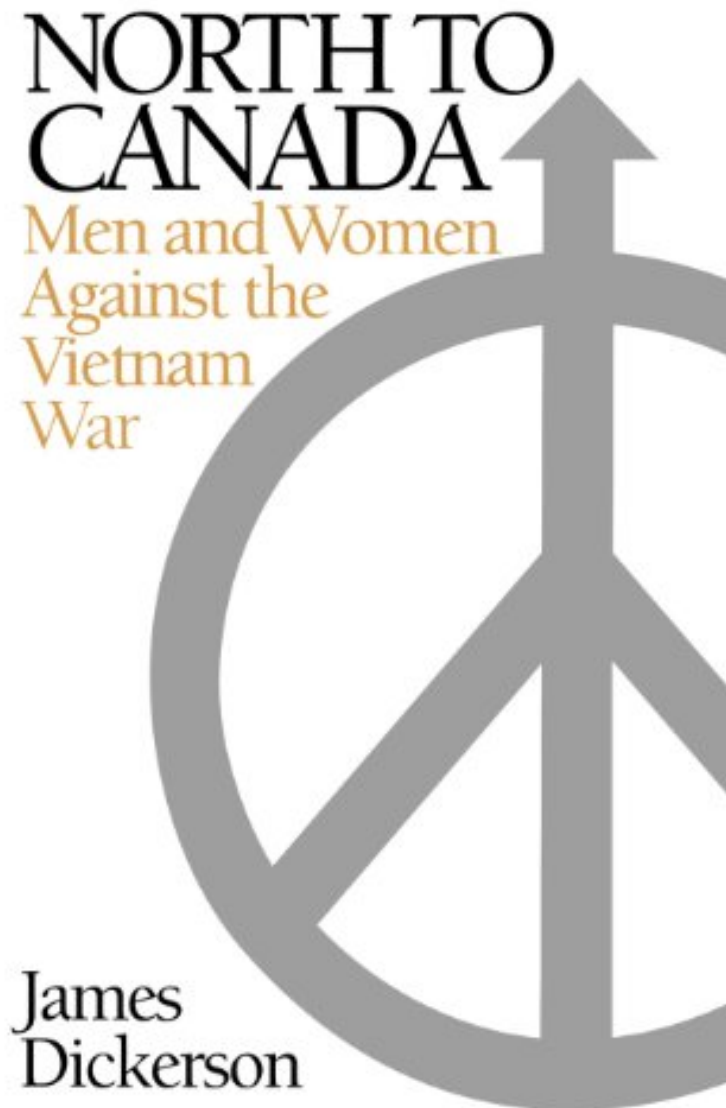


North to Canada: Men and Women Against the Vietnam War

James L. Dickerson

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James L. Dickerson : North to Canada: Men and Women Against the Vietnam War before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised North to Canada: Men and Women Against the Vietnam War:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. hello dodgersBy Sean Patrick Innocent DineenThe reality of draft

dodgers. Fascinating analysis of 9 people found the following review helpful. This is a good read for 'Boomers' that remember this era. By Joel 4171 I was intrigued by the number of Americans that sought refuge in Canada during the late 60s and early 70s in response to rescission of the '2S' deferment. The case studies were particularly interesting with respect to how this disruption of family and career was met with differing degrees of adjustment. I wish that the author had devoted a comparison with American Peace Corps Volunteers who served in places like Atar, Mauritania; Sarh, Tchad; Farah, Afghanistan; Zabol, Iran, or Zinder. Their lives were also disrupted without the comfort of a first world nation like Canada.

While we may never know the exact number of Americans who chose Canada over Vietnam, an estimated half-million men and women went north as a result of their opposition to the war. Despite President Ford's amnesty and President Carter's pardon, some of these exiles never returned. This book, which focuses upon those who remained in Canada, offers a resister's eye view of the most traumatic war in American history. Dickerson blends resister interviews with an account of the historical events that served as watersheds for these young Americans. Dickerson answers the question: Whatever happened to the men and women who went to Canada? With contextual information regarding the policies of both the U.S. and Canadian governments towards the war and its resisters, Dickerson offers evidence that a generation of America's best and brightest was lost to Canada. His inclusion of female resisters contributes a new perspective to the debate that continues to rage more than 25 years after the withdrawal of the last American troops in Vietnam.

From Library Journal Not until the end of this excellent inquiry does the reader learn that Dickerson, the author of the popular music books *Women on Top* (Watson-Guptill, 1998) and *Goin' Back to Memphis* (S. S., 1996), moved to Canada to avoid the draft. His anger and that of the seven resisters who are the main characters of this book make for a highly charged story. Rather than an oral history of their lives, this is a most readable reconstruction of events primarily from contemporary magazine articles. Aof the migration of 500,000 Americans, half of them women, to Canada, where they were welcomed by a government headed by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. This is in sharp contrast to Dickerson's indictment of an America that turned its back on its children. Aboth war resisters and emotionally and physically scarred veterans. Aas it struggled to redeem its collective soul. An excellent complement. A less comprehensive but better written. Ato Tom Wells's acclaimed *The War Within* (LJ 3/15/94) and, despite the price, recommended for public libraries and highly recommended for Vietnam-era and peace collections. A Karl Helicher, Upper Merion Twp. Lib., King of Prussia, PA. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Of the approximately 191,522 Americans who fled from the U.S. to Canada to avoid the draft during the Vietnam War, a significant number did not return, even after amnesty was granted by President Carter. Many of those war "resistors," as Dickerson refers to them, stayed and remade their lives in Canada. Dickerson, himself a resister, weaves the tumultuous history of the Vietnam War era into the backdrop of the resisters' own experiences settling into their adopted country. Their personal stories vary, including those of a former ROTC student, an archaeologist who received his draft notice in Yugoslavia, and a female premed student who fled the U.S. with her draft-eligible husband. Many of the resisters were also deeply affected by events other than Vietnam that marked the 1960s stateside, such as the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy. They found life in Canada clearly better than fighting an unpopular war or returning to their own troubled country. Recommended for collections that focus on the Vietnam War. Marlene Chamberlain From Kirkus sAn unremarkable glimpse into the remarkable lives of several Vietnam-era draft resisters who fled north. Freelance journalist Dickerson opens his book by protesting a little too loudly that the young people of today, who have no direct memory of the Vietnam years, don't properly appreciate "one of the most traumatic periods in American history. Those who do have clear memories are now in their late 40s and 50s, a sizable segment of the population, but hardly one that fits the sell, sell, sell demographics of today's youth-oriented news and entertainment media." Those youngsters may in fact have a hard time seeing in Dickerson's half-dozen chief profile subjects the fiery radicals of yesteryear, now resident in Canada for a quarter of a century and long comfortably settled into grownup careers: one is a policy analyst for the Asian Development Bank, another the director general of the Institutions and Social Statistics Branch of the Canadian government, still another is an economic researcher employed by the public sector. Dickerson is good at placing the resisters and the Canadian government's attitude toward them in historical context: half a million Americans, he writes, moved to Canada legally and illegally as a result of the Vietnam-era draft, "one the largest mass exoduses in history of Americans emigrating from their homeland." For all that, his book relies on narratives that are not especially revealing; his subjects, to all appearances, simply decided the war was wrong, picked up and moved north, and got on with their lives without, it would appear, much personal sacrifice. It would have been better had Dickerson sought out more thoughtful and politically engaged critics of American policy in Vietnam, and had he cast a wider net to find a more representative range of subjects. -- Copyright ©1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.