



EYES WIDE OPEN

AN EXHIBITION ON THE HUMAN COST OF THE WAR

HUMAN COST OF WAR

THE COST OF WAR TO VIRGINIA

Afghan Casualties

Because of the weapons like cluster bombs and aerial strikes that cover large civilian areas, it is hard to say how many Afghan casualties there have been as a result of the U.S. led war since 2001. According to a report by the United Nations, civilian casualties rose each year from 2007-2011.

Iraqi Casualties

There are various credible estimates of the number of Iraqi casualties. A 2006 survey by the prestigious medical journal *The Lancet* estimated that more than 600,000 Iraqi deaths were caused by the war. While most of the violence in Iraq took place from 2003-2007, incidents have also been reported since the December U.S. troop withdrawal from the country.

Empty Boots



The Eyes Wide Open exhibit, created by the American Friends Service Committee, is a living memorial to the military personnel and civilians killed in Afghanistan and Iraq—and a stark reminder of the human cost of war. About two hundred military service members from Virginia have died to date in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Eyes Wide Open: The Human Cost of War first opened in Chicago's Federal Plaza with just over 500 pairs of boots in January 2004. Since it's last display of the national tour on Memorial Day 2007 with over 3,400 pairs of boots, the exhibition has been divided into state displays like this one to travel to more communities throughout the country.

These boots represent the U.S. servicemen and servicewomen killed in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) from Virginia.



**American Friends
Service Committee**