To the Editor
The New York Times

Wednesday, November 25, 2009

The Iraqi and the Afghan wars have become a United States spectator sport. Advocates for 40,000 or another 100,000 are not unlike fans telling the Mets to strengthen their infield. It is an expensive game. If President Obama wishes to make his troop level decision consistent with the will of society as a whole, before he makes his decision, let him call for a referendum on the passing of a national conscription law for men and women of draft age with no exemptions. This will have the effect of changing a spectator sport into the reality of war.

Martin Shubik
18 Rockland Park
Branford CT 06405
Telephone: 203-481-0579