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Peace Has No Borders

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**The Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies
2018: Borders and Borderlands**

Abstract Title: [Peace Has No Borders](#), 64 min. documentary film and Q/A

Presenter Information:

Denis Mueller, Ph.D, Co-Director

Deb Ellis, MFA, Co-Director, University of Vermont

Disciplines: Arts & Humanities

Sub-Discipline: Film and Media Studies **Sub-Discipline:** Film Production

Abstract – Event Description

Film Screening and Q/A with co-directors:

During the Iraq War, veterans from the United States crossed the border to Canada seeking refuge from serving in what they viewed as an unjust and immoral war. *Peace Has No Borders* follows three resisters and their supporters through a ten-year effort to remain in Canada.

Peace Has No Borders takes place within the backdrop of a previous migration to Canada. Between 1965-1973, over 50,000 Americans crossed the border seeking refuge from what is now widely recognized as a misguided war. Forty years later, Canada faces the same political dilemma – whether to give refuge to U.S. veterans.

The optimism the resisters experienced during their initial years in Canada is tempered by the enormity of the political landscape they face. The threat of deportation is always alive.

Peace Has No Borders tells a complex story that weaves the resisters' personal struggles against the framework of the political power of the conservative Canadian government and demonstrates how a decision of conscience can affect the course of one's life.

Deb and Denis' films examine significant social and political movements. [The FBI's War on Black America](#) is a rigorous examination of the FBI's infamous COINTELPRO program. It remains a relevant cautionary story about the dangers of government surveillance. [Howard Zinn: You Can't be Neutral on a Moving Train](#) (short-listed for an Academy Award in 2005) looks at the history of social movements of the 20th century through the eyes of activist and historian Howard Zinn. *Peace Has No Borders* is another chapter, reflecting on the impact of social activism and war on the lives of individuals who made the choice to resist war and cross borders.

Equipment needed: projector/audio/screen/screening space/we can provide digital file, DVD or BluRay of the film.

Comments Section:

Website: <http://www.peacehasnoborders.com/>

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/202461851>

Peace Has No Borders/full version: <https://vimeo.com/189060315> Password: peace

Note regarding submission agreement – “... the Work has not been published elsewhere with the same content or in the same format...” We acknowledge that this film is has been screened publicly and aired on foreign TV.

If programmed in the conference, we look forward to attending and talking about our experiences with the issues presented in the film, including displacement - even in a country that seems so similar to the U.S.

I am attaching a lo-res copy of our study guide. It contains additional information about the film and associated issues.

Key words: Iraq War, veterans, border, resistance, resister, Canada, immigration, Prime Minister Harper, Vietnam War, peace,

Additional Files: PHNB Study Guide