

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

5/19/09

(Standup Week 210)

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: 4,296 US military wounded: 31,249

Iraqi civilians killed: 100,351* Money spent on war: \$624 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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The Silence is Deafening and the War Keeps on Going

By Carla Nordstrom

A few years ago I wrote a resolution that the Chelsea Reform Democrats approved and sent to our city council representative. It requested that the City Council ask President Bush and his administration to refrain from using the tragedy of 9/11 as an excuse for attacking other countries. I saw Christine Quinn shortly after I sent it and inquired how she would act on it. Her response was, “I can’t tell the President what to do.” She turned and walked away as I asked, “Why not?”

With a new president in Washington, it appears that many of our elected representatives are also into the silent treatment. When he announced that he would end the war on Iraq in sixteen months, the response from Congress was quiet. When President Obama said that he wanted to increase troop levels in Afghanistan, the response from Congress was muted. When the President admitted that our military has been sending unmanned drones into Pakistan to attack communities along the border, the response of Congress was subdued.

Last week sixty congress members voted against the most recent supplemental budget to fund the wars. That was a step in the right direction though, unfortunately, our representative did not vote with them.

Creating a sixteen-month time table to end a war, sending troops into a quagmire, and launching unmanned missiles from far away are unethical and cynical, like waging a pre-emptive war. The voices that should have pointed this out have remained silent. What is the point of having elected representatives if they don’t use their voices?



Photo by Gary Schoricht