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✓ DAN HANDOLMAN	PEACE AND JUSTICE WORKS 1279 AFFINITY BLVD	
✓ RON WILLIAMS	OREGON ACTION	
✓ MAXINE FOOKSON	OREGON PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	
✓ CHANI GETTLE-TALLER	SISTERS ON THE ROAD	
✓ DEB MAYER	OREGON SAVE OUR SCHOOLS	
✓ BARBARA DUDLEY	WORKING FAMILIES PARTY	
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✓ MARTÍN GONZALEZ	PORTLAND SCHOOL BOARD	
✓ JOE KEATING	OREGON WILDLIFE FEDERATION	
✓ WILLIAM SEAMAN	Portland Peaceful Response Coalition	

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Moore-Love, Karla**3 6 8 9 6**

From: Herman M. Frankel, M.D. [frankelh@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2012 11:00 AM
To: Adams, Sam; Leonard, Randy; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Saltzman; Commissioner Fish; Moore-Love, Karla
Subject: Testimony in support of the Portland City Council Resolution praising US troops and their families and calling for drawdown of troops with funds being directed to domestic purposes

01/13/12 10:59am PST

From: Herman M. Frankel, M.D. (frankelh@comcast.net)

To:

Portland Mayor Sam Adams (sam.adams@portlandoregon.gov)

Portland City Commissioner Randy Leonard (randy@portlandoregon.gov)

Portland City Commissioner Amanda Fritz (amanda@portlandoregon.gov)

Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman (dan@portlandoregon.gov)

Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish (nick@portlandoregon.gov)

Portland City Council Clerk Karla Moore-Love (karla.moore-love@portlandoregon.gov)

Subject: Testimony in support of the Portland City Council Resolution praising US troops and their families and calling for drawdown of troops with funds being directed to domestic purposes

Mayor Adams, and Commissioners Leonard, Fritz, Saltzman, and Fish:

Thank you for the Resolution praising US troops and their families and calling for drawdown of troops with funds being directed to domestic purposes.

(The Resolution is accessible at

www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=380651

Knowing that you have already received strong expressions of agreement from many other Portlanders, I'm grateful for the chance to make my contribution by submitting this written expression of support.

As you note in the Resolution, "the people of the United States have collectively paid approximately \$126 billion dollars per year to wage war in Iraq and Afghanistan; and, as long as the Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthiest remain intact, the American financial system will not sustain the costs associated with domestic and foreign priorities; and the severity of the ongoing economic crisis has created budget shortfalls at all levels of government and requires us to re-examine our national spending priorities." The Resolution concludes by calling upon the President to continue to remove military contractors and reduce the United States footprint in Iraq and to immediately direct his attention to ending of the war in Afghanistan; and redirect these war dollars home to meet vital human needs, promote job creation, rebuild our infrastructure, aid municipal and state governments, and develop a new economy based upon renewable, sustainable energy and reduce the federal debt.

I appreciate the focus of the Resolution on the importance of ending the use of public monies to wage war in Iraq and Afghanistan; the importance of having the wealthy pay their appropriate share of taxes; and the importance of using tax revenues to meet vital human needs, promote job creation, rebuild our infrastructure, and aid municipal and state governments.

1/13/2012

The focus of the resolution is especially timely at this moment, when our City is planning its budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. The City Council has asked City agencies to make concrete plans for their operations in the face of possible budget cuts of 4 percent, 6 percent, and 8 percent. This comes on the heels of at least three successive years of budget cuts, of decreases in serving the public good and keeping our City a healthy and vibrant place to live, work, study, travel, and worship.

Will Portland Parks & Recreation be asked, for example, to reduce or end its support of dedicated Portland park and recreation workers who care for and protect natural areas and maintain infrastructure elsewhere; SUN Schools; aging services; park toilets; Buckman Pool; and/or the rich array of Fulton Park Community Center preschool classes, Contra Dance and Cross-Step Waltz activities, and other programs that are planned and conducted by Portlanders, are open to everyone, and are known nationally and internationally for their quality and accessibility?

The absurdity is obvious.

Thank you for reminding us that we all need to work together to structure our cultural and economic life to serve the public good. The time is now.

