

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

5/3/11

(Standup Week 312)

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: **4,452**
US military wounded: **33,023**
Iraqi civilians killed: **109,794***
Money spent on war: **\$787 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,566**
US military wounded: **11,110**
Afghani civilians killed: **16,497**
Money spent on war: **\$400 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 wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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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The Conflict Here at Home

By Bob Martin

Tonight marks the sixth anniversary of our weekly Stand-Up against the wars. Now more than ever, it is apparent that the misguided wars in Iran and Afghanistan and the resulting profits for corporate contractors are mirrored in an attack on the rights and interests of working people here at home.

The past few months have seen an unprecedented attack on public sector unions. The reason? Public employee unions are arguably the single strongest sector in the labor movement. Big corporations would like nothing better than to do away with unions, period. Through their statehouse puppets in states like Wisconsin, they are using the financial crisis that they created to try to fool the public into making teachers and other government employees the scapegoats.

Look at the numbers. It's well documented that over the last 20 years, the rich have gotten richer and the poor, poorer. The top federal income tax bracket has shrunk – from 32% to as low as 17% (or less) for many millionaires. These changes are part of a conscious plan that includes ‘pay to play’ elections under which corporations can make unlimited campaign contributions.

It's also clear that we have our own Washington DC and Wisconsin right here in New York. State income tax rates have shrunk in recent years. Governor Cuomo, rather than extend the millionaire's tax, chose to cut vital services. He, also, has decided to stand with big business and blame public workers and unions. There are a number of upcoming events to make the peoples' voice heard against the cutbacks. Please join in!

We say thank you to every passer-by who has said hello, waved, honked a horn, or joined in our Stand-Up over the past six years!



Photo by Gary Scholicher