



Lyle Rubin

"I do the We Are Not Your Soldiers school visits because I believe I am obligated to do something like this as someone who took part in wars that I now believe are unjust. I really do believe that the kinds of classes or sessions that I am involved with in these schools makes an impact on these students. It might not convince them immediately to agree with me on everything I am saying but I really do believe I am planting a seed of doubt in most of their minds. What we need now in our society, more than anything else, is for the people in the United States, particularly our young people, to start seriously questioning the politics and policies of our government as well as all powerful corporate institutions.

I talk about my journey from a privileged childhood to commanding an intelligence platoon in Afghanistan in 2010. I recount my brief time as an enlisted Marine, especially my experience at boot camp in Parris Island (SC) and the dehumanization of entry-level training. I also speak in detail about participating in the partial destruction of a remote village in the Helmand province, among many other actions I now profoundly regret."

Find out about [Lyle's recent memoir](#), *Pain is Weakness Leaving the Body*. Get information on how to order Lyle's book in all formats.

You can see Lyle and other veterans in this 5-minute *New York Times* video about why the United States should withdraw from Afghanistan.



[Lyle speaks to college students.](#)

Read [one of Lyle's articles](#) on his experiences in the Marines. Or read [another article](#) here. Or [this article](#) about military weapons that were used in Ferguson.

Read [excerpts from student papers](#) following Lyle's visit to their class.

[Watch Lyle speak](#) at a Cori Bush press conference about Gaza.

[Watch an excerpt from a presentation by Lyle in this video of several We Are Not Your Soldiers speakers in Fall 2024.](#)

[Visit Lyle's website.](#)