also tell us we have a long road ahead in ending U.S. drone strikes and combating the carceral system (to name a few things).** (Latter emphasis added.)

...Trumpism hasn't been defeated, it's just been held back. Organizers, civil rights activists, Indigenous people and communities of color have been actively resisting white supremacy for centuries. Today, rising fascism around the world and a resurgence of white nationalist movements demands our attention and collective resistance - we're going to need all of us to dismantle white supremacy...

Under a Biden administration we may not have to worry about rallying to save the post office, but we do need to continue resisting the War on Terror and War on Drugs through pushing back against Department of Homeland Security, the AUMFs [Authorizations for the Use of Military Force] and [the] Patriot Act, codified Islamophobia, expansive surveillance programs, and drone warfare. **Being antiwar is so much more than pulling out of wars: We must fight for the rights of migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees and push for reparations for people in Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen, Raqqa (Syria), and beyond. We must stop manufacturing and selling weapons and reallocate the Pentagon's budget to invest in housing, healthcare, education, and a binding Green New Deal.** (Latter emphasis added.)

Police abolitionists made significant gains under the Trump administration and these gains should continue under a Biden administration. Likewise, Native-led, decolonial work is also building power in exciting ways, like the work of NDN [Native Indian] Collective with the LANDBACK campaign. As we look ahead, we must commit to continuing to support and participate in the long-term movement building work that has already begun.

As radical antimilitarists, our work focuses on addressing the root causes of war and militarism. We recognize that the electoral system in the United States is a system that has long been designed to exclude and disenfranchise people along racial lines and that a free and just electoral system would feature an accessible voting process decided by the popular vote. **That's why, as we look to a Biden**

White House and the currents of Trumpism in the U.S., we will continue our movement-building work to uproot all racist, sexist, and exploitative systems. Our collective liberation depends on it.

Distributed by the New Haven Sunday Vigil
Sunday, November 22, 2020
RESIST THIS ENDLESS WAR

In the wake of the crucial 2020 presidential election, we ask you to think about the issues this vigil has been trying to address in a very modest way over the past 21 years. Often people wonder what we mean when we say, "RESIST THIS ENDLESS WAR." What we mean is that the serial wars fought by the U.S. and its allies are one war being waged on many fronts. Men, women, and children are being slaughtered, maimed, traumatized, and driven from their homes all over the world so that immense wealth and power can be concentrated in the hands of a very few people.

The weapons of this war are many. Here are just some examples: continued development and production of an ever more deadly nuclear arsenal; drone attacks against human beings many thousands of miles away (targets whose bodies the bombardiers, operating their weapons by remote control, will never have to see); family separations and mass incarcerations and deportations of immigrants and refugees (condemning them, in many cases, to a future of torture or death); the systematic dismantling of an infrastructure and social programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security that most of us not only depend upon but have funded with our hard-earned tax dollars all our lives; the destruction of our environment; and the undermining of workers' rights and the refusal to pass a national minimum wage that is a living wage.

This war we continue to face on all fronts transcends partisan politics, and the work to resist it continues with more urgency than ever. Only deeply engaged citizens, able and willing to think critically and to use every nonviolent tactic we can muster, will be able to make the serious, deep, systemic changes that are so very long overdue, changes upon which our very survival depends.

We invite you to join the conversation any Sunday, here at Broadway, Park and Elm Streets in New Haven, 12 to 1 p.m.

<http://newhavensundayvigil.wordpress.com>

