

**I-Feel-Like-I'm-Fixin'-To-Die Rag –  
Country Joe and the Fish, Woodstock 1969**



Yeah, come on all of you, big strong  
men,  
Uncle Sam needs your help again.  
He's got himself in a terrible jam  
Way down yonder in Vietnam  
So put down your books and pick up a  
gun,  
We're gonna have a whole lotta fun.

*Chorus:*

And it's one, two, three,  
What are we fighting for ?  
Don't ask me, I don't give a damn,  
Next stop is Vietnam;  
And it's five, six, seven,  
Open up the pearly gates,  
Well there ain't no time to wonder why,  
Whoopee! we're all gonna die.

Well, come on generals, let's move fast;  
Your big chance has come at last.  
Gotta go out and get those reds —  
The only good commie is the one who's  
dead  
And you know that peace can only be  
won

When we've blown 'em all to kingdom  
come.

*(chorus)*

Well, come on Wall Street, don't move  
slow,  
Why man, this is war au-go-go.  
There's plenty good money to be made  
By supplying the Army with the tools of  
the trade,  
Just hope and pray that if they drop the  
bomb,  
They drop it on the Viet Cong.

*(chorus)*

Well, come on mothers throughout the  
land,  
Pack your boys off to Vietnam.  
Come on fathers, don't hesitate,  
Send 'em off before it's too late.  
Be the first one on your block  
To have your boy come home in a box.

*(chorus)*

**Questions:**

1. What types of people are criticised in this song, and why?
2. How would you describe the tone of the song? Does this make it more or less reliable in your view?
3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of this source for the historian studying popular opposition to the Vietnam war?

*Song downloadable from  
[www.countryjoe.com](http://www.countryjoe.com)*