The War Resisters League was formed in 1923. The WRL began as a registry for those who refused to participate in war. After WWII the WRL evolved into an activist organization for nonviolent resistance. The War Resisters League affirms that all war is a crime against humanity. The WRL were involved in the March on Washington as well as Vietnam protests, women’s movements and the Gulf War.

Who was Bayard Rustin?
- Bayard Rustin was an important member of the WRL.
- His leadership in the WRL began during the aftermath of WWI.
- Rustin was the chief architect of the March on Washington.
- He became an Executive secretary for the WRL from 1953 to 1965.
- He was also a large influence on Martin Luther King Jr.

Bayard Rustin

Where Your Income Tax Money Really Goes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Government</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past Military</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Military</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

War Taxes
- The WRL disagrees with spending tax money on war.
- They study federal budgets and spending to inform citizens about where their money is going.
- “U.S. military spending – Dept. of Defense plus nuclear weapons (in $billions) – is equal to the military spending of the next 15 countries combined.”
- There are many charts and studies on the WRL website making information easily accessible.

The Path Toward Peace
- The WRL works toward peace in multiple ways. They:
  - Follow the Gandhian method of Nonviolence by use of Non-violent protests.
  - Distribute a Magazine, WIN, with information on how to work for peace and resist war.
  - Offer non-violent and direct action training.
  - Training in civil disobedience, war tax resistance and other forms of action.
  - Offer resources such as packets, videos, buttons and posters.
  - Publish literature about revolutionary non-violence and war resistance.

The WRL is currently working on a GI Resistance Support Project campaign: Facing Teargas.

References

Research Question
What effect does the War Resisters League have on the Peace Process?

Involvement
- Few groups, unlike the WRL, opposed the Korean war and mounted limited protests.
- The WRL has an ongoing campaign against the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- The WRL has branched off into War Resisters’ International.