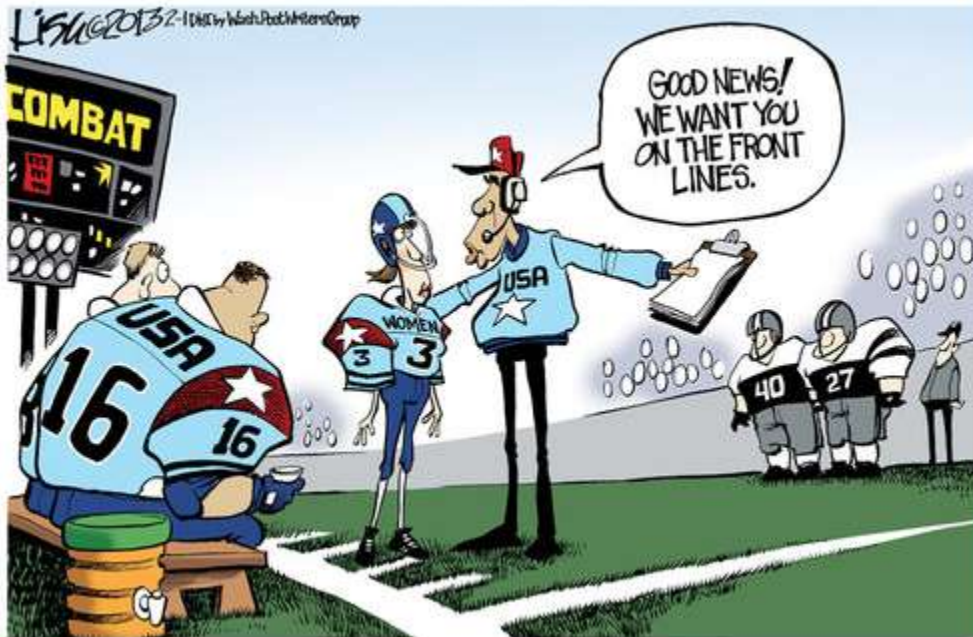


## Text 1

### Cartoon 1



### Cartoon 2



## Text 2

### Threats Of Drafting Women Reveal The Lies Of Equality

*In times of war, men and women both have complementary but different strengths. Drafting women would confuse these strengths and thus weaken our nation.*

By [D.C. McAllister](#)

February 8, 2016

Three candidates were exposed in the GOP debate Saturday night for falling for political correctness when they said women should be required to register with Selective Service, which means our daughters would be drafted along with our sons in time of war.

Top Army and Marine officials also want to change the law. Gen. Mark A. Milley, chief of staff of the Army, and Gen. Robert B. Neller, the Marine Corps commandant, said during an Armed Services Committee hearing that because the Pentagon has allowed women to serve in every aspect of military service there is no reason they should not be required to register with the Selective Service.

Currently, all 18- through 25-year-old male U.S. citizens and immigrants, whether documented or undocumented, who reside in the United States are required to register with the Selective Service System.

However, advocates for drafting women (I will refer to it as such because this is what registering with Selective Service ultimately means) have been pushing for a change in the law since Defense Secretary Ash Carter announced on December 3, 2015, that the Department of Defense will lift all gender-based restrictions in military services.

In a statement on women in combat, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said, “If members of our military can meet the qualifications for a job, then they should have the right to serve, regardless of creed, color, gender or sexual orientation.”

...The argument that women must be drafted because they have an equal responsibility to protect this nation is a foolish notion. The duty of women to keep our families together and our society working while our sons, husbands, and fathers fight the enemy is just as valuable, just as heroic, and just as patriotic as what the men do. That is their responsibility!

If you don’t see that, then you are blinded by politically correct lies, unable to see the beauty and the strength of being a woman.

...To say women must share in this responsibility [fighting in war] is to devalue and disrespect the responsibility women have traditionally fulfilled—the hard, lonely, difficult task of supporting the men who fight, caring for their homes, meeting their children’s needs alone when they’re tired and filled with worry, working jobs—sometimes seven days a week—while their husbands are away, and suffering through the heartache and pain of losing the men they love or watching them come home broken and picking up the pieces of their shattered lives.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

It is this service, this duty, carried out by their healing hands and softer natures that keeps our society together as the men fight on the battlefield. To say this isn't enough, that this is somehow weak, that they're not contributing to our nation's defense, and to force them to abandon their God-given duties in order to take on the responsibilities that belong to men, is despicable.

|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |
|  |

### Text 3

## Women in the Draft? Let's Fight for Gender Equality First

BROWN POLITICAL REVIEW

BY SARA ERKAL

AUGUST 31, 2015

In January 2013 the Pentagon officially reversed its ban on women in combat roles. This quickly prompted a discussion on including females in the draft and reversing the Supreme Court decision *Rostker v. Goldberg*.

I think I am going to have to stick with the original decision held – women should not be drafted into combat roles. (Now drafting women into noncombat roles is a separate discussion entirely, but I'm going to leave that for another day). I would like to highlight several fairly serious qualms with the possibility of drafting women.

First and foremost, this would be a dangerous situation, both for the women being drafted and for society at large.

