### 1AC

#### In the context of the War on Terrorism, the distinction between legal and illegal combatants is tactically deployed as part of a larger strategy of derealization-deeming a combatant illegal not only suspends the law for that individual, but also establishes a framework to make the lives of entire populations unlivable.

**Butler 4** (Judith, AND THE DREAM OF HORSES, RHETORIC AT UC-BERKELEY, *PRECARIOUS LIFE: THE POWERS OF MOURNING AND VIOLENCE*, pgs. 67-68, 2004)

*\*\*We disagree with the author’s use of gendered language*

These acts of state are themselves not grounded in law,…fabric of life, even as one's situation is highly, if not fatally, politicized.

#### Therefore, we begin our discussion with the populations who are deemed unlivable by the larger strategies of the War on Terror - to start with ourselves would simply replicate the ignorance of violence against the Other, which justifies their exclusion from our understanding of the world around us.

#### [*Show the image of the little girl*]

#### Why is it that images like this small girl who is bleeding and screaming after US soldiers shot and killed her parents are excluded from our coverage of the war? Why is it that this murder was blamed on poor aim, and pushed into non-existence? It is our separation from these images and stories that allows us to deny our responsibility for the violence that is committed in the name of the War on Terror

**Butler 4** (Judith, AND THE DREAM OF HORSES, RHETORIC AT UC-BERKELEY, *PRECARIOUS LIFE: THE POWERS OF MOURNING AND VIOLENCE*, pgs. 5-7, 2004)

Our own acts of violence do not receive graphic coverage in the press….insist upon it, with long-term implications for the future shape and possibility of global cooperation.

#### And, the emotional and physical violence carried out in the name of the War on Terror is no more apparent than in the case of Guantanamo Bay, as expressed in a passage from Urgent Call, a poem written by Matilde De la Sierra and Jim Manzardo, prisoners of Guantanamo Bay.

Blood stained and tainted streets,

Desolate villages covered with mutilated bodies,

Despairing women, mothers, screaming,

Disappeared men,

Crying children in search of their mothers,

Hopelessness, nightmares, darkness,

Bitterness, desolation,

Human and architectural destruction.

Listen well. This is called War, Occupation

We call upon the spirits of Segundo Montes, Maura Clark, Victor Jara and Penny Lernoux who lived in the world of the poor and oppressed, and understood what it was to be powerless, to be like Christ.

Let us enter into solidarity with the poor and oppressed and receive the freedom that transcends even death.

People suspected of being terrorists,

Detained, imprisoned, in deplorable conditions,

Tortured, humiliated, stripped of their dignity.

Human beings crying out to be rescued,

To be liberated from Satan’s hands,

Even pleading to be killed,

To be sucked of their very last drop of blood

Listen well. This is called Guantanamo Bay.

*[“Where to Learn More About Guantanamo and Why It Should Be Shut Down!,” http://chicagomassaction.org/g-cmaimages/J11\_ResourceSheet.pdf]*

#### [*Brief pause*]

#### Still unconvinced of the horrors of Guantanamo Bay? Tarek Dergoul shares his experience:

"I was in extreme pain and so weak that I could barely stand. It was freezing cold and I was shaking like a washing machine. They questioned me at gunpoint and told me that if I confessed I could go home. They had already searched me and my cell twice that day, gone through my stuff, touched my Koran, felt my body around my private parts. And now they wanted to do it again, just to provoke me, but I said no, because if you submit to everything you turn into a zombie.

I heard a guard talking into his radio, ‘ERF, ERF, ERF,’ and I knew what was coming - the Extreme Reaction Force. The five cowards, I called them - five guys running in with riot gear. They pepper-sprayed me in the face and I started vomiting; in all I must have brought up five cupfuls. They pinned me down and attacked me, poking their fingers in my eyes, and forced my head into the toilet pan and flushed. They tied me up like a beast and then they were kneeling on me, kicking and punching. Finally they dragged me out of the cell in chains, into the rec yard, and shaved my beard, my hair, my eyebrows."

