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Ad from Iraq war families refused by Utah TV station

By: AP on: 21.08.2005 [03:40] (34 reads)

(2995 bytes)

21 August 2005

SALT LAKE CITY - A Utah television station has rejected an anti-war advertisement featuring the California mother whose son's death in Iraq prompted her August vigil outside President George W. Bush's Texas ranch, deeming it "inappropriate" for the local market.

In the ad, Cindy Sheehan pleads with Bush for a meeting and accuses him of lying to the American people about Iraq's development of weapons of mass destruction and about that country's connection to Al Qaeda.

"I love my country. But how many more of our loved ones need to die in this senseless war?" a weary-looking Sheehan asks in the ad. "I know you can't bring Casey back. But it's time to admit mistakes and bring our troops home now."

A national sales representative for KTVX, the local ABC affiliate, rejected the 60-second spot in an e-mail to media buyers, calling it an "inappropriate commercial advertisement for Salt Lake City."

Bush carried nearly 70 percent of the vote last fall in Utah, one of the most conservative states north of the so-called Bible Belt.



Still, three other local stations began running the same ad on Saturday, two days before Bush is scheduled to speak to the national convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars here.

The ads were bought for Gold Star Families for Peace by the Washington, D.C.-based company, Fenton Communications, which provided a copy of the e-mail received from station sales representative Jemina Keller to The Associated Press.

"The viewpoints reflected in the spot are incompatible with our marketplace and will not be well received by our viewers," the e-mail said. "In addition, we feel that the spot does not qualify as an issue advertisement (no refoopen democratic society?)"

Gold Star Families wanted the ads to appear on Salt Lake City television stations over the next few days because Bush will be here Monday to address a convention of the 15,000-member VFW, said Celeste Zappala, a Gold Star co-founder along with Sheehan.

Weather

Baghdad	
	SU, 21/08 +43..+45 °C W, 6 m/s
Basrah	
	SU, 21/08 +45..+47 °C NW, 3 m/s

Calendar-Filter

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Zappala, who will be in Salt Lake on Monday to speak at a protest rally, said she was puzzled by the television station's decision.

"What stunned me was that it was inappropriate to hear this message," she said Saturday from her home in Philadelphia. "How is it that Salt Lake City should hear no questions about the war?"

Sheehan's son, Army Spc. Casey Sheehan, 24, died last year, just five days after arriving in Iraq. She started her war protest Aug. 6 off the road leading to Bush's ranch and had vowed to remain there until Bush granted her a meeting or until he returned to Washington on Sept. 3.

Sheehan was forced to leave Texas on Thursday after her mother suffered a stroke in California, but about 100 participants who had joined her remained there Saturday in her absence.

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Time to boycott the stations sponsors...

by kamau on 21.08.2005 [03:55]

...it works every time!

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in mosul

Aug 11: Policeman in
Mansour/Al-Yarmuk
area, Baghdad

Aug 11: Worshipper
going to mosque,
Baghdad

Aug 11: 5 by roadside
bomb in Baiji

Aug 11: Two shot dead
in Al-Isakhi

Aug 11: Policeman shot
dead in Al-Dujail

Aug 11: 2 in attack on
truck convoy, Baquba

Aug 11: Interpreter for
US forces in Kirkuk

Aug 11: Pharmacist and
wife in west Baghdad

Aug 10: Traffic
policeman by mortar,
Adhamiya, Baghdad

Aug 10: 6 by suicide car
bomb, Ghazaliyah,
Baghdad

Aug 09: Policeman in Al-
Adel, west Baghdad

Aug 09: Five police in
New Baghdad

Aug 09: 1-2 police in
Dora, Baghdad

Aug 09: Cabinet
employee in Baghdad

Aug 09: Senior police
official in Al-Maden area

Aug 08: 5 police found in
Tigris, Samarra

Aug 08: Translator at
Doura Power Station,
Baghdad

Aug 08: Two oil
company employees
near Kirkuk

Aug 08: Former soldier
shot dead near Balad

Aug 08: Businessman
near Bayji

Aug 08: Two police near
Al-Sharqat

Aug 07: Local police
chief in Tikrit

Aug 07: Seven by
roadside bomb in
Sharqat

Aug 07: Two shot dead
in Latifiyah

Aug 07: Two in protests
in Samawah