



Women's International League
for Peace and Freedom

Killer Drone Attacks are Illegal and Counterproductive

WHAT IS A DRONE?

Drones are un-manned aerial vehicles (UAVs) used by the military for surveillance, targeted assassinations, and bombings.

Drones are usually controlled by a human operator on the ground, though they can also be programmed to fly fully autonomous missions - with no pilot at all.

The operator who makes the decision to launch a missile from the drone can be located thousands of miles away from their victims.

The United States has used armed drones in Iraq, Yemen, Afghanistan, Libya and Pakistan. A drone's selling point is that no pilot or crew is at risk of being killed or captured if the drone crashes or is shot down.

WE OPPOSE DRONES BECAUSE

1. Drones used in Afghanistan, Pakistan and other countries have killed hundreds of innocent civilians, violating just war principles.
2. Drone killings violate international and American law on political and targeted assassinations.
3. Intelligence used in drone target selection is notoriously unreliable.
4. Killing (by computer command) an unknown person 3,000 miles away is morally reprehensible.
5. Such killings, especially of innocent civilians, fuel revenge and therefore terrorism.
6. Only certain war-profiteering corporations benefit from war. We the people do not. Wars and military spending take precious resources away from our domestic needs – education, housing, healthcare, infrastructure repair, developing nontoxic energy.
7. Drones make killing more abstract, impersonal, and antiseptic, so they make killing more “convenient” and war more likely, and must be opposed. War is not the answer to human disagreements.
8. A drone arms race is well underway with more than 40 countries developing these weapon delivery systems. They are now or were used by the U.S. in Yemen, Somalia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya.

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NO TO DRONES – KEEP SPACE FOR PEACE!