I'm grateful to you for your continuing commitment to hearing the voices of all Portlanders. Let's keep working together to make our city and our world a better, safer, and healthier place for everyone, one interaction at a time.

Warmly,

Herman

Herman M. Frankel, M.D. (503-227-1860)

Director, Portland Health Institute Center for Building Caring Relationships

Member, Multnomah County Family Violence Coordinating Council

Member, Communities of Color Task Force of the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic
and Sexual Violence

Member, Oregon Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team



OREGON WORKING FAMILIES PARTY

VOTE YOUR VALUES

Testimony of Barbara Dudley, Co-Chair
Before the Portland City Council
January 12, 2012

Regarding the Resolution on War Funding and Local Priorities

I am here to testify on behalf of the Oregon Working Families Party in favor of the resolution before you.

We are here because the working families of Oregon, of Portland, have been asked for nine years now, nine long years, to send their sons and daughters, husbands and wives, off to fight in misguided wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and to pay for those wars with their lives, and their tax dollars -- while the wealthiest 1% in this country have paid far less than their fair share in taxes and virtually nothing in personal sacrifice.

Not only have these wars cost hundreds of billions every year, money which has come directly out of our state and city budgets for schools, health care, police and fire protections, parks, road and bridges, but even worse, far worse, these wars have sent us back our wounded, our shell-shocked soldiers ^{+ war weary} -- with no jobs to return to, often no homes, inadequate health care, colleges where tuition outstrips the GI Bill. And it is up the cities, and counties, and states of this nation to find the funds to build housing for homeless veterans, to provide mental health services, to provide education and jobs.

These wars must end -- and end for real -- not leaving tens of thousands of troops and so-called contractors behind. A war conducted by mercenaries is still a war. We need to bring all our men and women home, whether Guard or Army or private army. We need to redirect those funds and those prodigious human resources toward rebuilding our own country. The working families of Oregon deserve nothing less.

Please join us in supporting this resolution and in supporting our returning troops, our veterans and all our working families. Thank you.



3 6 8 9 6

Testimony in support of the of City of PDX resolution to
Bring the War Dollars Home

My name is Maxine Fookson and I am here to testify in support of the resolution to bring the war \$ home.

I come here wearing the following two hats—
My daily work is as a Nurse Practitioner at a School Based Health Center where we provide health care for some of our community's most vulnerable children.


I am also here representing Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, the local chapter of an international group working for peace by educating about the health consequences of war.

I want to tell you a story about Sarah, one of my pts (name changed, but true story). This story is one of countless that I could tell that illustrates the obscenity of 1.6 billion Portland tax dollars going to wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sarah is 6 years old with very severe autism disorder. She is in a Special Education classroom in PPS. Her father works several low paying jobs to make ends meet and her mother stays at home (although she has shared that she would like to find a job but due to lack of training programs and no adequate child care for Sarah's special needs after school, this hasn't been possible).

Last school year I heard from her teacher that Sarah is very bright and that she could reach so much higher potential with additional intensive after-school services such as Physical therapy, speech and language therapy and behavioral counseling. Sarah's parents have struggled to understand the

nature and extent of her chronic condition and the kinds of health and developmental services that would benefit her. They are extremely concerned but have not received support and assistance from agencies to get her the care she needs. They have told me that at times they are at a loss of what to do.

start
In short, Sarah's life potential and the well-being of her entire family could be improved by comprehensive home based health and developmental services and these are exactly the kinds of services that have been cut back or eliminated due to budget shortfalls. In the health care system where I work, there is no longer funding for Community Health Nurses to case manage families like Sarah's. In trying to schedule a comprehensive autism evaluation at OHSU's Autism Clinic (publicly funded), I was told there is a 1-year wait for appointments due to their budgetary constraints. 

I want to join with many individuals and groups such as Oregon-Physicians for Social Responsibility to urge you to add YOUR public voice, as our city's leaders, to the chorus of Portlanders not wanting our money to buy killing and destruction. Instead we hold onto a vision that our community's dollars are infinitely better spent providing a rich array of social and health services to assist citizens like Sarah and her family to live healthy lives and reach their fullest potential.

