

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

2/10/09

(Standup Week 196)

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: 4,238 US military wounded: 31,010**

**Iraqi civilians killed: 98,892 \* Money spent on war: \$598 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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## Peace is the New Impeachment—Off the Table

By Dave Robinson

At his inaugural, President Obama spoke of the ground having shifted beneath us. While that is clearly true in many respects, it's important to realize that in others, such as the prospects for a true national commitment to peace, the ground hasn't shifted at all. Like impeachment before it, peace is “off the table”.

During the Bush years, professional politicians and their mainstream media dependents encouraged our fear, our racism, our militarism, and all our multiple senses of entitlement. Now the new and hopefully much improved government says “Yes We Can,” but cautions us at the same time not to look backwards because we have to move forward. This cowardly caving to “political reality” hastens our descent from a nation under law to hostages to expediency. It is the antithesis of change.

Despite Obama's good intentions and awesome political ability, neither his Administration, the 111th Congress or any of us are immune from the inescapable truth, proven in blood over the millennia, that those who do not learn from the past are bound to repeat it. All war criminals and profiteers must be prosecuted or they will multiply. What's left of the Constitutional order post-Bush/Cheney must be passionately protected, or more will be lost.

Despite his unquestioned commitment to change, President Obama is well on his way to repeating history's bloody mistakes. Sending more soldiers to Afghanistan is insane. Equating a policy that leaves a “residual force” of 50,000 soldiers in Iraq without ending the war is an unconscionable lie. And continuing to give Israel a blank check politically and financially guarantees more war in the Middle East and more terrorism around the world.



Photo by Gary Scholichet