

Re: If you still think we can win in Iraq..

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- *From:* "Laura Gibson" <transpec3@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 5 Nov 2006 18:15:41 -0600
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Well, I do know that you have to have at least a GED to get into the military, and some of the branches won't take you unless you have a regular high school diploma, and in some instances college. It isn't like the 60s, when a kid got the choice of jail or the military.

Laura

"RaeMorrill" <RaeMorrill@xxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:XSs3h.7505\\$xw1.3707@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:XSs3h.7505$xw1.3707@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Well, I can't either, but, unfortunately, there was some truth in Kerry's remarks. Not all those inquiring about joining up would know the difference. They probably never watch the news or read the paper. False promises made in order to up enlistment is just wrong.

Laura Gibson wrote:

On the other hand, most recruits would talk things over with their parents I would imagine, and I would expect the parents would be able to tell truth from fiction, or at least if the "claims" are really hyperinflated. I can't imagine any volunteer in the Service not thinking he/she was not going to Iraq with a war going on over there.

Laura

"RaeMorrill" <RaeMorrill@xxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:gZr3h.3838\\$zB4.2401@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:gZr3h.3838$zB4.2401@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

WOW. Yes, children know the difference between a truth and a lie at an early age – that is what it means to lie about something they did. Do you think a 6 year old can reliably detect an adult lying about something? If so, we'd never have any children abducted, would we? After all, they'd know the pervert was lying.

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Smart people should always try to document anything that's going to impact on their life or health. However, not everyone does, not everyone is capable of doing so. When you ask a professional an opinion you have a right to expect the truth. Do they make mistakes? Sure, but if the doctor tells a diabetic – sure, go ahead, eat all the sugar you want, it won't hurt you – that'd be a lie and if documented would likely lead to disciplinary action or loss of license.

These recruiters (I saw the tapes) were telling the prospective soldiers things like "the war is over" and there was little chance of them being sent into danger. How you can think this is ok or the enlistee (regardless of age) can be blamed is beyond me. Somehow, though, you seem to be managing to tie this to young teens being given the right to chose to continue a pregnancy or not. Just because someone has a choice at a given age has no bearing on this when the decisions are made on hype and lies. My choice about anything is certainly going to be impacted by being told, "Ah, there's not really any danger" versus "Yes, there's a good chance you're going to be in harm's way and won't be provided with basic safety gear." DUH

Phyllis Nilsson wrote:

You're right, it isn't an informed decision if someone either lies or withholds information that would be pertinent to the decision-making process. But if I'm not mistaken, you believe that very young people have the right to make choices that will affect their lives forever and the military is not the only venue where lies are told and information withheld. If a 12-year old or 15-year-old can make a choice, why not an

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18-year-old?

I know you don't believe services and retailers always tell the truth about their products. And Rae, children know the difference between the truth and a lie long before they're 6 years old, that's why they're allowed to testify in court cases.

Do I wish everyone would tell the truth? Of course. Is it likely to happen? Not hardly. Have you never heard of the old saying, "Buyer beware"? An 18-year-old can make an informed decision to vote, to drink, to make contracts. It is our job to make them as ready as we can to make the right choices.

RaeMorrill wrote:

OH MY GOSH! You don't think the United States military should have to tell the truth when they are out soliciting young people to join? Yes, I'm prochoice – but it is not a choice when someone lies to you about what you're choosing.