

Anna Young

8A Dogwood Acres

Chapel Hill, N.C. 27516

March, 10, 2005

Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

c/o Judy Purvis, Clerk of the Meeting

531 Raleigh Road

Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

Dear Friends,

On August 3rd, 2004, I turned 18 years old and am required to register for the draft under the Selective Service code. On the registration form, I will indicate my status as a conscientious objector. Although the form does not ask for this information specifically, I need a record of my convictions. In this regard, I ask that two representatives of the meeting serve as witnesses to my testimony. I also request that the meeting keep a copy of this letter and my witnessed registration form as a permanent, secure record.

While my beliefs continue to crystallize, I can state the following as a basis of my current position.

- I have a deep, firm, and fixed belief against personal participation to war in any form. I believe that there is that of God in everyone and therefore killing another human being is considered murdering something divine. Any institution that supports war and the violation of this principle, or is involved in it directly or indirectly in any way is against my beliefs.

- This conviction is based upon my moral, ethical and religious training and beliefs. From the age of three to the age of fifteen I attended Carolina Friends School, the quaker school in my community. I was raised a pacifist and taught quaker principles in this environment, as well as others. My father is a quaker, and I have attended Friends Meeting in Chapel Hill, NC, my entire life. Through many experiences and teachings I have come to consider myself a quaker and a member of the meeting.

- I sincerely feel that I was not raised to harm others and that no person has the right to take another person's life. I am not a violent person and try to surround myself with people who are open minded and tolerant, and whom seek solutions that respect the rights of all others. I want to lead my life answering that of god in everyone.

Please accept this letter and a copy of my Selective Service registration form as record of my convictions. I sincerely hope our country will pursue peaceful means to resolve conflict and that a military draft and war will not be necessary. In the meantime, I thank you for your willingness to stand with me in witness of my beliefs.

Sincerely,

Anna Elizabeth Young