Thank you.

Good Afternoon Fellow Portlanders! Happy New Year! Thank you for hearing us today Mayor Adams and Commissioners!

3 6 8 9 6

My name is Chani Geigle-Teller and I'm a community organizer at Sisters Of The Road. We are here today to lend our support and praise for the resolution to bring war money home and redistribute it to our communities where the need only keeps growing!

Every day at Sisters we see the people and families, veterans and workers, people of color and women, who have been pushed out to shelters and streets, curbs and cars after more than three decades of our nation's federal housing budget being slashed.

A half-billion or even a billion dollar cut here and there may not sound so severe when looked at in isolation, given the size of the overall budget. But when looking at the 38-year-cycle of draconian cuts to our nation's affordable housing programs and the direct correlation of how this created and perpetuates homelessness, we can better understand and hopefully fight against these continued attacks on the human right to housing.

We have heard you say that we need more money for local housing from the feds and we agree. This redistribution of money is an obvious solution and we applaud your leadership to show what real people value, what we need.

At Sisters, in the tradition of Martin Luther King Jr, Dorothy Day and Ghandi, we call for community based, nonviolent solutions to societal problems. We need to end our imperialist wars and bring the money home.

And on that note, we also want to extend a warm invite to everyone to join us on Monday at noon for Sisters 19th Martin Luther King Jr Day March and get in the streets for racial and economic justice! Thanks again for your time and the work you've done with the community here today!



2012 HUD BUDGET FACT SHEET



3 6 8 9 6

November 18, 2011

WRAP has produced this fact sheet to provide a historical basis for understanding the affordable housing cuts in HUD that once again were included in the Federal Congressional Budget process. A half-billion or even a billion dollar cut here and there may not sound so severe when looked at in isolation, given the size of the overall budget. But when looking at the 38-year-cycle of draconian cuts to our nation's affordable housing programs and the direct correlation of how this created and perpetuates homelessness, we can better understand and hopefully fight against these continued attacks on the human right to housing.

History of Slashing HUD Budget

1978 to 1983: HUD budget authority shrank from **\$83 billion** to a little more than **\$18 billion** (in 2004 constant dollars) and shelters opened throughout the United States.

1995 – 2011: During this time, 290,588 existing units of public housing and 360,000 Section 8 units **have been lost**. With another 7,107 approved for demolition/disposition since March of this year. Also during this time 830,000 new Jail and Prison cells have been created.

1996 – 2011: HUD funding for new public housing units – the safety net for the poorest among us – has been zero since 1996

2008: Homeowner tax breaks cost the US Treasury approximately \$144 billion, with 75% of this expenditure benefiting homeowners earning more than \$100,000 a year, while total funding in all federal low-income housing assistance programs was \$46 billion — **a difference of \$98 billion**.

2012 cuts to HUD budget include:

2012: HUD's budget is \$37.4 billion, a **decrease of \$3.7 billion** from 2011 budget of \$41.1 billion. (In today's dollars). Homelessness is on the rise.

2012: Tenant based Section 8 funding was level funded at **\$18.9 billion**....Press release from committee states "tenants currently in housing will not lose housing" but with this rising costs in the program that seems unlikely.

2012: Public housing operating funds in 2012 is \$3.96 billion. This represents a decrease of **\$760 million** in just the past three years (2010 funds of \$4.7 billion and 2011 funds of \$4.6 billion).

2012: Capital available to perform maintenance in Public Housing for 2012 is \$1.875 billion. This represents **a decrease of \$625 million** in just the past three years (2010 capital funds of \$2.5 billion and 2011 capital funds of \$2.04 billion) Currently HUD's public housing maintenance needs are estimated at \$20-30 billion. Instead of funding this backlog Congress has passed the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) which authorizes the conversion of up to 60,000 public housing and Mod Rehab units to private or non-profit owned project-based Section 8 units. However, the bill provides no new funding; instead, it directs HUD to use existing resources and fund increased Section 8 costs through reductions in public housing operating and capital funds directly related to the demonstration units.