It is a well-known, biologically proven, almost entirely undisputable fact that the average male is physically stronger than the average female. I'm not being sexist. I'm not saying women are weak. I'm just stating a fact.

A particular woman could be stronger than a particular man, but a draft would not screen carefully for these particulars. It would be indiscriminate and thus, create a battlefield with sizeable gaps in strength. This is far from ideal, much less beneficial. There is no guarantee that other nations would also require females to fight. Wars would be fought on asymmetric playing grounds.

Treatment of prisoners is another aspect meriting careful consideration. While the Geneva Conventions do contain rules governing this matter, said rules are not always followed. Since women are more likely to be raped, female combatants would face the added threat of sadistic sexual abuse if captured. This is not to deny the fact that men could also find themselves in similar situations, but from a statistical standpoint it is simply more likely to happen to a woman. Ignoring this reality won't make it any less true.

If the draft were to be reinstated, this time calling women to fight as well, females age 18-25 would be put into combat roles. While I entirely affirm the notion that women are not on this earth for the sole purpose of having babies, reproduction is necessary for society to continue to exist. Deliberately forcing our most fertile females into front-line positions might lead to a decline in birth rate. And while this planet is overpopulated as it is, I think this is an important factor to consider. I support the right women have, by virtue of being citizens and permanent residents of this nation, to volunteer themselves to occupy combat positions. By nature of the fact that this would occur on a volunteer basis, the process is self-selecting and thus would automatically screen for the particulars I mentioned earlier.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Finally, we can approach this topic normatively in order to figure out what is fair and just in such a situation. Let's start with some statistics. A woman makes 77 cents for every dollar a man makes. A woman is 6 times more likely to be raped and 20 times more likely to suffer from an eating disorder. Over 60% of those living in poverty are women. The list goes on. Some call this equality. I call it second-class citizenship. It is difficult to justify forcing a woman to put her life on the line for a society which does not afford her the same benefits as it does a man, for a society which asks "what were you wearing" all too often, for a society which thinks that the right to vote is all it takes.

|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

## Text 4

### Women should have to register for the draft

By [Ruth Ben-Ghiat](#)

Updated 12:14 PM ET, Thu February 11, 2016

(CNN)Should United States women be required to register for Selective Service when they turn 18, as United States men are obliged to do currently?

...These are momentous times in the history of women in the United States military, with the path cleared not only for full gender integration of the armed forces but for [women in combat roles](#). There are currently no plans to revive the draft. Yet the idea of women registering for potential military service can be unsettling to people who otherwise support the idea of gender equity.

Here's why it's important that women be required to register.

First, the legal grounds for their exclusion from Selective Service are no longer valid. With women cleared for combat roles, the 1981 U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the subject will not hold for long. The 1994 Department of Defense Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule, which did not permit women to be assigned to units below brigade level that had combat as their primary mission, has been rescinded since January 2013.

Second, the military for which women would be registering is now a more equitable institution. Women shoulder similar burdens to men throughout the military bureaucracy. That's one reason the Navy and the Marine Corps are now reviewing job titles to consider making them gender-neutral (although the Air Force decided against such a review, and it is as yet unknown what the [Army](#) will do).

Third, many women have been de facto involved in combat situations even though they were officially banned from combat. It's important to regularize this situation. The women who joined Special Operations troops in the field in Afghanistan in 2010 had this [ambiguous status](#).

So did the [female Army Air Forces pilots](#) of the World War II who were charged with flying noncombat missions under U.S. Army Command but had no formal military designation. This meant that although 40 of them died, they were only recognized as veterans in 1977, and by the time they were among the women honored in 2010 with Congressional Gold Medals some of them had passed on.

Selective Service is the first direct contact with the military many civilians have -- and the only one most will ever have. If it's reserved only for men, what message does this send about gender equity?

...In all areas of society, women have embraced the principle that equal rights brings with it equal duties. In the workplace and beyond, we share responsibilities with men. Selective Service registration should be no different.

## Text 5:

February 23 2015

*Stefanie Kong, a senior at Santa Clara University with a double major in biology and music and minor in public health, offers her take on the evolving role of women in the military.*

by Stefanie Kong [Published in *The Washington Post*]

“The most dangerous phrase in the English language is: We’ve always done it that way.” As a pioneer computer scientist and accomplished officer of the U.S. Navy, Rear Adm. Grace Murray Hopper embodied her famous words to the core. She broke through gender and corporate barriers in fields that were, and still are, male-dominated.

...Defense Secretary Ash Carter has lifted all gender-based restrictions on military service. Testifying at a Senate hearing on Feb. 2, Marine Corps Gen. Robert Neller and Army Gen. Mark Milley both endorsed registering women for the draft.

Yet the Selective Service continues to limit registration to only men, ages 18 through 25, a policy upheld by a 1981 Supreme Court decision. The reasoning back then was grounded upon the fact that women would not have equal chances of getting promoted in the military as men, because they could not serve in combat positions.

And there’s the rub: Since Carter’s decision now allows American women to be eligible for combat duty, should they remain legally exempt from the draft?

Women should register for the draft. I’m saying this as a female college student with my life ahead of me...

