

Tell me why!

How did the coverage of the Vietnam War in the USA lead to demands for peace?

This revision activity works best if you do it with a friend, and talk about it as you do it.

Print off and cut out the cards below and place them face down. Turning over each in turn, explain why it led to demands for peace, suggesting as many reasons as you can to explain each statement.

In 1965, a student group called Vietnam Day Committee organised a 'teach-in'	In 1965, students in California burned their draft cards
In November 1965, Norman Morrison set himself on fire	In 1967, Martin Luther King opposed the war
In 1967, Nation of Islam member and world boxing champion Muhammad Ali refused to be drafted	The 1968 film <i>The Green Berets</i> (John Wayne) showed American soldiers as kind humanitarians fighting a brutal and cruel enemy
In 1968, TV news presenter Walter Cronkite said: 'What the hell is going on? I thought we were winning this war.'	In February 1968, Cronkite asked for an end to the war
By 1968, a 'credibility gap' had opened up	In November 1969, the US journalist Seymour Hersh undermined Americans' feeling that they held the 'moral right' in Vietnam
After 1969, returning soldiers were no longer hailed as war heroes, but labelled 'baby killers'	On 4 May 1970, Ohio's State Governor Rhodes called out the National Guard
On 8 May 1970, 100,000 demonstrators marched on Washington. There was a national student strike at 21 American universities	In May 1970, 100,000 New Yorkers went on a march
In April/May 1971, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held 22 hearings	After Lt Calley was court-martialled in 1971 for the My Lai massacre, President Nixon stepped in to reduce his sentence