

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

6/28/11

(Standup Week 320)

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: **4,463**  
US military wounded: **33,080**  
Iraqi civilians killed: **110,810\***  
Money spent on war: **\$792 billion**

### In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,634**  
US military wounded: **12,137**  
Afghani civilians killed: **16,633**  
Money spent on war: **\$427 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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## It's Time to Redirect Military Spending to Human Investment

By Jacqueline Schoenhaus-Barnett

For the first time in 40 years, since the Vietnam War, the U.S. Conference of Mayors (1,200 members) has taken a position against military spending. The resolution was originally drafted and promulgated by the activist group Code Pink. Although this resolution is largely symbolic it reflects the disgust of a war-weary nation that's being bankrupted by the military-corporate-oil profiteers. An unwillingness to invest in the citizenry of this country is being reflected in the forced cuts on Human Services.

The lead sponsor of the resolution, Eugene, Oregon Mayor Kitty Piercy, is responsible for its introduction at the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Baltimore, although she was unable to attend due to her state's austerity measures. The opening lines of the resolution make clear the economic motivation underlying the issue: “Whereas the ongoing economic crisis has created budget shortfalls...(we are required) to re-examine our national priorities...the people of the United States are paying 126 billion dollars per year to wage war in Iraq and Afghanistan.” As stated by Kitty Percy: “I think every national decision that's made comes to roost in our communities, with our families on the ground here in our cities. I think the mayors of this country, who see everyday people every day and see how federal policies affect families' lives and the struggle that people are having, I think they are just the voices that need to be heard and to join together to work hand in hand with our federal government to try to find a way to get this country back on track.”



Photo by Gary Scholchet