Requiring women to register would serve as a powerful symbol of bridging civic and gender equality gaps. Having women register for the draft would favorably change the military’s attitudes and policies toward women and the use of force. It might change society’s views, too.

Requiring women to register is the just and fair thing to do.

According to the principle of justice, “individuals should be treated the same, unless they differ in ways that are relevant to the situation in which they are involved.” In today’s society, women theoretically have the right to be able to equally compete with men for any qualified position, including in the military. Consequently, women must share the burden of defending the nation with their male counterparts – even on the front line.

Registration for the draft is the definitive standard of equality because it’s a fundamental and immutable responsibility of each and every citizen.

There are evident biological gender differences in average size, strength and roughness of play, and the American military has said that physical standards will not be lowered to enable women to serve in all roles. Therefore, it must find ways to more effectively train women for front-line combat and other warfare scenarios. There are important exceptions to the stereotype of the fairer sex, though. Women have passed the arduous physical standards in the military and performed well when fighting under various circumstances.

... Requiring women to register with Selective Service is not only practical and ethical, but also inevitable given the progression of the military’s policy on lifting gender-based restrictions. It is symbolically powerful in that it recognizes women as citizens who are valued and needed as much as men are.

Most importantly, registering and drafting women could compel the American public to question why and how we go to war, as well as think twice about sending our loved ones into harm’s way.

Rear Adm. Grace Hopper would be proud.

## Text 6

### **A military draft for women? Yes, if needed. Fair is fair.**

Updated February 9, 2016 6:51 PM

By Cathy Young

Today, there is one major way in which federal law in America explicitly discriminates between women and men..

...ending sex discrimination in this area — whether by including women in draft registration or by abolishing it — should be a no-brainer.

Objections to women in combat have been based on several rationales. One is practical: Critics argue that gender differences in physical abilities make women less efficient in ground fighting and that mixed-gender troops are likely to have worse cohesion. These issues need to be examined honestly, without regard to either traditional prejudices or newfangled “political correctness.”

Among other things, a recent study which concluded that gender-integrated Marine units performed worse than all-male ones, and which Hunter and others claim was rejected by the brass for political reasons, should be impartially reassessed. Special training to improve women’s performance is worth looking into. So is the controversial option of all-female units, which have done well in other nations — in Kurdistan, for example.

What shouldn’t hold back change is the argument based on chivalry.

Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas), the Republican presidential candidate, has said that it’s “immoral” to “draft our daughters to forcibly bring them into the military” and “put them in a foxhole with a 220-pound psychopath trying to kill them.”

But why shouldn’t we be as horrified by the prospect of forcibly putting our sons (or brothers and husbands) in close combat? Whether the message is that young men are more expendable or that young women should be more sheltered, it’s ultimately unfair to both.

Draft registration is a separate issue. Conscription did not exist in the United States before the Civil War and was often seen as incompatible with liberty. At present, we have not had a draft in more than four decades; registration is viewed as a slightly bothersome formality that does not cause young men to feel aggrieved, but also does not inspire much patriotism.

...if only for symbolic value, I would favor at least a five-year period of draft registration for both sexes. It would send a powerful message that, if an actual draft were needed, it would include both men and women, and they could serve wherever their contributions would be most effective. Equal rights must come with equal responsibilities.

So two cheers for the Hunter-Zinke bill. Even if it was meant to subvert the equalization of military roles, there’s nothing to say it can’t have the opposite effect. The ban on sex discrimination was originally inserted into the 1964 Civil Rights Act by opponents of the law who sought to undermine it. Progress can happen in mysterious ways.



## Argument

**Directions:** Closely read each of the **six** texts provided and write a source-based argument on the topic below. You may use the margins to take notes as you read and scrap paper to plan your response.

**Topic:** *Should women be required to register for the draft?*

**Your Task:** Carefully read each of the **six** texts provided. Then, using evidence from at least **four** of the texts, write a well-developed argument of 2-3 paragraphs regarding whether or not women should be required to register for the draft. Clearly establish your claim, distinguish your claim from alternate or opposing claims, and use specific, relevant, and sufficient evidence from at least **four** of the texts to develop your argument. Do not simply summarize each text.

### Guidelines:

#### Be sure to:

- Establish your claim regarding whether or not women should be required to register for the draft
- Distinguish and defend your claim from alternate or opposing claims
- Use specific, relevant, and sufficient evidence from at least **four** of the texts to develop your argument and defend your position
- Identify each source that your reference by text number and line numbers or graphic (for example: Text 1, line 4 or Text 2, graphic)
- Organize your ideas in a cohesive and coherent manner
- Maintain a formal style of writing
- Follow the conventions of standard written English

### Texts:

Text 1: cartoon 1 or cartoon 2

Text 2: Threats Of Drafting Women Reveal The Lies Of Equality

Text 3: Women in the Draft? Let's Fight for Gender Equality First

Text 4: Women should have to register for the draft

Text 5: College Student: Women should be required to register for the draft, and that includes me

Text 6: Women and the draft? Fair is fair

---

**\*Please note that on the 11<sup>th</sup> grade ELA you are given only four texts and asked to reference three of those texts.**