

100 years ago, a similar form was filled out by men who refused to perform military service on the grounds of thought, conscience and/or religion. Today, we continue to challenge a society that forces our complicity in war and preparation for war. On the anniversary of this becoming law, Conscience is introducing a Bill to parliament, which would allow conscientious objection to military tax. In support of this Bill, please fill out this form, answering in full why you have a conscientious objection to paying for war. Please then send to the Conscience office and share with us via social media using #100YearsofConscience.

MP
Constituency.....

MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 2016

APPLICATION AS TO EXEMPTION

(This form must be filled in and sent to the Conscience office. Please also share with us via Twitter/Facebook using #100YearsofConscience).

1. Woman/man in respect of whom application is made:

(a) Name *(in full)*

(b) Age

(c) Address *(in full)*

(d) Occupation, profession, or business

(e) Email address

2. Ground on which application is made *[See Footnote. It will be sufficient if the letters (whichever are appropriate) are entered.]*
(a), (b), (c), (d), or (e)

3. Nature of application. *(A certificate of exemption may be absolute, conditional or temporary.)*

*Absolute exemption, including financial conscription
through my taxes*

(a) On the grounds of conscientious objection to military taxation.

(b) On the grounds that it is expedient to the national interest that the woman/man's taxes, instead of being spent on the military, be directed towards peaceful forms of stability and conflict resolution.

(c) On the grounds that coercing the conscientious objector into paying for war through the tax system infringes on the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and limits the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

(d) On the grounds that there is a moral equivalence between taking someone's life and paying someone else to do so, and that this is recognised in our current judicial system.

(e) On the grounds that sustainable peace can only be achieved with development and diplomacy, and that militarism only serves to exacerbate conflict, that investment in the development of arms for means of deterrence only serves to continue a culture of death and destruction, and that non-violent conflict resolution is a more ethical, economic and effective foreign policy. Military taxation is therefore a waste of the woman/man's money.

Men who applied for conscientious objector status in WW1 had to prove their sincerity of conscience through written statements and verbal arguments at tribunals. Although there is no longer conscription in this country, there is a continued need to make our conscience heard as the state takes our financial involvement in war and preparation for war for granted. **Please write your own statement of conscience below**, detailing your opposition to financial conscription. We will include it in a volume of personal testimony in support of the Taxes For Peace Bill 2016, demonstrating why the right of conscientious objection needs to be extended. **The only way we can make it matter to politicians is by showing it matters to you.**

4. Reasons in support of the application. *(These should be fully stated, and any documentary evidence in support of the application should be forwarded herewith.)*

5.(a) *Signature of person by whom application made*

(b) *Date of application*

The form, when completed, should be **sent to the Conscience office** so that we can register your conscientious objection.

Address: Conscience, FREEPOST LON18505, London, N19 5BR

Please also **share with Conscience** via social media using #100YearsofConscience.

By signing this form, you agree to be listed as a conscientious objector on our website, and agree to having your supporting statement shared online.

We will not sell or rent your details to anyone else. Conscience may occasionally contact you with promotional information we believe is relevant to you.