2012: Section 202, funding for senior housing, is \$374 million, a harsh decrease of **\$461 million** since 2010 (\$825 million).

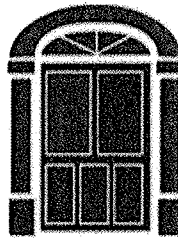
2012: Section 811 funding for disabled people increased in 2012 to \$165 million from \$149 million in 2011.

2012: HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People with Aids) **was cut \$2 million** in 2012 to \$332 million following a \$3 million cut in 2010.

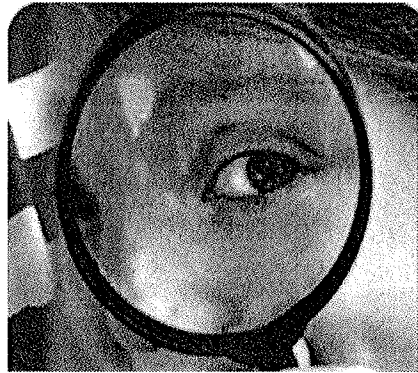
2012: CDBG (Community Development Block Grants) were cut to **\$2.9 billion** in 2012, another consistent decrease from **2010 levels of \$3.9 billion and \$3.3 billion in 2011.**

The recent corporate bailout cost taxpayers over \$800 billion — a sum that surpasses the entirety of funding allocated for homeless assistance and affordable housing over the last three decades.

Until we recognize housing as a human right and enact policies and budget allocations that reflect that right, along with quality education, economic security, and health care, we will not end homelessness. So WRAP is calling on the federal government to: 1) Restore federal affordable housing funding to comparable 1978 levels; 2) Turn empty buildings into housing; 3) Improve living conditions in existing affordable housing; 4) Put moratorium on demolitions without replacement and right of return; and 5) Stop criminalizing homelessness.



Great
Schools
For
America



Education Watch

Billionaires rule our schools. Bill Gates, Eli Broad, the Waltons, Wall Street bankers, and hedge fund managers are intent on privatizing our public schools. They create and fund one phony organization after another.

How do you know whom to trust? Follow Education Watch at Great Schools for America to keep an eye on the "reformers."

Great Schools for America
greatschoolsforamerica.org

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SAVE OUR SCHOOLS

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN, WE DEMAND:

EQUITABLE FUNDING FOR ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

- Equitable, adequate funding across all public schools and school systems
- Full public funding of family and community support services
- Full funding for 21st century school and neighborhood libraries
- An end to economically and racially re-segregated schools

AN END TO HIGH STAKES TESTING USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDENT, TEACHER, AND SCHOOL EVALUATION

- The use of multiple and varied assessments to evaluate students, teachers, and schools
- An end to pay per test performance for teachers and administrators
- An end to public school closures based upon test performance

TEACHER, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP IN FORMING PUBLIC EDUCATION POLICIES

- Educator and civic community leadership in drafting new ESEA legislation
- Federal support for local school programs free of punitive and competitive funding
- An end to political and corporate control of curriculum, instruction and assessment decisions for teachers and administrators

CURRICULUM DEVELOPED FOR AND BY LOCAL SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

- Support for teacher and student access to a wide-range of instructional programs and technologies
- Well-rounded education that develops every student's intellectual, creative, and physical potential
- Opportunities for multicultural/multilingual curriculum for all students
- Small class sizes that foster caring, democratic learning communities



AN AFFILIATE OF

**SAVE OUR
SCHOOLS**

<http://www.saveourschoolsmarch.org/>

AND

**PARENTS
ACROSS
AMERICA**

<http://parentsacrossamerica.org/>

FIND US

OregonSOSinfo@gmail.com



OregonSOS

PARENTS ACROSS AMERICA

WHAT WORKS:

Proven Reforms: We support the expansion of sensible, research-based reforms, such as pre-K programs, full-day Kindergarten, small classes, parent involvement, strong, experienced teachers, a well-rounded curriculum and evaluation systems that go beyond test scores.

Sufficient and Equitable Funding: Resources do matter, especially when invested in programs that have been proven to work.

Diversity: We support creating diverse, inclusive schools and classrooms whenever possible.

