

To: Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States

From: National Council on Family Relations
1969 Annual Meeting
October 22-25th
Washington, D. C.

Regarding: Position Statement on Family Life and the Viet Nam War

Whereas the National Council on Family Relations is an organization representing numerous disciplines, all of which focus their attention on the improvement of family life; and

Whereas the Viet Nam war with its intensification of militarism is concomitant with personal, social and family disorganization; and

Whereas the continuance of the war depletes our human and material resources which are so badly needed to develop and strengthen social and economic programs necessary for wholesome family living; and

Whereas we are gratified that the President has already committed himself to a partial withdrawal of troops from Viet Nam and hopefully plans an immediate termination of the war;

We as members of the National Council on Family Relations now recommend that the President of the United States, in cooperation with the Congress, appoint two President Commissions:

One to study the effects of the war on family life in Southeast Asia and to make recommendations on how our nation may best contribute to the rehabilitation of family life therein; and

The second to study the effects of the war economy and military losses on families in America, especially those of minority groups, and to make recommendations regarding the improvement of American family life.

It is further recommended that these commissions be recruited from recognized specialists in the family field.