

# WHERE DO OUR TAX DOLLARS GO?

A free report prepared by Citizens for Peaceful Resolutions

*Most of us don't like paying taxes, and yet here we are every year, grudgingly admitting that we need things like roads and schools and a government. We at Citizens for Peaceful Resolutions believe that budgets are moral documents; that where and how our money is spent defines our values as a nation and as a society. In that spirit, we'd like to help you see how the tax dollars you're sending will be spent, and invite you to think about whether your values are being reflected.*

**The United States of America has spent over \$511 BILLION (one billion is a thousand million) on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Of that, Ventura County's share is nearly \$1.8 BILLION.**

**Nuclear weapons programs alone will cost our nation \$54 BILLION this year, which translates to about \$180 for every woman, man, and child in the nation. Ventura County's share of funding for nuclear "defense" will exceed \$164 MILLION!**

**Meanwhile, we have children without health care, too few counselors and librarians in our public schools, and public health and transit issues needing growth and improvement.**

## DO YOU FEEL ANY SAFER?

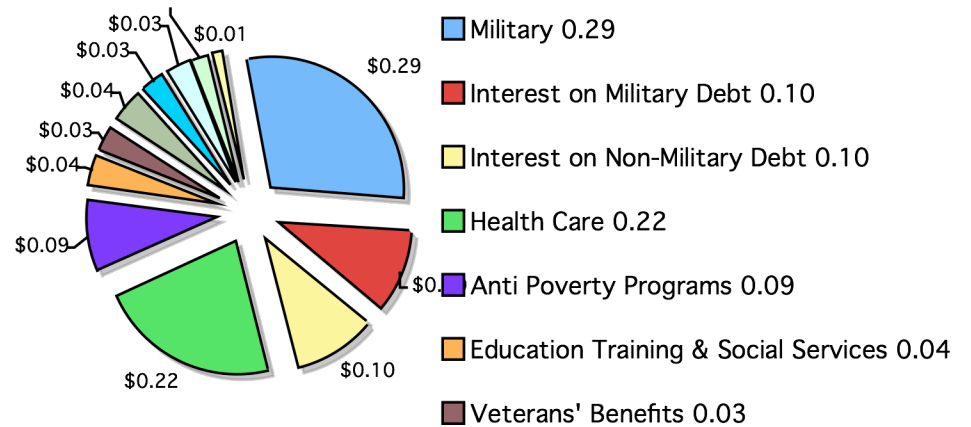
**Here are some county issues that could be funded with the \$164 MILLION that we'll spend instead on nuclear weapons:**

Build and fund an Institute for Mental Disease.....	\$10,000,000
Increase funding for foster parents.....	\$3,000,000
Respite care for foster parents.....	\$1,000,000
Health care coverage for all our county's children.....	\$7,000,000
100 new social workers and public health nurses.....	\$6,000,000
Chronic disease control and prevention program.....	\$1,000,000
Expanded water quality testing programs.....	\$1,000,000
Improved mass transit in and between cities.....	\$60,000,000

**In addition, the \$1.8 BILLION that Ventura County has spent on war could have been used to**

- send over 221 THOUSAND children to Head Start, or
- insure nearly 691 THOUSAND children, or
- hire over 26 THOUSAND public school teachers, or
- provide over 278 THOUSAND four-year university scholarships, or
- build over 5 THOUSAND housing units.

**Here in California: Military, Health Care, and Interest on the National Debt consume two-thirds of every income tax dollar.**



## SO? WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT IT?

GEORGE P. SHULTZ, WILLIAM J. PERRY,

HENRY A. KISSINGER and SAM NUNN say: **NO NUKES!!!**

In an essay published in the Wall Street Journal, they called for a global effort to reduce reliance on nuclear weapons, prevent their spread into potentially dangerous hands, and **ultimately end them as a threat to the world.** In their view, the accelerating spread of nuclear weapons, know-how, and material has brought us to a nuclear tipping point. We face a very real possibility that the deadliest weapons ever invented could fall into dangerous hands. With nuclear weapons more widely available, deterrence is decreasingly effective and increasingly hazardous. Some steps are already in progress, such as the ongoing reductions in the number of nuclear warheads deployed on long-range, or strategic, bombers and missiles. Since the publication of their proposal last year, they report that the interest, momentum and growing political space that has been created to rid the world of nuclear weapons has been extraordinary, with strong positive responses from people all over the world.

**For the full story, go to: [www.nuclearsecurityproject.org](http://www.nuclearsecurityproject.org)**

**To get involved and take action, visit [www.nuclearweaponsfree.org](http://www.nuclearweaponsfree.org)**

**Contact your representatives in Congress at [www.congress.org](http://www.congress.org)**

To stay aware and informed on critical issues of our times such as this, please attend CPR's free, public meeting on the first Sunday of every month from 3-5pm in the Topping Room of the E.P. Foster Library at 651 East Main Street, Ventura. For more info call 805.850.5849 or visit [www.c-p-r.net](http://www.c-p-r.net).

Sources: Physicians for Social Responsibility: [www.psr.org](http://www.psr.org)  
National Priorities Project: [www.nationalpriorities.org](http://www.nationalpriorities.org).