

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

1/22/08

(Standup Week 141)

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?*

**US military dead:** 3,927 **US military wounded:** 28,870

**Iraqi civilians killed:** 88,044\* **Money spent on war:** \$ 496 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

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## Is the War Over?

By Carla Nordstrom

The war is over! Or so say the pundits who report on primary elections. Voters have moved onto the economy and the impending recession as the most pressing issue of the 2008 election. Therefore, the war is over.

According to the media, the surge has worked so well the war on Iraq is no longer a necessary consideration. Whoever is elected President can rest easy because there will be no demand to pull troops out of Iraq, in fact candidates have suggested that we might as well stick it out for as long as it takes which could be months, years, decades, or perhaps a century.

But wait, American soldiers are still dying in Iraq. Death and destruction are still prevalent in Iraq. The drawdown of troops that was promised as a justification for the surge did not happen at the end of the year. Generals have announced that troop levels will increase in Afghanistan.

While we are lulled into believing that the wars in the Middle East are off our radar; while we doze off as we are told stories military success, it would be wise to remember that the war is not over. The consequences of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; death, injury, destruction, and limitations on civil rights are still being felt in the Middle East, as well as in our own homes. The cost of war is one of the reasons for our current economic woes. Ending these wars and bringing our troops home would go along way towards alleviating our concerns about the economy, if for no other reason than to help us feel better during the recession.

