



The bill was supported (publicly) by the Governor, the Senate President, judges, and child care professionals; in fact, it passed both the House and the Senate.

The next step would be Enactment (final and routine ratification prior to sending it to the Governor). But the bill, believe it or not, was lost. It was found and lost again, and stayed lost until after the legislature had departed.

Now, according to Sam, "Of the four legislators who made sure that S. 1446 would not find its way to the Governor's desk, one was a former employee of the Middlesex County Training School; one has placed family and friends in jobs at Middlesex; one has a brother in an Essex County job; and one works part-time for Essex County."

Father Paul

Address for mail: 128 Tremont St., S. Braintree, Mass. 02184  
Telephone numbers: 267 0764  
843 5731

## CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

Here, as nearly as I can recall it, is the sermon I gave way back when everyone knew we were in Vietnam for all the right reasons.

EVERY CATHOLIC MUST BE A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR TO AN UNJUST WAR.

Shame on the Catholic Bishops of America for waiting so many years to tell the draft officials that a Catholic certainly could be a C.O.

Ten years ago when I was ordained we were teaching the Just War theory. Whether or not you now accept that position is unimportant. We taught it to today's draft age men. The Just War theory presumes there are unjust wars. And as the Nuremberg trials pointed out, no man can give his conscience over to superiors and say, I slaughtered Jews because I was told to and I had to obey. No. You are responsible. So each young man must decide whether or not in his conscience this is a just war. If he decides it is not, yet goes, he is a murderer. If he decides it is just yet won't go, he is a coward. If he decides it is not a just war and won't go, he is to be praised. I am as proud as any man of the scores of young men I knew, and many of whom I buried who followed their consciences to Vietnam. But I am equally proud of those who rather than violate their consciences did not go, but rather faced the disownment by superpatriot parents, opprobrium of a misguided community, rejection by the very church which formed those consciences and imprisonment by an insensitive society.

How hypocritical we are. We tell our kids not to follow the crowd. "Be a man". "Don't do it just because everyone else does". "I don't care what Johnny is doing or the whole school. You are not and that is "final". "If the whole world does it, it doesn't make it right". But let Sonny apply those dicta and we disown him. What will the neighbors think? My son a C.O. To hell with the neighbors! Three cheers for you - you have raised a son with the courage of his convictions.

Don't dash it now and tell him you never meant those principles to be applied when they bring opprobrium. Or are you still keeping up with the Joneses? Are they deciding morality for you? What was that about our kids and peer group pressure? One wonders if peer group pressure lessens or increases as we enter adulthood.

The Chancery was besieged with calls and the endless letters branding me a menace flowed in. Now it was incontestable, they said, that I was a commie. In days to come I watched many a fine young man destroyed on the streets to which he was driven by his parents, his pastor, his Christian neighbors because he followed the conscience they formed in him.

"Isn't it singular that no one ever goes to jail for waging wars, let alone advocating them? But the jails are filled with those who want peace. Not to kill is to be a criminal. They put you right into jail if all you do is ask them to leave you alone. It strikes me as quite singular." Excerpt from The Strawberry Statement by James S. Kuncen.

Imagine there's no heaven, it's easy if you try  
no hell below us, above us only sky  
Imagine all the people living for today ah \_\_\_\_\_

Imagine there's no countries, it isn't hard to do  
nothing to kill or die for, and no religion too  
Imagine all the people living life in peace  
you may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one.

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I hope some day you'll join us  
and the world will be one.

Imagine no possessions, I wonder if you can  
no need for greed or hunger, a brotherhood of man  
Imagine all the people sharing all the world  
you may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one

I hope some day you'll join us  
and the world will live as one.

Imagine - words & music by John Lennon.

