

How many wars are we involved in now? I count at least three?

- Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya right?

Any idea how much we've spent on major wars since 2001?

- \$1.2 trillion dollars.

And do you have any idea how much of that came from New York City taxpayers?

- \$42 billion.
- \$3.6 billion is our contribution to the Afghan war for just this fiscal year.

And you know what that money could have gone for?

For one year, that money could support:

- 44, 119 school teachers
- 50,294 firefighters
- Healthcare for 1.4 million children.

And what do the city budget cuts have to do with this?

- Well, as training programs get cut and scholarships get cut, our youth see enlistment as the only alternative.
- This is especially true for low-income families and youth of color.
- And as all the afterschool and enrichment programs get cut from our schools, the only thing left is the Junior ROTC military recruitment program, which gets \$2 million of its budget from the Department of Education.

And what do the banks have to do with all of this?

- Well to start out with, a lot of their profits come from underwriting corporate bonds for companies producing bombs and armament.
- Bank of America has been accused of predatory lending practices against active servicemen and their families.
- And JPMorgan Chase was overcharging thousands of military members on their mortgages until it came under Congressional scrutiny.
- And as the banks squeeze money out of our communities and schools, our youth are deprived of real alternatives to grow.

So what can we do?

- Well the big six banks alone, have \$600 million in current contracts with the city.
- If Mayor Bloomberg were to cut those contracts by just 20%, especially with those that profit off of war, he could save millions that could go to help our youth and veterans.

Call Mayor Bloomberg at 212-772-1081 and tell him:

Stop funding the Junior ROTC and cut the big banks contracts by 20%. We need that money to give our youth real alternatives.