

Creating an Alternative Community

The conference is an experiment in creating an alternative community where women talk and live their politics. An outdoor village will be assembled for the four day conference. Please bring a tent and camping gear. RVs are welcome, please make reservations. Community tents will be available upon request. Hotel arrangements can be made in nearby San Marcos for those unable to camp. Location: Stonehaven Ranch, San Marcos, Texas, www.gift-economy.com/stonehaven.html

Volunteers Wanted

- ★ Pre-conference organizing
- ★ Student internships and projects welcome
- ★ Work shifts available during the conference

Women's Nation Collective

The mission of the Women's Nation Collective is to promote dialogue, among truly diverse women activists and scholars regarding warfare, nationalism, and territorialism and the ways in which they impact our communities while simultaneously challenging ourselves to deconstruct racism, classism, sexism, and homophobia within our own collective.

The primary function of the Women's Nation Collective is to produce an annual international conference, The Women and War Conference, where women representing various regions, national and ethnic backgrounds, and political interests gather for four days of panels, workshops and dialogues on warfare - the ways in which women are particularly vulnerable, and the ways in which we as women can resist these attacks across what appear to be cultural divides.

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Women's Nation is a project of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). AFSC is a Quaker organization which includes people of various faiths who are committed to social justice, peace and humanitarian service. Its work is based on the Quaker belief in the worth of every person and faith in the power of love to overcome violence and injustice.

Conference Schedule

Thursday May 1

- 8-10 Registration/Breakfast
- 10-12 Welcome
- 12-1 Lunch
- 1-3 Structural Analysis of the War on Terror
- 3-5 Urban Warfare: The War That No One Talks About
- 5-7 War in the Domestic Sphere
- 7-8 Dinner
- 8 Keynote Speaker

Friday May 2

- 7-8 Yoga, Breakfast
- 8-10 Workshop
- 10-12 Free Trade: the Cure to Terrorism?
- 12-1 Lunch
- 1-3 War in the Holy Land: Women of Palestine & Israel
- 3-5 Made in Texas, Tested in Vieques, Used on Civilians Throughout the World
- 5-6 Dinner
- 6-8 Musical Guests
- 8 Drum Circle/Night Walks

Saturday May 3

- 8-9 Breakfast
- 9-7 Showdown in Texas: Multi-Issue Peace Rally
- 7-8 Dinner
- 8 Party & DJ

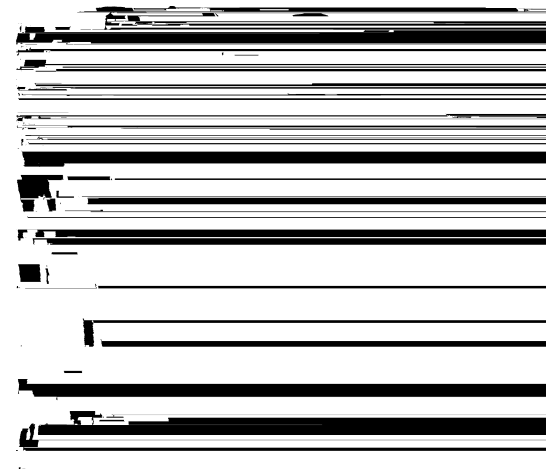
Sunday May 4

- 8-9 Yoga
- 9-10 Breakfast
- 10-12 Indigenous Women: The First Targets of the War on Terror
- 12-12:30 Keynote Speaker
- 12:30-5 Lunch / Tabling / Performances / Workshops
- 5 Departure

Schedule subject to change. Please see website for latest updates.

2nd Annual

Women and War Conference



May 1-4, 2003
Stonehaven Ranch
San Marcos, Texas

Voices Rising in Resistance

<http://geocities.com/womensnation>



American Friends Service Committee
Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma Area Office

Provocative Panels

Urban Warfare: The War That No One Talks About

The peace movement often concerns itself with the “wars of note,” a fact which has helped to perpetuate the decidedly white, male face of that movement. Women of color and working class women have been struggling with the issues that many peace organizers only began organizing around after 911 – racial profiling, violence and a general lack of human security. However, the primary sponsors of the “terror” in the inner city is clearly state sponsored in communities where police brutality and neglect are the biggest concerns. This panel will consist of theorists, community organizers, and other peace workers who struggle to improve the quality of life for people who live in the “internal-colonies” of the United States.

Structural Analysis of the War on Terror

It was clear from the start that the war in Afghanistan would not just be limited to that country. The immoral economic sanctions imposed by the UN have been killing people in Iraq for a decade through illegal sanctions and the threat of an all out attack seems imminent. Furthermore, shortly after 911, US troops immediately began mobilizing in the Philippines, and Somalia, and the list of countries added to the official list of “terrorist nations” grew. Women from Afghanistan, Iraq, the Philippines, North Korea and the Philippines will speak out on the widening war on terror from the perspective of citizens of those nations that have been officially targeted.

