

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

5/20/08

(Standup Week 158)

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: 4,078 US military wounded: 30,004**

**Iraqi civilians killed: 91,344\* Money spent on war: \$530 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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## U.S. CASUALTIES OF THE IRAQ WAR

By Ann Brameier

**U.S. ARMED FORCES:** About **1.6 million** troops have served in Iraq or Afghanistan.

**As of 5/15/08,** at least **4,080** US Military died in Iraq war since it began in March, 2003.

**As of 3/08,** at least **3,325** died as a result of hostile action—(AP count, which is 2 lower than the Defense Dept.’s tally); **8,914** wounded requiring medical air transport; **20,416** wounded not requiring Medevac.

Of wounded—**13,109** unable to return to duty within 72 hrs.

Medevac required for additional **8,274** for non-hostile injuries, and for **23,052** for disease or other med conditions.

**In 3/03,** US military personnel were wounded in action at a rate averaging about **350** per month. **As of 9/07,** this rate has increased to about **675** per month.

**Total wounded as of 5/16/08:** Official number **30,004;** But: 25% of veterans of the Global War on Terror have filed disability and pension benefit claims.

**152,699** vets filed claims after combat; **100,000** claims granted; **1,502** have been compensated as 100% disabled.

**As of 1/12/07:** **500** troops undergone amputations due to IW. Toes & fingers aren’t counted. **As of 9/30/06:** **725** had limbs amputated from wounds in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A 2006 study by Walter Reed Medical Center, which serves more critically injured soldiers than most VA hospitals, concluded that 62% of patients there had suffered a brain injury.

**DoD casualty release:** **320,000** Vets (of Iraq & Afghanistan) have brain injuries (**20,000** Vets’ brain injuries not listed); **300,000** vets have a mental problem (major depression or PTSD); only about half have sought treatment. (Rand study) 31% suffer a brain injury or stress disorder or a mix of both; 7% have both.

Dr. Ira Katz, top mental health official at the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, emailed an aide they were seeing **1,000** suicide attempts a month at their medical facilities.

See [www.antiwar.com/casualties](http://www.antiwar.com/casualties) for explanations of some of the data herein, and updates. See [www.justforeignpolicy.org/iraq/counterexplanation.html](http://www.justforeignpolicy.org/iraq/counterexplanation.html) for figures on Iraqi casualties.