

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

11/16/10

(Standup Week 288)

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: **4,427**  
US military wounded: **32,900**  
Iraqi civilians killed: **107,706\***  
Money spent on war: **\$755 billion**

### In Afghanistan

US military dead: **1,371**  
US military wounded: **9,240**  
Afghani civilians killed: **16,177**  
Money spent on war: **\$350 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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## ELECTORAL FAILURE

By Randy Petsche

Despite the \$4 billion that was spent “educating the voters” in the recent elections there was almost no discussion of America’s role in the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Yemen. In the spirit of bi-partisanship both parties cooperated in keeping the wars from public view.

The Democrats did not want to talk about the wars because they are now Obama’s wars. The Republicans did not wish to advertise their support for Obama’s troop surge in Afghanistan and knew that their invasion of Iraq had caused them to lose the two previous elections. So much for the wide-open debates of democracy in action.

Everyone, even the Pentagon brass, knows the U.S. cannot win the war in Afghanistan. The NATO-U.S. expeditionary forces are relegated to drone attacks and “night raids” against suspected Taliban supporters. The CIA is reported to be running a major death squad operation. The U.S. government has shackled itself to a spectacularly corrupt regime. The notion that the expeditionary forces can win the “hearts and minds” of the invaded people is merely ludicrous.

The Afghanistan war is now costing \$12.5 billion per month and adding amounts unknown to the spiraling national debt. Does anyone believe that paying 100,000 “contractors” in Afghanistan will boost the sagging American economy?

As in Vietnam, the world’s richest and most powerful nation is being defeated by one of the world’s poorest. Write President Obama and tell him to end the fiasco before it is too late.



Photo by Gary Schochet