Meaningful Parent Involvement: Parents must have a significant voice in policies at the school, district, state and national levels. We are not just “consumers” or “customers” but knowledgeable, necessary partners in any effective reform effort.

WHAT DOESN'T WORK:

Privatization: A strong public education system is fundamental to our democracy. We oppose efforts to privatize public education through the expansion of charters, vouchers or other privately-run programs at the expense of regular public schools.

High-Stakes Testing: Excessive reliance on standardized exams narrows the curriculum, promotes teaching to the test and leads to unfair and unreliable evaluations of students, teachers and schools.

School Closings: Closing schools wreaks havoc on families and communities, and too often fails to deliver on promises to create better opportunities for children. We believe in improving the schools we have, rather than shutting them down.

Ignoring Poverty: The nation's educational “crisis” is made worse by the widening gap between rich and poor. Along with investing in our schools, we should also be investing in families.

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AND

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FIND US

OregonSOSinfo@gmail.com



OregonSOS

My name is Deb Mayer. I am a founding member of Oregon Save Our Schools, Director of Great Schools for America, and mother of an Afghanistan war veteran. I was also a teacher until I lost my job in Indiana for saying four little words "I honk for peace" before the war in Iraq began. When I challenged the school in court to get my job back, the 7th Circuit ruled that teachers have no right of free speech at school. When the Supreme Court of the United States declined to hear my case in 2007, it cast a chill on free speech across the nation.

While my case was winding its way through court, my son was a Naval officer serving as a nuclear engineer on a submarine. Inexplicably, he was yanked from that duty and sent to the war in Afghanistan. He returned home four years ago, emotionally scarred, and to this day will not speak of his military experience.

When I tell people that story, they invariably say that should never have happened in America. I agree, but I think it was only foreshadowing for so many cruel and inexplicable things that have happened to many Americans, especially children, over the past several years. Because of the wars, many children have received an inadequate education. That should never happen in America. If we believe that well-educated people are our best defense, we must do a better job educating our children, and that means spending money on public education. I would ask the Council to reduce class sizes and hire more teachers. In reallocating war dollars, I would ask that the money be spent wisely, not simply transferred from private defense contractors abroad to private education contractors here at home. Our children deserve excellent public schools, and it's high time we invested in them.

My name is Joan Horton & I live in SW Portland. I am the Co-Chair of Alliance for Democracy, Portland.

I support the abolition of Corporate Personhood, an issue that AfD has been working on since 1995.

It's insulting. Corporate Personhood is insulting. It's insulting to we living, breathing, flesh & blood Real People. It's not insulting in the name-calling way of children but in the deep, damaging, demoralizing way of oppression.

The authors of the Constitution thought so highly of real people that they gifted us with "unalienable Rights". Many unalienable rights, not just the right of Free Speech. These Rights hinge on the legal definition of "Person".

Corporations saw the value of being a Person quite clearly. They worked for 200+ years to worm, wiggle & weasel their way into that definition. They didn't settle for being declared "like a Person" or "equal to a Person". They wanted to be defined as a Person. And they got it via a series of court cases, mostly using the 14th Amendment.

It's particularly insulting that the 14th Amendment has been hijacked for this use. It was intended to give legal standing to the "argument" that real people of African descent were actually "whole persons", not some fraction thereof. It was not intended to be applied to non-living organizations. It was meant to help heal the psychological & cultural damage done by slavery, not to help further it.

To have our Constitutional Rights, which are intended to protect us from the power of government & the wealthy, given over to these non-living concoctions of people is demoralizing.

We've accepted the Corporate mind-set that values money over all else. Corporations are not living creatures and they have no soul, no emotions, no beliefs or morals. Their one and only value is self-enrichment.

We've accepted obscene levels of money & other resources being used up in War, while failing to meet our human needs and while failing to protect the environment.

We have accepted Powerlessness – the complete opposite of what the Constitution grants us. We have lost our self-respect as Real Persons. We are losing our Humanity.

To save ourselves and the planet, we Real People need to stand up and take back our

Personhood. Corporations are tools of society, not Persons, and we Real People need to return them to the toolbox.