Once when I was talking in suburbia, in the days when I used to bring street kids with me (it later became too dangerous for them) a woman asked if one of the kids would like to add anything. A bearded, long-hair went to the mike and began talking against the war. A red-faced man arose and excoriated him: "You coward. I fought in the big war and saw action many times. I'm proud of it. And I'm ashamed to sit hear and listen to you and so should all of you be." There was a round of applause for the patriot. The freak at the mike calmly and without any animosity set about again explaining why the war was immoral. I returned to the mike and I was furious. I said: "This coward to whom you addressed yourself is a wounded Veteran of Vietnam who volunteered to go back again for a second time even though his only brother had been killed there." "O Father, I'm so sorry", said our red-faced friend, "How was I to know with the beard and all..." "Exactly. But I'm more interested to ask you why Jim you didn't get angry when this man called you a coward and you have a chest full of medals for bravery." "Well, Father", he said in almost a whisper, "the generation gap is so wide now that I don't want to do anything to widen it. You see kids have turned off society but are turned on to life. Whereas adults have turned off life but are turned on to society." He sat down. I couldn't move and there wasn't a whisper in the audience. We were all stumped as we reflected upon the simple summation so succinctly sincerely and spontaneously served up by a long haired, unkempt, cowardly hero--the contrasts, overtones and understatements were overwhelming.

Did you know that in a survey made by Ramparts Magazine, an Army study in 1966 revealed that only 2% of college graduates have been drafted. More revealing is the survey made by Ramparts which showed that 146 Senators and Congressmen had a total of 191 sons of draft age. Of these, none had been drafted. Current Issues, The Peacetime Draft by John Swomley Jr. 1968.

Then there is a little known objection to the draft:

Civilian control by military via draft.  
Most Americans think that the draft is simply a device by which men are forced into the Army. Actually, it is used for much more than this. General Hershey, Director of Selective Service, in a publication called "channeling", insists that the process of "not taking men from certain activities who are otherwise liable for service, or by giving deferment to qualified men in certain occupations, is actual procurement by inducement of manpower for civilian activities.....

Peacetime conscription thus forces young men into jobs or studies they would not otherwise have chosen. The same publication--"Channeling"--reveals that this is a major purpose of the draft. "Delivery of manpower for

induction, the process of providing a few thousand men with transportation to an induction center, is not much of an administrative or financial challenge. It is in dealing with the other millions of registrants that the System is heavily occupied developing more effective human beings in the national interest." The "problem", says the document, "is how to control effectively the service of individuals who are not in the armed forces."

General Hershey told a congressional committee, "there isn't anything that can't be solved now by having an individual pursue the things you want him to pursue and then use him..." He illustrated this by showing how he had forced upward the number of persons with engineering degrees from 27,000 annually in the 1950s to 48,000 annually by 1963-64. By this process, Hershey has overproduced scientists to such a degree that Science magazine says that, "the scientific fields may be so glutted that colleges may have to cut back in these areas and become more selective in their science students." Selective Service has forced people into teaching who hate teaching and has withdrawn students' deferments when their educational plans do not fit Selective Service preconceptions.

The free enterprise system is being corrupted by government bureaucracy. General Hershey said that, "The deferment is that carrot that we have used to try to get individuals into occupations and professions that are said by those in charge of government to be the necessary ones." In other words, it is the military that pushes "young men into jobs that enhance the position of the military in society."

Current Issues. The Peacetime Draft  
by John M. Swomley Jr. July 1968

Americans were all for the principles of the Nuremberg trials as elucidated for them by Spencer Tracey and as long as they were helpful in hanging Nazis, but when our kids leveled them against us, we found them insufferable:

"The fact that a person acted pursuant to order of his government or of a superior does not relieve him from responsibility under international law, provided a moral choice was in fact possible to him."

National Lawyers Guild, New York.

I hope, dear reader, that you can transport yourself back to those days. Today it is fashionable or at least tolerable to have a CO friend but then we were telling them never to darken our doors again. The only record I know of in America that sold a million copies to adults ended with words: "Son, if you burn your draft card, burn also your birth certificate. From that moment on, I have no son." Not only parents but clergy also were a party to this. And especially chaplains in the service, about which anomaly I shall have something to say later. In later years when the American Bishops finally got around to recognizing the morality that our kids knew for six years, it was ludicrous to hear.

