

**Shared via Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Peace and Social Order Committee**

**Social Concern Minute**

**Santa Cruz Monthly Meeting  
Minute on Military Conscription  
December 8, 2019**

The Santa Cruz Monthly Meeting approved the following minute on Dec. 8, 2019

**Minute #3, 12/08/2019:**

Military conscription is inconsistent with the traditional Friends peace testimony. Every person is a child of God, and we recognize God's light even in our adversaries. War violates the teachings of Jesus and other prophets. Only nonviolent means solve conflicts between people and nations.

Because of these deeply held beliefs, Santa Cruz Friends Meeting opposes the extension of military conscription and urges the abolition of the Selective Service System.

We urge the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service to recommend:

- 1) End draft registration for everyone and not to extend it to women.
- 2) Eliminate all criminal, civil, federal and state penalties for failure to register and overturn those punishments for those currently living under these penalties.
- 3) Oppose compulsory national service, whether civilian or military as conscription conflicts with the principles of a democratic and free society.