

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

4/15/08

(Standup Week 153)

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: 4,033 US military wounded: 29,628

Iraqi civilians killed: 90,304* Money spent on war: \$520 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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\$720,000,000 a Day

By Carla Nordstrom

It is tax day and for the sixth year a substantial portion of the money that is collected from the citizens of the United States will go to pay for the War on Iraq. The war is costing Americans approximately \$720 million a day or \$500,000 a minute.* Is it our patriotic duty to spend this money on a war with no end, to cause death and destruction in a far away place, or should we spend this money at home, on people facing job loss, on families without health care, or on making our country an environmentally responsible and better place for its citizens? The answer to this question should be obvious, but somehow our thinking has become muddled.

There are so many moral issues that deserve our attention when it comes to the War on Iraq, but on April 15th, tax day, the misuse of our money comes to the forefront of my thinking. When the Bush administration began this adventure, they projected that the war would cost between \$50 and \$60 billion. Now six years later with the 2008 budget request of \$196 billion, the cost will be \$822 billion. **

Isn't it time to clear our heads, bring our troops home, and invest in the things that our society will benefit from? Health care, jobs, education, affordable housing, infrastructure maintenance, and cleaning up our environment are some of the things that this money could support. But least we forget we must pay for all of the victims who have been damaged by this war, and that cost will not be small.

*American Friends Service Committee, <http://www.afsc.org/cost>

**The Three Trillion Dollar War, <http://reason.com/news/show/125438.html>



Photo by Gary Schoichet