*['They tied me up like a beast and began kicking me', 15 May 2004, http://www.theguardian.com/world/2004/may/16/terrorism.guantanamo]*

#### [*brief pause*]

#### But, words are not enough to depict the horrors of Gitmo - the images you are about to see depict just a few of the lives that we have deemed unlivable, and thus, less valuable than our own. Because we view them as unlivable and less valuable, we ignore their deaths, beat, humiliate, and torture them, but we do not grieve for them…

#### [*Insert Gitmo pictures*]

#### And, the violence committed against these people is a natural consequence of our current ideology - by making these populations unreal we have necessitated their extermination - it is through the omission of images and perspectives that the discourse of the War on Terror plays its violent games - the 1AC refuses to relegate these lives to the sphere of the unlivable – instead, we reject the foreclosure of these lives by opening the possibility of mourning those who are considered ungrievable.

**Butler 4** (Judith, AND THE DREAM OF HORSES, RHETORIC AT UC-BERKELEY, *PRECARIOUS LIFE: THE POWERS OF MOURNING AND VIOLENCE*, pgs. 33-35, 2004)

*\*\*We disagree with the author’s use of gendered language*

If violence is done against those who are unreal, then…Africa are also, in the media, for the most part unmarkable and ungrievable.

#### The images we’ve shown you were graphic and disturbing. Hopefully, they made you feel uncomfortable - for they should inspire a sense of remorse, outrage, and hopefully, grief.

#### [*Insert Napalm picture*]

#### In the same way that images like this one of children burning and dying from Napalm attacks produced an ethical outrage and protest against the Vietnam War, images of the people tortured and killed by our aggression and War on Terror can produce an ethic which allows us to adequately recognize the violence we commit against the Other. It is the graphic nature of the images displayed that allows for the disruption the hegemonic field of representation, and the entire sense of public identity that was founded on it.

**Butler 4** (Judith, AND THE DREAM OF HORSES, RHETORIC AT UC-BERKELEY, *PRECARIOUS LIFE: THE POWERS OF MOURNING AND VIOLENCE*, pgs. 150-51, 2004)

*\*\*We disagree with the author’s use of gendered language*

In the Vietnam War, it was the pictures of the children …. instigation to a sensate democracy they occasionally perform.

#### Therefore, my partner and I advocate that the United Stated federal government should end its lease over Guantanamo Bay with Cuba.

#### This act is an affirmation of those who have been negated by the larger application of the legal/illegal distinction that this decision upholds. This affirmation is essential to opening a space for us to grieve for the persons who have been lost in strategies of violence and aggression advanced in the name of the War on Terrorism. This is a specific strategy of criticism which should not be excluded - attempts to restrain our affirmative by placing arbitrary limits on the game of debate is an extension of a conservative strategy which deems what is and is not sayable in order to control the public sphere of debate. Once it has been decided that our 1AC is treasonous, and can’t be seen or heard, the atrocities we’ve outlined also become invisible. You should reject the strategy of quelling dissent, for it is too easily incorporated into larger strategies of derealization of life.

**Butler 4** (Judith, AND THE DREAM OF HORSES, RHETORIC AT UC-BERKELEY, *PRECARIOUS LIFE: THE POWERS OF MOURNING AND VIOLENCE*, pgs. xix-xvi, 2004)

Dissent and debate depend upon the inclusion of those who maintain … as well as the ability to think critically and publicly about the effects of war.

#### Finally, by ending our lease over Guantanamo Bay with Cuba, we provide an obituary for those who have been destroyed by the War on Terror, and thereby, establish a politics of grief which refuses to foreclose our vulnerability to violence - this opens up a space for an identification with suffering. Voting affirmative is essential to creating a relationship with the Other that is not based on violence or the urge to exterminate.

**Butler 4** (Judith, AND THE DREAM OF HORSES, RHETORIC AT UC-BERKELEY, *PRECARIOUS LIFE: THE POWERS OF MOURNING AND VIOLENCE*, pgs. 30-32, 2004)

*\*\*We disagree with the author’s use of gendered language*

Is there something to be gained from grieving, …. not find such fast and furious support and will not even qualify as "grievable."