War Resisters League
100 YEARS OF RESISTANCE

to

WAR AND THE
CAUSES OF WAR
Activists calling for a ceasefire in Israel/Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, Yemen, and other current wars are part of a long legacy of nonviolent resistance to war. War Resisters League: 100 Years of Resistance to War and the Causes of War recently published by the War Resisters League documents 100 years of such activism in the United States. This full-color, 84-page, 7” x 9” book is a history of the War Resisters League, the oldest secular pacifist organization in the United States. It reproduces WRL’s 100th Anniversary Traveling Exhibit, including 186 images, a timeline of key demonstrations and other events, WRL programs, notable individuals, and publications throughout WRL’s history. Relying on dozens of primary sources, the exhibit and book was researched, written, and edited by Ruth Benn and Ed Hedemann; designed by Rick Bickhart.

This wide-ranging book invites reflection on where we have been and offers inspiration to continue the ongoing struggle for peace and justice. Designed to appeal to a broad audience, this book captures the dynamism and creativity of generations of activists resisting war. It provides historical context and inspiration for current activists who can see the evolution of tactics and the impact of nonviolent resistance in many settings.

The book is an engaging text for courses on the history of nonviolent resistance and the interconnection between militarism and social justice. It highlights remarkable activists — pacifist, socialist, religious, atheist, suffragist, anarchist, feminist — who shaped WRL and the antiwar movement. Photos and captions illustrate an evolving variety of nonviolent tactics used to resist war, including civil disobedience, war tax resistance, individual resistance, creative small actions, coalitions, mass demonstrations, and street flyers, posters, and magazines with contributions by well-known artists and writers. Along with focusing on war resistance from World War I to the present, the book includes civil rights issues from prison desegregation to gay power to Black Lives Matter, the connection between international militarism and violence at home, draft and tax resistance, and feminist peace encampments.

Table of Contents:

- The Founding and Early Years: 1920s and 1930s
- Militant Pacifism and Revolutionary Nonviolence
- Resistance to Nuclear Weapons and Power
- WRL Printed Material
- Disarmament & Antiwar Organizing
- International Connections
- Connecting Issues
- Demilitarize At Home
- WRL 100 Years of Nonviolent Resistance Timeline