



Section 3

GUIDED READING *A Nation Divided*

As you read this section, take notes to answer the questions.

Avoiding the War

1. What were some of the ways that young American men avoided military service in Vietnam?
2. In what sense was the Vietnam War a “working-class” war? How did it become one?

Opposing the War

3. What organizations and groups of Americans tended to oppose the war?
4. What were some of the reasons that “doves” opposed the war?
5. In what ways did they show their opposition to the war?

Defending the War

6. By 1967, how did most Americans feel about U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War?
7. Why did “hawks” criticize the Johnson administration’s policies in Vietnam?



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RETEACHING ACTIVITY *A Nation Divided*
Matching

A. Match the description in the second column with the term or name in the first column. Write the appropriate letter next to the word.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. hawk | a. led Free Speech Movement |
| _____ 2. college deferment | b. left Johnson administration to head World Bank |
| _____ 3. Tom Hayden | c. served in disproportionate numbers in Vietnam |
| _____ 4. dove | d. system that calls up citizens for military service |
| _____ 5. draft | e. founded Students for a Democratic Society |
| _____ 6. Mario Savio | f. favored stronger military force in Vietnam |
| _____ 7. African Americans | g. allowed students to put off military duty |
| _____ 8. Robert McNamara | h. advocated U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam |

Evaluating

B. Write *T* in the blank if the statement is true. If the statement is false, write *F* in the blank and then write the corrected statement on the line below.

- _____ 1. During the years of antiwar protest, no Americans fled the country in order to escape military service.
- _____
-
- _____ 2. The most common reason for opposition to the war was the belief that it was a civil conflict in which the United States had no business fighting.
- _____
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- _____ 3. Women joined in the war effort by volunteering their services to relief and hospitality groups such as the American Red Cross and the United Services Organization.
- _____
-
- _____ 4. Martin Luther King, Jr. supported the war in Vietnam because it gave African Americans the chance to demonstrate their valor and patriotism.
- _____
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- _____ 5. Many of the men who fought in Vietnam were from the ranks of America's upper-class white citizens.
- _____
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PRIMARY SOURCE Protest Buttons

These protest buttons from the antiwar movement in the 1960s were worn by Americans who opposed the war in Vietnam. What different views do the images and slogans on these buttons express?



Photos by Sharon Hoogstraten
Out Now Button: Archive Photos/Blank Archives

Activity Options

1. With a small group of classmates, discuss the slogans and symbols used in these buttons. Then choose two buttons that you think are most effective and explain your choices to the class.
2. Design your own protest button to express your view on the war in Vietnam, on war in general, or on a more recent controversial issue. Borrow symbols and slogans from those depicted on this page or invent your own.