



# STUDY WAR NO MORE

~Isaiah 2:4

## Pope Francis on War:

“War is irrational; its only plan is to bring *destruction*: it seeks to grow by destroying...”

“*Greed, intolerance, the lust for power.* These motives underlie the decision to go to war.”

“Many powerful people don’t want peace because they live off war. Some powerful people make a living with the production of arms. It’s the *industry of death.*”



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To get involved, contact:

Pacific Life Community	<a href="http://www.wevigil.org">www.wevigil.org</a>
Casa de Clara Catholic Worker	408.910.7074 <a href="mailto:casadeclara@sjcw.org">casadeclara@sjcw.org</a>
Redwood City Catholic Worker	650.366.4415 <a href="http://rwdcw.wordpress.com">rwdcw.wordpress.com</a>

## A call to remove ROTC from Catholic schools

# Love Your Enemies

~Matthew 5:44



Catholic universities exist to serve the Gospel. Santa Clara University engages this core mission through various programs including Campus Ministry and the Ignatian Center.

Yet we believe SCU fundamentally betrays the Gospel by continuing to sponsor military training through its ROTC program.

Jesus' message is clear: Love your enemies; do good to those who persecute you. In contrast, ROTC teaches students to kill our enemies.

We call on the Board of Trustees, the Society of Jesus, and all members of the SCU community to follow the example of the nonviolent Jesus and remove ROTC from Santa Clara University.

**War ruins everything**  
-Pope Francis

## *Alternatives to ROTC*

*We understand that for many ROTC cadets, this is their only means of paying for college. But can a Catholic, Jesuit school not find alternative scholarship opportunities that do not betray the core message of Jesus? Jesus chose to suffer crucifixion rather than retaliate with force against his enemies, and calls us to do the same. We must find another way.*

“Tell the Jesuits [in the United States] that they are committing mortal sin because they are supporting the forces of death which are killing our people”

~Fr. Ignacio Ellacuria, SJ,  
speaking about ROTC



## **Nonviolence vs. Just War Theory**

The Catholic tradition has two strands of thought regarding the use of force: active nonviolence, which was the Church's only position for the first 300 years, and the Just War theory, developed starting in the 4th century. We stand with the early Church in promoting total active nonviolence.

Yet even from a just war perspective, ROTC is problematic. To take just one example, the US bishops declared that the Iraq war was unjust. Yet Catholic universities throughout the country continued to train officers to fight in this war. We question how an institution can claim to be Catholic, and actively participate in a war its bishops declare to be immoral.