Statement of U. S. Bishops on Conscientious Objection: I ask you whether it sounds like what the kids had originally said; what two Bishops had their heads lopped off for saying; and what my commie sermon was trying to get at.

For many of our Catholic people, especially the young, the question of participation in military service has become a serious moral question. They properly look to their spiritual leaders for guidance in this area of moral decision and for support when they judge their sentiments to be in keeping with Catholic Christian tradition.

Shame on American Catholics for not knowing what their Bishops said. We know on abortion, do we not?

It seems right that laws make human provisions for those who for reasons of conscience refuse to bear arms, provided however that they agree to service the human community in some other way. Second Vatican Council (Sec.79) AFSC.

General Hershey and his draft boards had been saying for years that a Catholic could not be a conscientious objector. And the Bishops never corrected that heresy until years after thousands of our kids had fallen victim to it. Then the Hersheyites and their Catholic patriot followers came up with the untenable proposition that you had to be against all wars and couldn't be against just this one.

Auxiliary Bishop Bernard M. Kelly of Providence called it "scandalous that churchmen are so concerned about abortion and yet have nothing to say about destruction of human life in Laos".

Churchmen should speak out about the war in Indochina, Bishop Kelly told NC News, but not from their pulpits. "A Church leader can command the attention of the press at any time," Bishop Kelly noted as an alternative to preaching about personal beliefs.

The Bishop's comment came after delivery of a guest sermon by his friend Father Raymond L. Tetreault triggered a walkout of about 65 parishioners at two Masses Feb. 14 at Our Lady of Mercy Church.

Father Tetreault, head of the Diocese's Spanish speaking apostolate, had advised members of the East Greenwich congregation who believed the war unjust, to instruct their sons not to cooperate with the military draft system.

A Providence daily newspaper, the Journal Bulletin, later reported that parishioners had called reporters to accuse the priest of being a communist.

The Boston Pilot, Feb. 20, 1971.

When adults ask today why the young no longer look to the church for guidance, I have all I can do to keep from exploding. As one wag put it:

"when the church finally gets around to approving birth control, it will say:

"As Holy Mother Church has always taught. Maybe we always get around to saying the right thing but that is hardly leadership. It is followship. We were late on war, on poverty, on racism, and just about every other issue that had urgency for this generation.

Our apologies,  
 our apologies,  
 good friends,  
 for the fracture of good order,  
 for the burning of paper  
 instead of children,  
 for the angering of the orderlies  
 in the rose garden,  
 in the charnel house.  
 We could not,  
 so help us God,  
 do otherwise,  
 for we are sick at heart  
 and cannot rest  
 for thinking of the  
 Land of the Burning Children,  
 and for thinking of  
 that other Child  
 of whom, the poet Luke, speaks.  
 Our Consciences are in  
 His keeping,  
 and in no other.

By: Dan Berrigan, S.J.

PARANOIS AND UNDERCOVER AGENTS

Law and order - right? Damn kids!

What of the case which received publicity recently of the long-haired leader of campus revolutionaries who incited, conspired to create, and led riots? Throw the book at him! Cops - he turns out to be an undercover cop! "Regardless", says the Sheriff, "he broke the law". "Exonerated" says the Judge. "He did it for a good reason - in the interest of justice." So we have a new principle: the end justified the means; evil may be done that good may come of it. It's OK to break the law in order to secure law and order.

Now we had best pray that our children don't subscribe to this new elucidation, since it justifies violence in the attempt to overthrow evils in society, does it not?

INFILTRATION.

Intelligence agencies are training and using professional and amateur informers. These spies not only report on the organizations they infiltrate, they often instigate or perform illegal acts to discredit the groups and frame their members. The ACLU is unmasking the informers and exposing their roles. In one New York CLU defense of a black militant group, the jury decided a police infiltrator was responsible for the illegal acts and the accused dissenters were

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Innocent of all but one minor charge. In another CLU case Alabama University students were ordered to disperse a peaceful demonstration because an agent, posing as a radical student, committed arson. The students were arrested.

