

## Why was there an anti-war movement in America during the 1960s and 1970s?

### Instructions

1. You need six colours. Colour code the boxes below to decide if the statements fit into the following categories:
  - a. The media and influential people within it
  - b. Poor leadership/bad strategies
  - c. Economic/Financial reasons
  - d. US failures in the conduct of the war
  - e. The role of students
  - f. Other

The press coverage of the war upset many Americans.	Johnson did not tell the people of America his policy in a straightforward way.	By 1968 1,800 Americans had been killed and 18,000 injured.	Johnson publicly stated that American aims were probably impossible to achieve.	Black people resented the disproportionate number of black casualties.	Vietnam was America's first televised war.	In 1968 74% of Americans thought that Johnson was not handling the war well.
In August 1967 tax rises made the war far more unpopular.	Writing and photographs showed the true horrors of war.	Martin Luther King became critical when he saw the burn wounds of children from American napalm wounds.	Many returning American veterans had physical or mental disabilities.	Enemy leaders were made to appear to be the 'good guys' by the media.	Many innocent people in, in Vietnam, including women and children, were being killed.	In 1967 influential newspapers and TV stations shifted from support to opposition of the war.
Between 1965 and 1973 \$15.5 billion was spent on American society compared to \$120 billion on the war in Vietnam.	Walter Cronkite, the most respected TV journalist, was supportive of the war until February 1968. After the TET offensive he said that the war could not be won.	TET shook the confidence of the American government and people. Demonstrations against the war increased rapidly.	A famous photo of a Saigon general shooting a bound captive in the head damaged America's faith in their side as the 'good guys'.	Many students had been involved in the Civil Rights movement, which fought for black people's rights.	Many students taunted Johnson by chanting 'Hey LJB, how many kids did you kill today?'	Children were often the victims of the napalm dropped by the bombers.

2. Write a short paragraph to explain what you think was the most important reason there was an anti-war movement

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### Extension cards

<p>Ethnic minorities and poor white people knew that white middle class people were underrepresented in Vietnam.</p>	<p>College students protested more after 1968 when they were no longer exempt from fighting.</p>	<p>Nearly half of Americans in 1967 said that they did not know what the war was about.</p>	<p>Many of the members of the anti-war movement were male college students.</p>	<p>Many felt that America had no right to intervene in Vietnam.</p>	<p>In 1965 the budget deficit was \$1.6 billion, but by 1968 it was \$25.3 billion. This led to inflation.</p>	<p>By 1968 78% of Americans felt that America was not making any progress in the war.</p>
<p>The Vietcong attacks during the TET offensive were witnessed by the American public.</p>	<p>In 1968 soldiers killed 350 civilians in the village of My Lai. Many of these people were women and children.</p>	<p>Young people were beginning to get involved in revolutionary politics in the mid-1960s.</p>	<p>Television showed prisoners being tortured or executed, or women and children watching with horror as their house was set on fire.</p>	<p>Four students were killed at a protest at Kent State University. The public were horrified. The war seemed to be making the USA unstable.</p>	<p>Martin Luther King said that a poverty fund for helping inner cities was being used for the war.</p>	<p>Young people were starting to go against authority and were starting to become much more independent in their views.</p>