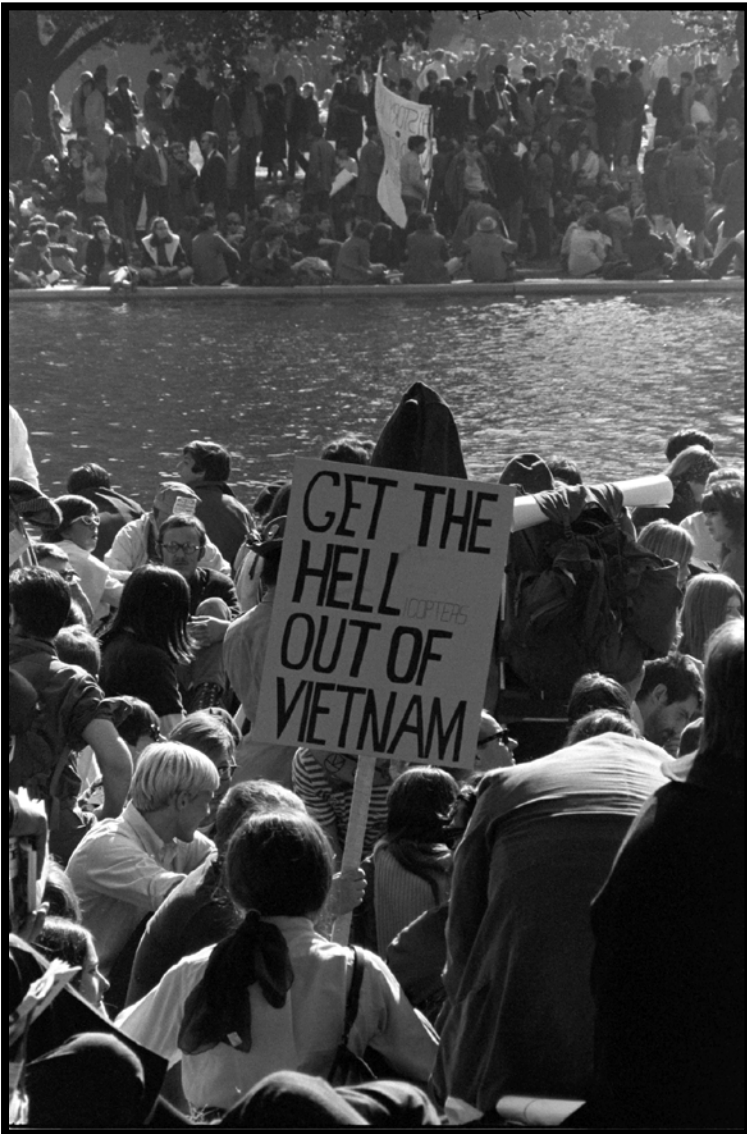


How Can We Stop the War?



Vietnam War protesters at the March on the Pentagon, October 21, 1967, Frank Wolfe, Photographer. Source: Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library, National Archives, Reference # 7051-33.

Background: Unlike previous wars, the public outcry over Vietnam was national in scope and protests were large, highly publicized mobilizations that involved many student groups, social justice organizations, and civil rights activists. Much like the war itself, the anti-war movement was prolonged as well. As early as 1965, Americans began protesting the Vietnam War because they questioned the legitimacy of U.S. presence in Vietnam. The protest movements started with younger Americans, who often organized on college campuses. These college-aged anti-war protesters felt the immediate threat of the war since they were subject to the draft. Widespread protest grew by 1967 when the U.S. had nearly 500,000 troops in Vietnam; by the end of that year 15,058 troops had been killed and 109,527 had been wounded. Over time, the war was costing Americans \$25 billion each year and nearly 40,000 men were being drafted each month. In one of the largest anti-war protests up until that point in American history, on October 21, 1967 about 100,000 protesters gathered at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. to express their discontent over the war. The next year turned even more Americans against the war. The Tet Offensive and Walter Cronkite's public questioning of the U.S.'s ability to win the war turned more Americans against the war. In fact,

many soldiers returning from the war joined the anti-war movement. The organization Vietnam Veterans against the War began in 1967; 30,000 became members quickly. On campuses, students and professors staged teach-ins. Elsewhere, artists and musicians produced anti-war art and songs.

