

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

8/25/09

(Standup Week 224)

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: 4,334 US military wounded: 31,439

Iraqi civilians killed: 101,346* Money spent on war: \$652 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+

The Ubiquitous Peace Symbol

By Carla Nordstrom

This summer, with coats and jackets shed, suddenly the peace symbol is everywhere. You see it on shirts, scarves, handbags, and jewelry. There is not a day when I do not see somebody sporting that round symbol with the upside down Y at its center. When I say everywhere, I don't mean only places like New York City; I also mean Painesville, Ohio, New Hampshire, and places off the beaten path such as Letchworth State Park in Wyoming County, New York. Even our president's daughters have been spotted wearing shirts that display the peace symbol.

What does it mean that so many people are accessorizing themselves with the symbol of the anti-nuclear and peace marches of the last fifty years? It would be easy to suggest that the peace symbol is just a fashion statement; Seventh Avenue has co-opted the elegant circle with flag codes for N (nuclear) and D (disarmament) into its latest fashion designs. But perhaps another possibility is that the fashion industry is responding to a quagmire similar to the one that essentially ended the Soviet Union during their involvement there.

It is possible to find out if people are conscious of the symbol they are wearing by greeting them with the two-fingered V, another symbol of peace. If Obama's people were to raise their fingers and find that people are, in fact, wearing their sentiments on their shirts, a change in war policy will be in order.



Photo by Gary Scholchet



Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War

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