

Why We Should Bring Back the Selective Service Act

Bringing back a useful law from The Selective Service Act (1948-1973), is a good idea on the president's part. After speaking to Mr. Jim Elsted, a military veteran who was eligible to be drafted into the basic military training required at the time, he claimed that a lack of patriotism and democratic views were the only reason anyone would be skeptical of this new law. He said, "You are required to serve. Young people were given experience to serve others because that's what God wants us to do... That's one thing that we are lacking... We need people to learn how to serve... We need a big sense of patriotism." A democratic view however would most likely claim that the government should not have to force anyone to take any involuntary classes, especially for something that they might not agree on or want to take part in.

Anyone trying to regain citizenship or trying to make a new home here should understand the duties of what it means to love their country and want to defend its freedom. When the Selective Service Act took place, citizens were honored to be trained for two years and possibly fight in the Vietnam War. Back then, the drafting was random, based on birthdates and numbers. That is what the American people went through at the time. The stress and worry were almost unbearable but they got through it. It was what the country needed. The only reason the act went down was under the authority of President Nixon, who wanted to abolish ties to the Vietnam War once it was over.

Sending men for training also gets them the experience and knowledge they need to protect their families. From what Mr. Elsted observed during his time, he quoted, "There are people that learn discipline and what it means to be a strong citizen family member." One year is a short time to train but it gives the basic experience needed for a man to know how to handle a

gun. It also provides opportunities of interest should a young man consider joining the military after the training.

Mr. Ben Jaquith, a pastor who was eligible but not drafted at the time, said, "I think the world is moving more rapidly than it was in WWII." Having young men trained for combat is telling the world that they are prepared for what will come next. If another war breaks out, men will be ready.

Fighting is an act of allegiance to support your country. Bringing back an act similar to the Selective Service Act would promote allegiance as it represents service. It instills responsibility in its citizens, gives training, and provides experience. It can bring back patriotism as honor is presented to those who serve. Because the basic knowledge of gun handling and combat is attained, it gives readiness and courage is acquired through this process. Even just a year's worth of patriotism, courage, and knowledge arms the country's citizens for whatever the world throws at the United States of America.