

Why Should Local Governments Pass Resolutions To Impeach Bush & Cheney?

Some people say:

A. *"It is not the City Council's job to impeach the President..."* **FALSE!**

1. City Council members take an **oath of office** promising to protect & **defend the Constitution** from foreign & domestic enemies. They don't take an oath to focus solely on fixing potholes. If the Constitution is threatened, then their primary duty is to defend it. When it is safe, then they should of course get busy fixing potholes & all other city problems.
2. **Cities & towns routinely send petitions to Congress** for all kinds of requests. This is allowed under [Clause 3, Rule XII, Section 819](#), of the Rules of the House of Representatives. This clause is routinely used to accept petitions from cities, & memorials from states, all across the U.S. As an example, here is a [page from the Congressional Record](#) showing petitions & memorials presented to the Clerk's desk on 3/6/06.

B. *"This is not a local issue..."* **FALSE!**

1. If a federal action has a severe negative impact on a city, then it is not only appropriate for that city to defend itself, it's the responsibility of its elected leaders to actively participate in its defense & not ignore the threat.
2. **Citizens** from this city have been sent, & many more may continue to be sent to Iraq to fight in an illegal & unjustified war of colonialism & occupation. 1000's have died from all over the U.S., 10's of 1000's more have been severely maimed both physically & psychologically.
3. **Tax funds** from this city that should have been spent locally have been spent in Iraq for war & plunder. This money has been wasted in no-bid contracts with companies like Halliburton with solid & open ties to the Bush/Cheney administration. Yet this city can barely afford its emergency services, libraries, public transportation, schools, basic social necessities, etc. [[CostOfWar.com website has more details.](#)]
4. **The state National Guard** should be available to protect this city from fires, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes or other natural disasters, as they should have been but were not during "Katrina" in New Orleans in '04 & more recently in the tornado-devastated areas in Kansas. Why weren't they? Bush has them in Iraq, leaving the U.S. population at risk.

C. *"Impeachment will take time away from other legislation, like minimum wage laws..."* **FALSE!**

1. The impeachment of Clinton took only 4 months, 2 in the House & 2 in the Senate. Bush & Cheney have until Jan 2009, plenty of time to be

impeached, or to commit more crimes against humanity and the U.S. Constitution.

2. Even if it takes longer than the dubious impeachment of Clinton, protecting the Constitution is non-negotiable. Our system of government does not work when the Constitution is undermined. "Defending the Constitution" is required by the oath of every political office.
3. Not every Congressperson has to be involved with impeachment all the time. Most investigations & the trial can take place in small committees.
4. If Bush continues in office, unchallenged & with complete impunity, then he can & will use signing statements & veto powers to nullify the effect of new laws like he did with McCain's anti-[torture](#) amendment.
5. Congress cannot make appropriate & informed decisions if Bush continues to openly lie to them as he's done for over 4 years. For example, a diplomat at the International Atomic Energy Agency recently stated that most of the information provided by Bush about Iran's nuclear program "[has turned out to be incorrect](#)". Should we really wait any longer?
6. While Congress works on minimum wage laws, the White House is spying on 1,000,000's of U.S. citizens/residents, torturing & killing 1000's of people, sending more troops to kill & die in Iraq, & is now lying to justify a war with Iran. Impeachment will force Bush to answer questions, hopefully taking time away from the White House's planning of further crimes.
7. The Environmental Protection Act was signed into law by Pres. Nixon while he was being impeached. The government will not be shut down.

D. "Impeachment will hurt the anti-war effort..." FALSE!

1. Bush is the principal obstacle to peace & blocks all efforts to stop this war. He ordered the war & continues his illegal occupation under false pretenses & against the will of the vast mass majority of the U.S. population & the world's people. Impeachment brings us closer to disclosure & peace.
2. An investigation of Bush will reveal countless facts about the Iraq war that are currently kept secret & classified. "Discovery", mandatory disclosure of illegally classified info will strengthen the case against this war.
3. The reasons stated by Bush were & are calculated lies. An investigation to determine the truth behind the abuse of executive powers & presidential authority is necessary to avoid a repeat performance, by any future President... either Republican or Democratic. It will demand accountability.
4. Iraq is now a chaotic & dismal human & logistical tragedy created by the U.S. under the Bush/Cheney "leadership". How can we expect Bush... who lied to get us into Iraq & who knowingly keeps us in an illegal & unjust

occupation, which has been courageously resisted by the Iraqi people, to be either willing or able to lead us out of Iraq?

