

# Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

12/1/09

(Standup Week 238)

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: **4,366**  
US military wounded: **31,572**  
Iraqi civilians killed: **102,879\***  
Money spent on war: **\$705 billion**

### In Afghanistan

US military dead: **928**  
US military wounded: **4,565**  
Afghani civilians killed: **14,064**  
Money spent on war: **\$232 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+



## Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War

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## LOSING OUR PRESIDENT

By Sarah Durand

We’re losing our President. We’re losing the community activist who would direct treasury dollars towards employing the jobless to rebuild our infrastructure. We’re losing the visionary who would lead the world in carbon-emission reduction. We’re losing the senator who proclaimed a health care system free from private insurers was achievable once Democrats held Congress and the Presidency. We’re losing the diplomat who would turn us away from war, torture and the politics of fear.

What has happened?

Many of us are paralyzed into silence—even complacency—by a great social victory: an intelligent and accomplished man of color achieved the presidency of the United States. Let’s given the man a chance. But our President achieved the presidency as an insider, as a man of compromise. Barak Obama understands power politics and is directed by the forces of greatest power. This is what is happening now.

As “we the people” drift into silent acceptance, President Eisenhower’s “military industrial complex,” the tightly-knit association of the Pentagon, its contractors and financial institutions, forces policy outside our view. The military becomes the system of employment for the jobless—not constructive enterprise. More troops arrive in Afghanistan to kill and be killed, drones and Blackwater (XE) contractors take lives in Pakistan and our military presence continues in Iraq.

If you want your President back, then you better speak now.

### The White House phone numbers:

SWITCHBOARD: 202-555-1212, FAX: 202-456-7890

**Congress.org** gives you your representatives and their contact info.

**Democracynow.org** gives you in-depth reporting on issues that commercial media avoid.



Photo by Gary Scholichet