

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

5/26/09

(Standup Week 211)

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: 4,300 US military wounded: 31,285

Iraqi civilians killed: 100,555* Money spent on war: \$626 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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What a (non)difference a week makes

By Dave Robinson

On Monday, May 11 an American soldier killed five other American soldiers at a PTSD therapy session in Baghdad. News reports included percentages of American soldiers who are kept heavily medicated with anti-depressants and sleep aids; pharmaceutical requirements to keep sufficient “boots on the ground”. Other stories recalled recent killings and assaults committed by other young soldiers crippled with PTSD who could not adjust to life either on the battlefield or back home after what they experienced in Iraq and/or Afghanistan and/or both.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, May 12 and 13, the news was all about torture. President Obama broke his promise to release more photographs and videos that some reports claim show criminal abuse even more shocking than Abu Ghraib. Obama claims releasing the material would serve no good and would only endanger our soldiers. Former Vice President Cheney claims endlessly that not only has torture “worked,” but that Obama is endangering America by refusing to do it. The idea that Obama is somehow endangering all of us by not holding torturers accountable under the law escapes them both.

And on Thursday, May 14, the House approved another \$97B for continued operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and apparently Pakistan. Chelsea’s rep, Jerry Nadler, joined the great majority of his fellow Democrats in spending obscene amounts of borrowed money to continue wars he claims not to support.

Same as it ever was. Is this what voters who demanded “Change” expected?

Support our soldiers. Bring them all home now.



Photo by Gary Schlichter