Free Trade: The Cure to Terrorism?

The struggles of the indigenous people of Colombia against the US corporations that are at the center of the violence that has taken the lives of thousands of Colombians as well as the lives of US activists Ingrid Washinawatok, Lehalane Gay, and Terrence Freitas are rarely spoken of. Instead the national dialogue about Colombia centers on the drug trade. “Free” trade has obviously heralded violence in that region and has not prevented it. The failed coup in Venezuela was led by US corporate interests. Mexico’s Plan Panama is a clear plan to create corporate access to Mexico and the rest of Latin America. If it were not absolutely clear, George W. Bush made it so, after Jimmy Carter’s visit to Cuba. “The United States will not lift the Cuban Embargo until Cuba adopts free trade policies.”

War in the Holy Land: Women of Palestine and Israel

The startling incidents of aggression and brutality exerted in the occupied territories of Palestine, and the resulting violence against Israeli civilians, has reached tragic proportions. Palestinians living under occupation struggle to achieve sovereignty in the face of one the most powerful militaries in the world. Israeli citizens live in a constant state of insecurity as a result of this conflict. Women of Palestine and Israel who support the idea of two states, for two peoples living side by side, at peace and with equality and respect talk about how that vision can be achieved.

War In the Domestic Sphere

Women are at battle in their own homes as a result of sexism both institutionalized and cultural. They are often at war with their own partners as victims of domestic violence. They are not secure in the streets due to rape and sexual harassment. Rape itself is often even a weapon of war as we have seen in Rwanda and the former Soviet Union. They struggle to make ends meet for their families in spite of our society’s tendency to not offer support in the form of better housing, education, healthcare or affordable childcare. They are not given reproductive freedoms. They are not supported in their choices of traditional child-birthing methods. These panelists will explore all of these issues as they discuss the various battle fronts within the domestic sphere.

Indigenous Women: The First Targets of the War on Terror

At every opportunity, George W. Bush extols the virtue of freedom, seemingly ignoring the fact that the European Americans have lived on occupied lands since the arrival of Columbus to the Americas. Hundreds of thousands of indigenous people died as a result of genocidal practices and were forced to live on reservations on their own land, and at the whim of the US government. Although, CNN does not cover the stories that remind us of this fact, native people are alive and still resistant, and the government is still actively breaking treaties and occupying land that belongs to the original inhabitants of the Americas. Native women from the Diné tribe will talk about their two decade long struggle against Peabody Coal and the US government that has defined them as trespassers in their own homes.

Made in Texas, Tested in Vieques, Used on Civilians Throughout the World

Texas is home to the largest defense contracts in history. War is clearly our biggest export. However, the people of Vieques, Puerto Rico, have been non-consensual guinea pigs for US military weapons for over 40 years. After the Navy confiscated two thirds of the land of Vieques, a tiny island off the coast of the mainland of Puerto Rico for testing purposes, the cancer rate among the people of Vieques grew to become one of the highest in the world. The culprit is clearly depleted uranium. Vieques became the site of a vibrant peace movement whose primary leaders are women – mothers, daughters, sisters. Women of Vieques will share with us what that struggle has been like.

National Peace Rally: "Showdown in Texas" See www.madeintexas.us for more info.

U.S. taxpayers have been asked to support the largest increase in defense spending since the height of the Cold War. Many of those arms are "Made in Texas," by George W. Bush’s corporate supporters. The Showdown in Texas will hold its national peace rally on Saturday, May 3. Thousands of people from across the nation and around the globe will gather in Austin. Women and War Conference participants will be transported to Austin to participate in the rally.

Registration

Registration fee includes: Camping facilities for 4 nights, 3 days of panels, workshops, roundtrip transportation to Showdown in Texas rally in Austin, evening entertainment, yoga and all meals except Saturday lunch.

- ☐ Registration\$75.00
- ☐ I wish to volunteer in a 4-hour workshift during the conference for \$25 off registration\$50.00
- ☐ I can not attend but wish to make a donation_____
- ☐ I will be bringing ____ child(ren)
Children 12 and under (free)
(Day care is available for children who are potty trained and under age 8 for \$25/day)_____
- ☐ Children ages 13-17: registration fee \$50
(all minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian)_____

TOTAL_____

Name_____

Name of child(ren)_____Age(s)_____

Street address/P.O. Box_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Phone_____

Email_____

- ☐ Special dietary considerations, please list:_____
- ☐ I am requesting _____ space(s) in a community tent
- ☐ I want to reserve a spot for an RV (I understand that there are no outdoor sewer, water, or electrical hook-ups.)

Please make checks payable to: American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
Please write in the memo: Women and War Conference
Send to: Women and War
c/o American Friends Service Committee
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Austin, TX 78702