

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

11/23/10

(Standup Week 289)

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: **1,395**
US military wounded: **9,368**
Afghani civilians killed: **16,180**
Money spent on war: **\$356 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+

The Two Minute Mil

By Carla Nordstrom

One of the surprising aspects of the 2010 midterm elections was the disappearance of the wars on Iraq and Afghanistan as an election issue. There was little mention of the loss of life, the cost, or the purpose of the wars. As politicians fixated on federal budget deficits, the U.S. was spending approximately \$720 million a day or \$500,000 per minute on the wars in the Middle East.

According to the media, politicians, and polls the American electorate of 2010 didn't care about the casualties of the wars or wonder why we were fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. Voters didn't question whether there is a plan to end the wars or if this is the best use of our dwindling resources. The electorate seemed to have bought the argument that the deficits are our greatest worry and the cause of the recession. The mantra of the winning candidates was just cut spending and taxes and that will put people back to work and get things rolling again. American voters showed in their choices in the election of 2010 that they were upset, depressed, absorbed with their own individual concerns, and fools.

So what can peace loving people do to bring the public's attention back to the wars? Perhaps, we can refocus our fellow citizens by looking to the money. As former Senator Everett Dirksen of Illinois said, “A billion here, a billion there, and pretty soon you're talking about real money.” A million every two minutes adds up to a billion pretty quickly.

\$500,000 a minute is a lot of money to be spending on something that we don't care about.



Photo by Gary Schochet



Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War

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