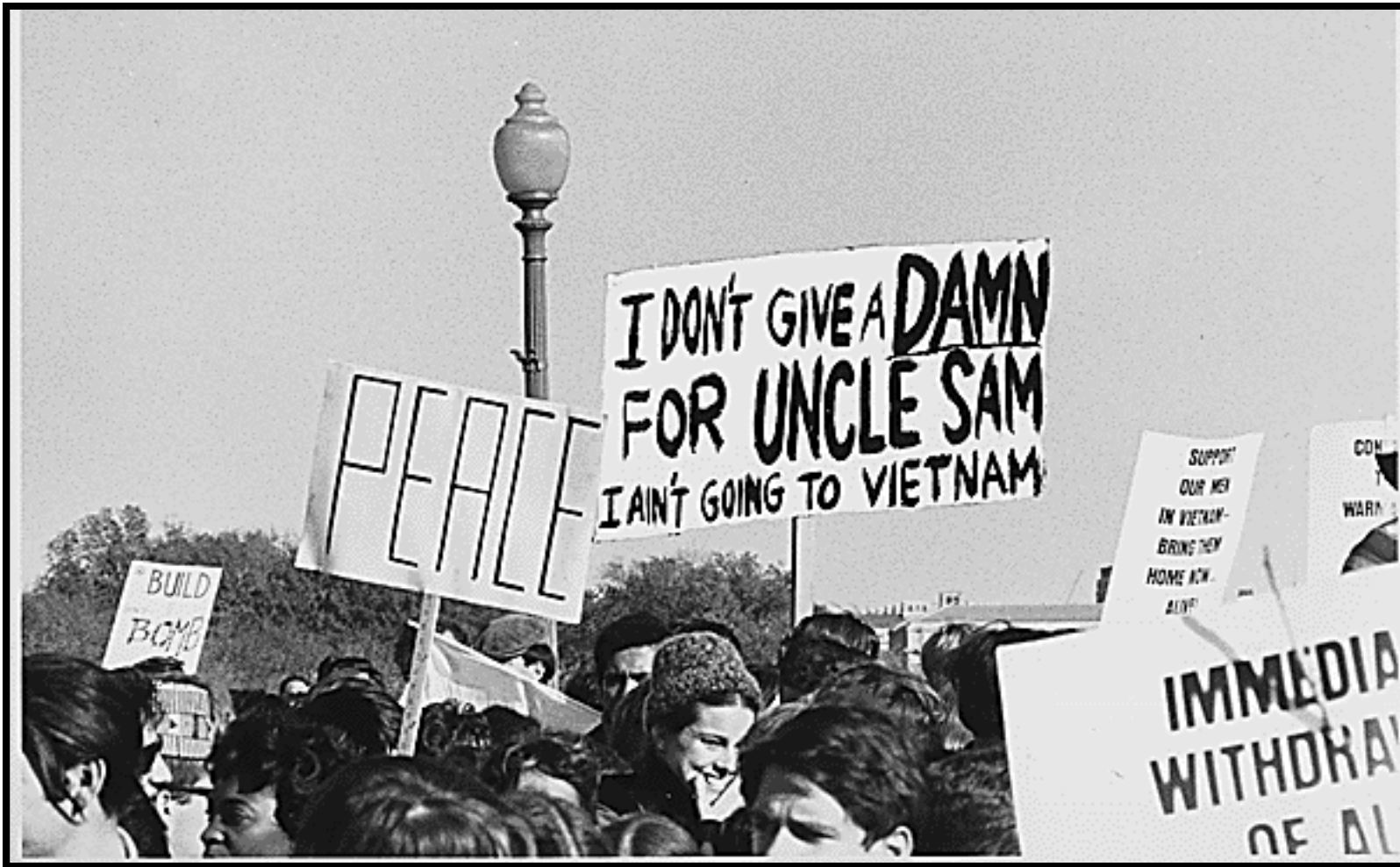
- Why did some Americans oppose the Vietnam War?
- What methods did protestors use to oppose the war?
- What impact, if any, did protests have upon American leadership?

How Can We Stop the War? (Anti-War Protest Outside White House)



Anti-Vietnam war protest and demonstration in front of the White House in support of singer Eartha Kitt, who publicly criticized the war effort when she was invited to a luncheon hosted by first lady Lady Bird Johnson. January 19, 1968, Warren K. Leffler, Photographer, U.S. News & World Report Photo Collection. Source: Library of Congress, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2010646065/>

How Can We Stop the War? (March on the Pentagon)



*Public Reactions:
The March on the
Pentagon,
10/21/1967.
Source: Lyndon
Baines Johnson
Presidential
Library, National
Archives, ARC
Identifier 192605*

How Can We Stop the War? (Kansas War Protestors)



*Vietnam War Protesters,
Wichita, Kansas, 1967*
Item from Record Group 21:
Records of District Courts of
the United States, 1685 –
2004, [U.S. District Court for
the Second \(Wichita\) Division
of the District of Kansas.
\(06/09/1890 - \) File
Unit: United States v.
Blackmon, 1967 - 1967](#)
Source: National Archives,
ARC Identifier 283625