

Every male who is a citizen of the United States should serve one year in the military before the age of twenty-two. Why is this law beneficial to the United States? This is beneficial because it gives troops the ability to be more prepared if a war does occur. This law is similar to the draft, which occurred because of the Vietnam War. The Vietnam War was a fight between North and South Vietnam. South Vietnam was allied with the United States, so we assisted (<https://kids.britannica.com/>). This caused us to have to gain more troops, and that's why the draft occurred. These troops that were brought in didn't have much time to prepare. They only had eight weeks, and they were mostly likely just going to be killed in war (<https://abcnews.go.com/>). One of my relatives' best friends went into the Vietnam War, didn't have enough training, and was killed because of improper use of a gun. The people in the draft only got eight weeks of training; if they had a year of training, this would make them more prepared. Giving males one year in the military gives them the opportunity to perfect their skills and gives them more time to feel prepared and ready in case a war does happen.

Giving males one year in the military can also make these men more well-rounded, respectful individuals. When I was interviewing my grandfather, he told me that "before [he] went into the military, [he] was a hippie and a drinker. Then when [he] got into the military, it shaped me [him] and taught me [him] important lessons." The men that come into the military are all going to have different backgrounds, so giving them the ability to have a fresh start can change many people's lives. The character you establish in the military is something you hold onto all your life. Even though the military seems harsh, it can give men what they need to be good people in society, something that some parents cannot give all their sons.

The military also gives men the ability to go into work. "Male students now make up a smaller share of all enrolled students in the United States than ever before—just 41% of students enrolled in a postsecondary institution in fall 2020 were men (<https://www.brookings.edu/>)." The decrease of men going to college is concerning; having the ability to have one year in the military can give these men food, shelter, and a job. One year can show these men if the military is right for them. Most people under the age of twenty-two don't know what they want to be or pursue in the future. Having the ability to spend one year in the military can either show these men if they want to be in the military or if the military isn't right for them.

Although these are all positive, there is going to be negative feedback on this law. This law might seem to take away the ability of citizens to think and act on their own because you are making these decisions for them. This law seems negative. People in the draft tried anyway they could to get out of the draft. My grandfather's dad told him that if he was drafted into the war, he would go to Canada and no longer be a citizen of the U.S. To make this law not seem negative, you can consider fixing this problem by making it so that it is a trade-off. For example, you do one year in the military, and we pay for one year in college. This could be extremely beneficial to

some people. Not all parents and new adults can pay for college, and giving them the opportunity to not have to pay is something that people would very willingly join the military for.

Some negative feedback will occur if only men are part of this law and not women. What you will hear from some women is that you should give women the same opportunities. You will hear that the positive effects that happen to males when they go into the military will also happen if you have women in the military as well. You will also hear that having more women in the military can make the military strong and bring in new ideas. Women will bring up the idea that they should be treated the same as men. This could give you bad press and be conflicting. Although women say this, the effects of women joining the military are different from those of men. Women can be raped and used for their bodies. When I was interviewing my grandmother, she told me that "women during the draft didn't go into the military because that is what a man would do. The women were more scared about being raped and used." One way you can go about solving this problem is by giving women the option to go or not. While for men it is mandatory.

You will also get conflicting feedback about the definition you have of male. This year, we have dealt with lots of problems concerning gender and different pronouns. This will be a problem if you make this rule and someone is biologically male but identifies as female. Or what if one biological male doesn't identify as any gender? Will this person still have to do one year of training? Or do they get an exception? Although this isn't the majority of people, "Only 5.1% of adults younger than 30 are trans or nonbinary.. (<https://www.pewresearch.org/>)." But this will still have to be addressed in terms of what you define as male. Even though these people don't make up a large percentage of people, these are the things that will be brought up in headlines and bring bad press.

To conclude, having all males take one year of military training is beneficial to the U.S.

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