American Civil Liberties Union, N.Y.C., N.Y.,  
Sept. 8, 1970.

What ever became of the legal antipathy to entrapment? Daily undercover agents "entrap", encourage kids to break the law and then arrest them. If there is anything street kids need, it is someone in whom to confide. They have no parents, counselors, confidantes - even their friendships are peripheral and fleeting. But now you can't even trust your best friend if he has once been busted on a drug charge and didn't serve time. Agents are buying off kids they arrest by promising to reduce or quash charges if the kids will become squealers, informants. Chicago employs one thousand undercover agents, paid by the public to spy on the public - not just drug-using kids.

The psychological consequences of all this are well known and far more inimical to good order than any drug abuse reduction they achieve. The third largest killer of teenagers used to be suicide. Some authorities claim it is now second. I suspect that many of the accidental overdoses are nothing of the sort. They are deliberate, a result of the constant depression which stalks street kids and which is intensified by the theft of confidence in friends. When I called an officer who planted drugs on a boy and then perjured himself, he confided: "Look Father, we both know he uses drugs. So he happened to be clean when I busted him. What difference whether he puts them in his pocket an hour later or I do?" If, dear reader, you don't see a difference, if you think the boy won't come out of jail despising such "law and order", if you think this is not unjust, hypocritical and immoral, then you'll never understand the alienation of youth. I know of cases where narcotics officers actually supply heroin to addicts in return for information.

All of the foregoing was the gist of a long answer to a brief question I was asked during a talk I was giving a couple of years ago. I didn't realize that there were cops in the audience. All hell broke loose. People were vying to accuse me of generalizing. I admitted I was generalizing. That is not necessarily a bad thing and certainly not a fallacy of argument. Don't you think most of the actions of our country are honorable? That's a generalization. Don't you think most education is helpful? That's a generalization. So let me say it straight out: Most cops I know plant drugs on kids, sell drugs they take away from kids, give heroin to heroin addicted kids in exchange for information, bribe kids to squeal on their friends, and perjure themselves in Court. The very champions of law and order. Chaos. I needed an escort to get out of town and believe me it wasn't a police escort. I knew that what I was saying flew in the face of all that was good and holy. People want to believe their own tidy generalizations--one of them being that dishonesty or illegality or prejudice is rare among police officers. There is a chapter coming along later on the POLICE but I couldn't get off undercover agents without telling you the finale. One day I was in the Village in New York. It was nighttime and I had been pounding the pavement all morning and it was hot. Unlike Boston, Priests are often seen in bars in New York (Boston Priests don't drink) and as I passed a bar I saw a huddle around a TV. I went in, bought a beer and joined the viewers just in time to hear a cop testify before the Knapp Commission that he had done all the things mentioned



above and SO HAD EVERY MAN HE KNEW ON HIS ENTIRE NARCOTICS SQUAD. In a poignant and repentent voice, he opined, that the act he most regretted was planting drugs on long hairs.

I had another beer. Or two. How many friends and volunteers had I lost on this issue who would now return and offer assistance. How many audiences which hitherto had thought me insane for my generalizations would now vie to have me speak to them. How many letters of apology would pour in. How many rash judgments would be confessed and reparation made. But I guess the Knapp Commission testimony wasn't carried in Boston. Nothing ever happened.

Listen in on a typical letter from a parent:

Dear Father,

Recently I read an article in the New Haven Register covering your visit to Orange, Conn. I was very impressed. Ever since I read the article, it has been in my mind to contact you. Finally, in desperation, I am writing to you and asking you for advice and help. I do believe in you and the good work you are trying to do for our youth. I know because I have witnessed within my own home most of the things that you are trying to prevent and find solutions for.

I have a son, George, 19 years old, bearded and with long hair and involved with drugs. He is now attending college locally and is considered to be very intelligent. Everyone, including teachers, that have been closely associated with him, find him to be intensely honest, compassionate and having a genuine concern for the welfare of others.

