



The Vietnam War: Understanding the Draft

NAME:

How did the lottery work?

Based on your birthday, you were given a number.

On the right is a photo of a large air mix drum. This was used to mix up the capsules which held a lottery number. It decided who would be called for service.

The first lottery draw for the Vietnam War was in 1969 and the last one took place in 1972.

Every man is chosen solely for their birthday. In addition, the lottery was random. Thus, it is considered a fair and equitable system.

Yet, you will watch videos of veterans who argued the draft still was not fair!





READ: CLASSIFICATIONS FOR THE DRAFT

These classifications meant you would get inducted immediately:

1-A - Available immediately for military service.

1-O Conscientious Objector - Opposes all military training and service

1-A-O Conscientious Objector - Opposes to training and military service requiring the use of arms [guns]

These classifications meant your induction would be postponed or not happen at all [DEFERMENT]:

2-D Ministerial Students - Religious leaders in training did not have to serve

3-A Hardship Deferment - If service would cause hardship to the family, you did not have to serve

4-C Alien or Dual National - Illegal immigrants or citizens who also belong to another country sometimes did not have to serve.

4-D Ministers of Religion - Religious leaders did not have to serve

Student Postponements – If you are in high school or college, your induction is postponed



Would you be willing to serve if you were drafted under this system, or would you use a deferment? If you chose to defer, which deferment would you use, and why? Refer to the list on Slide 7.

TYPE HERE

ORAL HISTORY

On the next three slides, we will be watching 3 interviews from veterans who served in the Vietnam War.

Pay attention as you will answer question based on their interviews.

Steven Allen



How were soldiers chosen based on Mr.Allen's account?

How did soldiers like him feel about being drafted?



Link to video:

<https://illinois.pbslearningmedia.org/asset/a6ec6180-1332-4d09-9e38-7e97c1e43d5d/>

Thomas Boaz



What were Mr.Boaz's feelings about the draft?

What is a "conscientious objector"?



Link to video:

<https://illinois.pbslearningmedia.org/asset/62f53dbe-f9e7-4413-819a-bf4a0b14fc18/>

Timothy Kendall

How did Mr. Kendall feel about being drafted?



Link to video:

<https://illinois.pbslearningmedia.org/asset/d7683c00-4410-4718-bc4c-203c9c27fa7e/>



In your opinion, was the draft fair?
Why or why not?

TYPE HERE



**Complete all the
slides by 3/26**

