

Pledge to Support Operation Recovery

Join IVAW in our effort to stop the deployment of troops suffering from PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Military Sexual Trauma. By signing our pledge, you agree to do what you can to defend our right to heal and to hold those responsible for the deployment of traumatized troops accountable. We need your help to win our right to heal.

Take the pledge at www.ivaw.org/operation-recovery

Got Rights? GI Rights Hotline

The Hotline has trained GI Rights counselors who can help you sort out your options, learn about your rights, and get the medical care you need. All calls are confidential.

877-447-4487 www.girightshotline.org

Iraq Veterans Against the War

Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW) was founded by Iraq War Veterans in July 2004 to give a voice to the large number of active duty service members and veterans who are against the war, but are under various pressures to remain silent.

IVAW calls for,

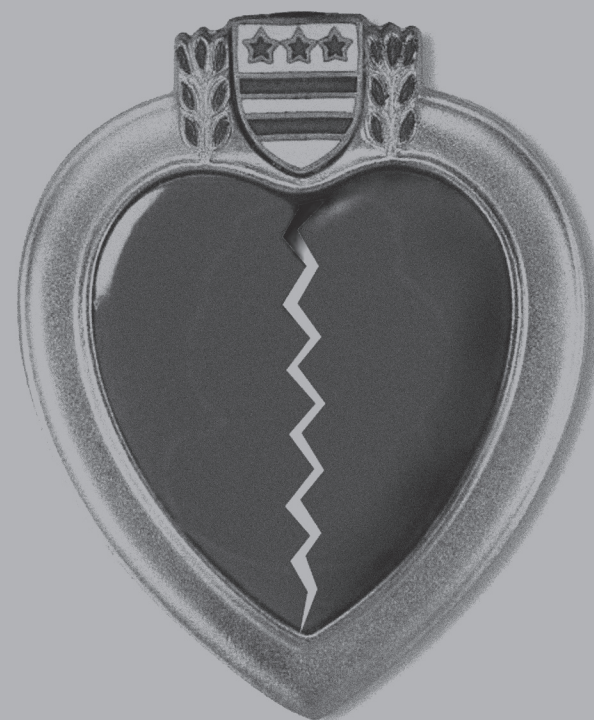
- Immediate withdrawal of all occupying forces in Iraq and Afghanistan;
- Reparations for the human and structural damages Iraq and Afghanistan has suffered, and stopping the corporate pillaging of Iraq so that their people can control their own lives and future; and
- Full benefits, adequate healthcare (including mental health), and other supports for returning service members.

We have the power;

IVAW's strategy is to mobilize the military community to withdraw it's support for the wars and occupations in Iraq and Afghanistan. IVAW is leading a movement of Veterans and GIs who are working to when our rights and bring the troops home now!

OPERATION RECOVERY:

STOP THE DEPLOYMENT OF TRAUMATIZED TROOPS



A Campaign for GI and Veteran's Right to Heal

Iraq Veterans Against the War

SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO HEAL!

The occupations of Afghanistan and Iraq are continuing through the use of exhausted troops who have been on multiple deployments and suffer deeply from the trauma of war. As servicemembers and veterans we are being denied our right to heal.

There is a problem, a basic right is being denied, and we must organize to get it back!

Third Corps Commander, Gen. Campbell, has a commitment to the welfare of those serving under him and it is irresponsible and inhumane to send service members suffering from trauma back to the very circumstances that have traumatized them.

Iraq Veterans Against the War

Join IVAW in our effort to stop the deployment of troops suffering from Military Sexual Trauma, PTSD, and Traumatic Brain Injury. As soldiers and veterans we are working to defend our right to heal from injuries sustained in service.

This issue affects all of us.

Join the growing movement as we work to stop the deployment of traumatized troops.

Tell us Your Story

One of the ways we can win this battle is by exposing the severity of the problem. The deployment of traumatized troops occurs across all branches of service and in almost all units. How did it happen in yours?

Have you been denied your right to heal or to quality healthcare?
Have you had an officer or an NCO ignore the recommendations of a medical professional concerning your health?
Have you been deployed after being diagnosed with MST, PTSD, TBI, or other serious injury or issue?
Have you been wrongfully accused of malingering?

**You can e-mail us your story at:
campaign-team@ivaw.org**

The Facts

- Suicide rates among active-duty troops are twice as high as that of the civilian population, and veterans with PTSD are 6 times more likely to attempt suicide.
- From 2001 to 2009 the military suicide rate increased 150%
- 20% to 50% of all service members deployed to Iraq and/or Afghanistan suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).
- 1 in 3 women in the military are sexually assaulted
- 2,670 military members reported sexual assault in FY 2009.
- 1 in 3 soldiers serving in Afghanistan and Iraq say they can't see a mental health professional when they need to.
- Nearly 20% of service members are taking some kind of psychiatric drug. Among service members currently experiencing combat, 12% in Iraq and 17% in Afghanistan are taking prescription antidepressants or sleeping meds. Yet, the military has no way of tracking prescription drug use in combat.
- The DOD cannot establish that service members are mentally fit to deploy or ensure that it can accurately assess mental health conditions when they return. Even when a service member is deemed ineligible for deployment by a military mental health professional, a commanding officer can force the service member to deploy with severe trauma.

