

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

6/7/11

(Standup Week 317)

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: **4,454**
US military wounded: **33,041**
Iraqi civilians killed: **110,497***
Money spent on war: **\$792 billion**

In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,604**
US military wounded: **11,722**
Afghani civilians killed: **16,549**
Money spent on war: **\$414 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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War Without End

By Carla Nordstrom

The good news is that there is a growing push to end U.S. involvement in Afghanistan. New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand has called for withdrawal. In March, 65 members of Congress, including five Republicans, voted to end the occupation in Afghanistan. President Obama is set to announce an initial drawdown of troops. With the death of Osama bin Laden and the economic crisis at home, Americans are fed up with the “war without end” strategy that this administration follows. Politicians are starting to catch on that it may be time to cut and run.

While things look promising in Afghanistan, the bad news, according to Seymour Hersh in an interview on Democracy Now, is that our involvement in Iraq will escalate. Hersh maintains, “...the real crisis is going to be about Iraq, because, whatever you’re hearing, Iraq is going bad. Sunnis are killing Shia. It’s sectarian war.” He expects that there will be an effort to keep 40,000 to 50,000 troops in Iraq to quell the internal battles between the Shiites and Sunnis.

So while the American people have their eye on one ball, withdrawal from Afghanistan, the politicians and generals are revving up to take us back into the quagmire we created in Iraq. Of course, they also continue to have their eye on Iran.

This spring, when Tunisia, Egypt, and so many people throughout the Middle East rose up to change their governments, it became very clear that this U.S. strategy is a hindrance to the actions of thoughtful people. We can’t be a positive influence until we rid ourselves of “war without end.” Amen.



Photo by Gary Scholchet