That's what AfD, Move to Amend and similar groups are working toward. Each community must contribute for us to succeed. That's why this Resolution is so important. It's Portland's contribution to the effort.

Thank you.

Joan Horton
503-998-0862



Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group

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<http://www.pjw.info/iraq.html>

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SUPPORT FOR THE WAR DOLLARS HOME RESOLUTION, JANUARY 12, 2012

Mayor Adams and members of Council

I am pleased to be here today to support the resolution calling to bring the troops and contractors home from Iraq and Afghanistan and spend the money instead on human needs. Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group has been educating the public about the effects of US policy on the people of Iraq since 1992. Next Monday, in addition to being the celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday, is also the 21st anniversary of the "Gulf War" part one. Today is one day after the tenth anniversary of the opening of the prison camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, another US policy that costs not only money, but tarnishes the image of the US worldwide.

Our organization has been working with other local groups since August to ask Council to pass a version of the U.S. Conference of Mayors resolution to Bring the War Dollars Home. Peace activists came before you in October during "communications" slots to connect the current financial crisis facing Portland to the money spent on wars and occupations. For those who feel that these votes are only symbolic, we remind you that President Obama's decision to start drawing down troops from Afghanistan came just days after the Mayors' conference vote.

We have with us today a slate of people representing organizations and professions who can speak to the theme of money for human needs, not war. The resolution speaks of job creation, rebuilding infrastructure, municipal and state governments, sustainable energy, and paying down the national debt. We have speakers to address these issues, and specifically the human needs of health care, housing and education.

For many years our group ran a "penny poll" on Tax Day, asking people to put ten pennies representing their tax dollars into jars. There was invariably a large amount in the jars for human needs and paying off the national debt, and a very low amount in the military jar-- and we didn't tell them we were with a peace group until after they'd taken the poll.

The Occupy Wall Street movement has recognized the impact of war on the economy. Occupy Portland endorsed and gave its support to a march marking 10 years since the invasion of Afghanistan just 9 days after their inaugural event in October. Last month, Market Watch estimated that the Iraq war alone will leave a long-term debt of \$4 trillion.(-1) It also cost the lives of 4474 American military members(-2) and 160,000 or more Iraqis,(-3) and will continue to cost Americans as the US embassy in Iraq, the largest in the world with 16,000 personnel including 8000 contractors, will use \$4 billion in taxpayer money annually.(-4)

The ongoing war in Afghanistan, which is supposed to end with a full drawdown in 2014, has cost the lives of at least 1756 American military personnel,(-5) and untold Afghans at the end of US/NATO bombs, drone strikes and night raids.(-6) Portland's resolution points to an amendment in the military budget passed with bipartisan support by Senator Jeff Merkley requiring the President to speed up the withdrawal from Afghanistan.(-7)

Meanwhile, the budgets continue to be cut for schools, jobs, health care, housing, the environment and infrastructure that are badly needed in Portland and around the country, while the top 1% of Americans continue to accumulate wealth.

The Iraq Affinity Group would like to make clear that bringing the war dollars home is not a call to abandon Iraq and Afghanistan. America needs to pay to rebuild the infrastructures of those nations and the damage we have done, but those costs should not come with strings attached, and will be far less costly than continuing the current policy of endless warfare. Thank you.

(list of footnotes-over)

- (1) Market Watch, 12/15/11,
<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/iraq-war-ends-with-a-4-trillion-iou-2011-12-15?siteid=nwhfriend>
- (2) Dept of Defense, 1/11/12, <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/casualty.pdf>
- (3) Iraq Body Count, 1/2/12, <http://www.iraqbodycount.org/analysis/numbers/2011/>
- (4)-Al Jazeera, 12/16/11,
<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2011/12/20111214204110398186.html>
- (5)-Dept of Defense, 1/11/12, <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/casualty.pdf>
- (6)-Inter Press Service, 11/3/11,
<http://original.antiwar.com/porter/2011/11/02/isaf-data-night-raids-killed-over-1500-afghan-civilians/>
- (7)-Truthout.org, 12/2/11,
<http://www.truth-out.org/war-weary-republicans-rebuke-romney-afghanistan/1322838533>