

WHY WE'RE STILL STANDING OUT HERE

IN 2021

The serial wars being fought by the U.S. and its allies are one war being waged on many fronts: drone bombings; continued production and deployment of nuclear weapons; funding and arming of brutal governments; proxy wars through use of private contractors; and a military budget which expands continually with bipartisan agreement, while all social programs for human needs are forced to scramble for the remaining pieces of the federal budget pie.

New Haven Sunday Vigil for Peace and Justice, 1999-

This vigil for peace and justice has been observed every Sunday from 12 until 1 p.m. since May of 1999. Five U.S. presidential administrations later, we are still here.

Often people ask us what our banner “RESIST THIS ENDLESS WAR,” means. “What war?” we are asked.

The serial wars fought by the U.S. and its allies are one war being waged on many fronts. Men, women, and children continue to be 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.

Here in the United States and throughout the world, bigotry, discrimination, and widespread economic injustice serve the same ends- the placing of obscene amounts of wealth and power into the hands of smaller and smaller numbers of people while pitting the masses against one another for the benefit of that same few.

The weapons of the endless war are many. Here are just some examples:

- continued development and production of an ever more deadly nuclear arsenal

- aerial drone strikes against human beings many thousands of miles away (targets whose bodies the bombardiers, operating their weapons by remote control, will never have to see)
- mass incarcerations and deportations of immigrants and refugees (condemning them, in many cases, to a future of torture or death)
- the systematic dismantling of the 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
- the racist use of the police force to terrorize black and brown communities
- the never-ending attacks on women’s rights
- the systematic, vicious undermining of citizens’ rights to vote
- the undermining of hard-won workers’ rights through the destruction of unions and the creation of a “gig economy”
- the refusal to pass a living, national minimum wage

We ask you to think about the issues this vigil has been trying to address in a very modest way over the past 22 years. 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, critical thinking, active citizens will be able to make the profound systemic changes that are so long overdue, changes upon which our very survival depends.

Join our vigil to RESIST THIS ENDLESS WAR every Sunday, 12-1pm, Broadway, Park and Elm Streets, New Haven <https://newhavensundayvigil.wordpress.com>

11/28/2021 and 12/05/2021