I found out at the age of 16 he was becoming involved with drugs. (pills and pot) I thought I could help him and started him on Psychiatric treatment. This continued on for one year until I finally realized that this was not helping him and seemed to be just a money making scheme. I should add that he was just a spree-user.

His hair was longer than most of his classmates, and we were opposed to it also. He was being harassed in school, his old friends shunned him and now I realize, we did also. Finally, in his Junior year in High School, we bribed him into cutting his hair by buying him a musical instrument that he wanted. He was able to find a job and started working after school part time as a stock boy in a store. His work record was excellent and he was considered to be one of their best workers. After two years of working for them, he started to let his hair grow and was told by the Employment Manager either cut it or he was fired. So, he was fired and then asked to sign a resignation stating he had a "Hair Problem". At last we woke up and took his part. We told him that we did not consider that very fair and told him to do as he saw fit. That he did not have to cut it.

By this time graduation day arrived and he found it impossible to find employment due to his appearance

He had a lot of free time on his hands and did a lot of traveling around to places where he was accepted locally. He then became a little deeper involved in drugs (still mostly pot). He wanted to take a trip to California with friends; we did consent to let him go after he told us that he was going even though we did not want him to. We did however stipulate that he would write to us on a regular basis and that we would call him every Saturday to make sure he was OK. He stayed out there three months and came home, admitting that he was lonely for us.

Our nightmare really began then. He enrolled in College and was accepted, but still no job, and became involved with these same people that would accept him and most were drug users. They also, I believe, were trying to start a younger political movement within the town which did not meet with approval of town officials. They were branded as the "hippies" in town.

On Sept. 3, 1970, George was arrested (along with 11 others) on a Superior Court Bench warrant charging him with the sale of \$15.00 of marijuana to an undercover agent in May 14, 1970. The newspapers called him a drug pusher and said this was the type of person the police are looking for. He did not deny the sale, but he insists the agent and informer had been asking him to get them some. He said he thought he was doing a friend a favor. I believe him. His lawyer said this was entrapment and illegal; however, he had no way of proving this and was advised to plead guilty. His lawyer asked the State to have charges reduced to possession but the prosecutor would not agree.

Yesterday he was sentenced. The Judge said he did regret but under Conn. law, the minimum sentence is 5 years, and this he would have to give him. He received a 5-10 year suspended sentence with 2 years probation with provision that he stay away from drug addicts and the like. We have talked this over with him and I really have fear for him. I believe that he was wrong in selling it, but I understand that this is common practice amongs kids. My greatest fear is that he thinks there is nothing wrong with marijuana, and feels as though he has not done anything wrong. I know that quite a few of the kids do smoke pot, even though they are not addicts. Right now he has been off drugs since his arrest, but I fear he will be with someone or even may start again himself. Of course the police will be watching him closely and I am afraid that they will be looking for an opportunity for him to do something wrong. I asked him what his goals were this morning and he told me he does want education and just to be himself. I may add at this point that he is opposed to heroin and other hard drugs.

He is a sincere boy, and even the Judge, in Court, said that he knew he was not a pusher, but however the sale was made. The Judge and the Prosecutor told the boy they were both very impressed with his pre-sentencing report on his schooling and behavior. They told him that they thought he had a very promising future. I disagree. This is a felony and will create problems for him when he wants to transfer to another school.

At this time I feel as though you are the only one I can relate to, due to your experience with the kids. I know the tension he will be living under for two years at home due to our concern for him and his future will not be good for him. I also feel as though he will become embittered and probably will really go bad.

He is artistically inclined and loves music; he is also interested in Humanities.

I am writing in hopes that perhaps you will be able to help and guide all of us. Perhaps you could suggest a school or a program for him that could help him over the burden. I think if he could start out fresh, in another town, having his probation transferred, and under some sort of supervision, with our backing and support, it would be a much healthier situation for him.

