

Resolution of the NAACP

TO: Interested parties
FROM: Julian Bond
RE: At its October 19th 2002 quarterly meeting, the NAACP Board of Directors unanimously adopted the resolution below, sponsored by our youth board members.

Whereas, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the oldest and largest civil rights organization, founded on the principles of equal justice and freedom for all;

Whereas, the NAACP's Youth and College Division represents NAACP youth and young adults under age 25 from across the United States, as well as in Japan, Korea, and in Europe;

Whereas, the United States government has a responsibility to address and allocate resources to redress issues of injustice and terrorism domestically as well as internationally;

Whereas, the President of the United States has not made a conclusive case for the use of deadly force in the case of Iraq;

Whereas, African-American and other minority youth and young adults are enrolled into military serve at disproportionate rates to defend this country and her honor;

Whereas, African-American and other minority youth disproportionately serve as lower ranking officers and thereby function as field soldiers, continually placed in harms way in the front lines of war efforts;

Whereas, the Congress defeated a reasonable measure regarding this effort, spearheaded by Representative Barbara Lee of California;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAACP communicate to the President of the United States and Congress its expression of concern from the disproportionate enlistment of young people into the armed services, particularly African-Americans;

LET IT ALSO BE RESOLVED that the NAACP express its opposition to armed conflict against the country of Iraq without our exercising all options, including but not limited to United Nations arms inspections;

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that NAACP college chapters host town hall meetings on campuses across the country to gauge and express student sentiment regarding armed conflict with the country of Iraq.

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