

# TALKING POINTS



WDTC

## The Question: *How's the country doing?*

### Re: War in Iraq ...

- 1,955 soldiers killed in Iraq since 3/19/03. 1818 since "Mission Accomplished" 5/1/03. 1488 Since capture of Saddam (12/13/03). 523 since election on 1/31/05 14,755 wounded. At least 1000 treated at army's largest hospitals in Europe for mental health issues. SOURCE: antiwar.com/casualties as of October 12, 2005.
  - President issues "torture memos" lifting limits on prisoner abuse. (2002)
  - \$300 billion spent on Iraq war as of August 12, 2005
  - 0 weapons of mass destruction found in Iraq. State of Union address (2003) falsely claims that Iraq had sought yellow cake uranium.
  - \$7 billion no-bid contract given to Halliburton for reconstruction of Iraq.
  - Osama bin Laden still free.
- SOURCE: dsc.org (Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee) for last 5 bullets.

### Re: Country's health (fiscal and otherwise)

- \$395 billion – deficit under President Bush in 2004. (\$236 billion was the surplus when President Clinton left office).
- \$1.3 trillion tax cut for the wealthy passes in 2001.
- Nation is gravely unprepared for flu pandemic. US has only 2% of courses of antiviral treatments we'll need. SOURCE: New York Times (10/8/05 and moveon.org).
- Stewart Simonson is the Bush administration's point man for flu pandemic, but he has no public health management experience. SOURCE: moveon.org.
- 47% of Americans surveyed say there is too little government involvement in the area of environment protection. Water pollution, air pollution, global warming, ozone depletion and forest land depletion are the areas of concern in rank order. SOURCE: Wall Street Journal Oct. 13, 2005.

### What you can do...

- Invest time and money to get Congress back in the hands of the Democrats. Sign up at dsc.org.
- Be more proactive in conversations with others about key issues we face as a nation. Use Talking Points as a reference.
- Get involved at moveon.org re: Stewart Simonson or at nrdc.org re: environment.

#### *For more information:*

NRDC.org (Natural Resources Defense Council)

[Moveon.org](http://Moveon.org), [Misleader.org](http://Misleader.org), [cyberactivist.us](http://cyberactivist.us)

Google, yahoo and cnn are great resources to research current issues on line.



Talking Points is presented by the Wakefield Democratic Town Committee to educate its members and the local community on key issues of the day.

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Wakefield Democratic Town Committee [wakefield democrats@rcn.com](mailto:wakefield democrats@rcn.com)