5. If we don't impeach Bush now he may start another catastrophic war, this time with Iran. Bush is already positioning forces near Iran & making claims about that country that are eerily similar to Iraq. Even U.S. General Pace has [questioned the administration claims about Iran](#).

E. "Impeachment is off the table..." FALSE!

1. Impeachment is provided by the Constitution as a mechanism to protect against the abuse of power by a President. As long as the Constitution is valid, then impeachment will be "on the table" as a possible remedy... & a legal & democratic recourse of the voting population.
2. Democrats who are against the impeachment of Bush/Cheney may be afraid of setting a precedent that makes war crimes an impeachable offense for a U.S. President, since the same criteria may be applied to a Democratic President in the future. Given that many Democratic Presidents have committed similar crimes & told similar lies, their fear is quite understandable. This undemocratic position must be denounced & opposed.
3. The public is demanding impeachment & the will of the people is never off the table. We must enforce Constitution on behalf of everyone & not allow the rich & powerful to commit crimes with impunity.
4. Impeachment is on the table, & always has been. No Speaker of the House, no politician, no lackey for the ruling class can take it off the table.

F. "Impeachment will never happen..." FALSE!

1. People said the abolition of slavery would never happen. They also said women's rights, workers' rights, etc would never happen.
2. "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." – Edmund Burke
3. The question isn't whether it could happen but whether it should happen.

1) Did you know?

Iraqi men, women, & children are routinely rounded up by the 1,000's, accused of resisting U.S. domination... & held indefinitely in U.S. run prisons, hooded & sleep deprived. If found not "guilty," & if they survive the torture, they're released. If found "guilty," they're doomed to years of prison & even death for the "crime" of resisting a foreign colonial power.

2) Did you know?

The U.S. gov't violates international law*, which states that colonialism & occupation are illegal, & crimes against humanity, whether Italian, German, British, Spanish, Japanese, Portuguese, French, Belgian, Russian, Dutch, or U.S., any & all colonialism is illegal.

3) Did you know?

International law states that people who are subject to foreign occupation & colonial rule, have the right to resist & fight the occupation by any means necessary, up to & including armed struggle. Iraqis have a legal, moral, & patriotic right to fight for self-determination.

4) Did you know? Bush & Cheney knowingly & criminally LIED about the reasons for war against Iraq & occupation. So far over 650,000 Iraqis, & over 3,300 U.S. troops have died. Bush calls Iraqi national liberation fighters “terrorists,” for defending their land from foreign occupiers. Who here would not fight if a foreign country bombed & occupied our country?

- a) **IRAQ** had NO weapons of mass destruction. None have been found in over 4 years.
- b) **IRAQ** had NO nuclear war materials. None have been found in over 4 years.
- c) **IRAQ** had NOTHING at all to do with 9/11, & never committed terrorism against the U.S.**
- d) **IRAQ's** prior gov't had more democratic progress... participation of women, was secular, & less repressive than the U.S.-supported kingdoms/dictatorships of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait & Jordan who all enjoy warm relations with U.S. oil companies. The prior gov't had more popular support & stability than does the U.S.- installed & protected puppet gov't.
- e) For Bush, the real “crime” was the prior gov't's unwillingness to hand over Iraq's oil reserves to the U.S. Oil Mafia. “Operation Iraqi Liberation,” spells “O.I.L.” Plain & simple.

5) Did you know?

Private U.S. military/security contractors are running prisons & military actions in Iraq along w/the U.S. & British military. There are over 126,000 mercenaries who do not answer to the U.S. Congress. These private thugs torture people w/complete impunity. The pentagon says they have no authority over private citizens & that the Iraqi gov't is in charge of monitoring abuse of inmates. But since the U.S. invasion there has not been a real Iraqi gov't, & the interrogators get away w/murder. Bush, as expected, looks the other way & obstructs all U.S. & international scrutiny. **Many of the private security/prison employees come from the U.S. penal system. Most perfected their brutal techniques on the over 2 million people imprisoned here in the U.S., mostly Black & Hispanic... & many wrongly convicted.**

Is the U.S. exporting democracy? **No!** Is it colonialism & imperialism? Yes!

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Footnotes:

* The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights

** The San Diego Union Tribune article titled “Bush: No evidence links Hussein to 9/11”, dated Sept 18, 2003, page A16.