

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

1/5/10

(Standup Week 243)

Tuesday, 6pm–7pm

Why are we in Iraq?

Not because of weapons of mass destruction. **Not** because Iraq was involved in 9/11. **Not** because Iraq was a threat to our national security.

What have we gotten?

In Iraq

US military dead: **4,372**
US military wounded: **31,613**
Iraqi civilians killed: **103,588***
Money spent on war: **\$715 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **949**
US military wounded: **4,666**
Afghani civilians killed: **15,019**
Money spent on war: **\$235 billion**

Who are we?

Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War has pledged to “Stand Up” until the war ends and the troops come home safely.

Every Tuesday evening at 6 pm (rain or shine), **Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War** assembles on the northwest corner of 8th Avenue and 24th Street to facilitate “**Chelsea Stands Up Against the War,**” a community protest against the war in Iraq.

We carry banners, signs, and candles as we gather for one hour each week to protest the war in Iraq. We distribute this newsletter, peace buttons, collect signatures on petitions and speak with our neighbors about the need to end war in Iraq. The **Stand Up** make a dramatic statement to passing vehicular traffic on 8th avenue.

Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War is an all-volunteer organization that wants to build the broadest possible neighborhood consensus. With that goal in mind, the organization is open to all and functions by consensus.

Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War is not formally affiliated with any other organization but is willing to work with all groups and individuals who are committed to ending this illegal and immoral war fought by our fellow citizens, paid for with our tax dollars, and prosecuted in our name.

*The recent Johns Hopkins/Lancet report places the figure at 655,000+



Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War

212.726.1385/chelseaneighborsunited@yahoo.com/www.chelseaneighborsunited.org

Five things we can't get over as we start a new decade

By Kate Abell & Bob Martin

More than 5,300 U.S. soldiers and hundreds of thousands of Iraqis and Afghans dead. Nearly a trillion dollars spent. Yet nothing prevents a lone Yemeni from attempting to blow up a plane over Detroit.

Double digit unemployment rates and a million new foreclosure filings in the 3rd quarter of 2009 exist alongside new record profits from investment banks. “The Return of Greed—Banks Reopen Global Casino” cites a former leading financier: “A few years ago, the investment banks got rich on their customers’ money. When that resource became too small, they fell back on their shareholders’ money. Now they’ve got hold of the biggest pool the world can offer: taxpayers’ money.” (*Der Spiegel*)

A health care bill likely to be enacted into law prohibits a public option, leaving the U.S. as the only developed country in the world without universal health care while giving insurance companies—many located in Joe Lieberman’s home state of Connecticut—a stranglehold resulting in health care costs 80% higher than the country with the next highest costs, but a life expectancy well below average.

Wealth inequality is the greatest it has ever been, yet any attempt to tax the extreme wealth in this country is called socialism by Fox News and other mainstream media. In fact, current top tax rates of 35% are down from 91% from 1950–1963, 70% in the 1970s, and 50% from 1982–86.

Israel, excused and protected by the US media and government (as well as financed at \$3 billion/year), collectively punishes civilians by launching a war against civilian centers in Lebanon and blockading Gaza in order to advance its political agenda. Such collective punishment is called terrorism when practiced by any other country.



Photo by Gary Scholchet