

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

3/23/10

(Standup Week 254)

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: **4,385**
US military wounded: **31,716**
Iraqi civilians killed: **104,427***
Money spent on war: **\$737 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,025**
US military wounded: **9,472**
Afghani civilians killed: **15,279**
Money spent on war: **\$241 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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International Treaty for the Rights of Women (CEDAW) and the Selling of the Afghanistan War

By Randy Petsche

The Treaty for the Rights of Women (CEDAW) is the most comprehensive international agreement to promote the rights of women. It takes measures to ensure that women can enjoy the same fundamental rights and freedoms as men and seeks to eliminate discrimination against women. CEDAW became effective in 1980 and has been ratified by 186 countries. The United States is among only seven countries that have failed to ratify it.

Despite its inability to adopt this most basic agreement, the United States government actively sold the invasion of Afghanistan in 2002 as a way of promoting the status of women in that beleaguered country. Laura Bush was drafted as the poster child for the rights of Afghani women.

Although the Taliban is indeed hostile to the condition of Afghani women there is no reason to believe that the puppet government placed in Kabul by the United States is any less hostile. Malala Joya, a young Afghan woman who was elected to the parliament in 2005 and later expelled for expressing opposition to the NATO occupation, wrote:

“You must understand that the present (Karzai) government is full of warlords and extremists who are brothers in the creed of the Taliban. Many of these men committed terrible crimes against the Afghan people in the civil war of the 1990s.”

The Obama Administration periodically repeats Bush’s war marketing strategy by promising major improvements in the status of Afghani women, if only its aggressive combat sweeps and unmanned bombing operations are allowed to succeed.

Do not believe a word of this. Tell the Administration to pass the CEDAW treaty and withdraw all of its troops from Afghanistan immediately.



Photo by Gary Scholchet