Why I Believe War Is Not the Answer
By Brooke Albers
Baraboo High School VFP Scholarship Recipient 2017

Going to war with another country just doesn’t seem justified. I have a hard time trying to understand why we go to war with a country that does not pose a present danger of mass destruction. It should be our last resort of self-defense, a step to be taken when you think the country is endangered. Wars cost billions of dollars of taxpayers’ hard-earned money. That money could be spent on resources that are needed for priorities on the home front. We could be helping the homeless, building more schools for better education, and offering better healthcare, possibly for free.

War causes awful loss of life. Millions of people are killed, many die of diseases after wars. It causes untold suffering. Then there are related sorrows and sufferings it causes to those left behind, such as widows and orphans. The impact of war is devastating. The destruction of buildings and communities is such a huge setback.

I’m tired of hearing on the news how another innocent soldier has died for our country. War just caused this man or woman their life. I don’t envy the military personnel or pastor that has to tell another wife and child that their hero lost his life because he tried not to take someone else’s. Families are left with the grief and financial burden for the rest of their lives. War is never the answer to any of our problems. It tears families apart and the costs hurt the economy. Innocent people losing their lives for no reason at all is wrong! War causes so many negative effects, from everyone trying to deal and cope with what just happened to how their lives will always be changed now.

I also believe that many soldiers who are in war don’t want to be there. There was a point when soldiers were drafted, having no say if they wanted to go or not. Many did not return home. War is never justified because it never solves the problem it was thought to solve. It leads to more violence and new deaths daily. Peace treaties have worked in the past. We need to continue working on those.

Killing a soldier is a crime and we shouldn’t use violence to get what we want. It should not be okay to kill another human being from any country just because they were forced to fight in a war. Soldiers think they are going to war to protect our country, but end up not coming home alive. Wondering if a family member is coming home in a body bag is an awful way of life.

No matter who wins or loses, tensions between everyone will rise. Even after was is long gone, hatred remains in the back of your mind. War ruins the economy and the country into deeper debt.

War is never the answer!