We do believe him and do agree that we also have made past mistakes, and would like to make up to him where we have failed. He has made mistakes of judgment and I know we have also.

Thank you. What can we do?

Sincerely  
Mary Johnson

#### LAW AND ORDER

I'm sure there are some lawyers, but I don't know any, who do not suggest to a long-haired client: cut your hair before Court. Which means that I don't know any lawyer who, rightly or wrongly, does not believe that the guilt or innocence or length or severity of sentence will depend on an external! It means that Judges are prejudiced by hair style at least in the minds of lawyers. Has the blindfold slipped from the statue of Justice who cares not whether ye be poor or wealthy, black or white, etc. When pure and simple prejudice is openly practiced, recognized and accepted then respect for prejudiced law and order is not easily come by - and not very American.

I suggest that you discourage your children from excelling. I know of one kid, captain of his football team, class president, top student and an admired leader who for first offense possession of marijuana is doing 3-10 in Arizona State prison. The judge thought he had to make an example of him.

A judge addicted to sermonizing freaks on respect for authority, the need for law and order and severe penalties, then turns to a case involving pornography and excoriates the Supreme Court of this land and says, he, not they, will run his courtroom. The Supreme Court in a decision written by Hugo Black bemusedly affirms that it is not in the business of supervising hair length. I agree the Supreme Court should not be supervising the length of hair of students. Or skin color. But when civil rights are denied on either ground, it is prejudice and injustice and I believe these are proper concerns of even lofty jurists.

Law and order, my friends, is a myth. It's not that the kids don't respect it. It's that it doesn't exist to be respected. There is no law and order for blacks, poor, migrants, homosexuals, long-hairs and on and on.

The Civil Liberties Union in the days of Paul Blanchard was one of the established enemies of Catholics. I thank God for it. It is one of the few disinterested and justice-hungry groups extant, for which it can expect the beatitudinal reward from Jesus and persecution from McCarthy-like Americans.

The young lawyers reaching out to the disaffected and disadvantaged were a distinct factor in maintaining my sanity in a world gone mad with hatred. They were the first to turn on to what I was trying to do. Perhaps because they saw these kids in their abasement, deprived of all the rights so vaunted in American myth.

Here is a typical letter of hundreds from parents who for the first time had to run up against "Justice".

Dear Father Paul:

Many thanks for taking the time out of your busy schedule to answer our letter. The fact that there is someone like you, understanding and kind, is a great consolation to us.

Yes, my eyes have been opened to a lot of new facts since September. I have lost faith in our Judicial System, Lawyers, Doctors and Law Enforcement people. I have seen and experienced so many sick things that I did not believe a year ago. You are right, we really have to have these things happen in our own family before we realize what is going on. I know now that for my 41 years I have been living within a sick society. I now have a lot of faith in our younger generation. I think they will make this a better and healthier world.

Since September I have been exposed to the Cesspools that are called Correction Centers, Court Houses, where the disposition of cases are decided in an anteroom, not in the courtroom. Lawyers, who will not defend the rights of people, but urge them to "cop a plea" (with the threat of imprisonment) in order to make it easier for themselves. Even the Doctor charged me \$30.00 for sending a letter to George's Attorney stating that he had treated him in the past for an emotional problem. The use of "Heroin Addicts", granting them immunity, as informers, to put the finger on anyone and unethical methods of undercover agents is so unjust.

Incidentally, George's case was held in the same courthouse, at the same time selection of Jurors for Bobby Seale was and still is taking place. We also saw some pretty petty harassment of his supporters who were either reading, talking quietly, or just standing waiting to enter the courtroom. . . . .

Senator Kennedy issued a warning some time ago:

The nation could be engulfed in a revolution like that in the movie "Z", Senator Kennedy warned last night, unless the present "pattern of repression" is answered by social activism. (The film "Z" deals with the repressive actions of right wing groups in Greece).

Kennedy said that "all of us must speak up for freedom. All of us must be advocates for justice," in the footsteps of former Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren. The Senator's statement came at the presentation of