## Contention 1: The Embargo

**It is a relic of Cold War policy that serves to oppress citizens and uses the Cuban people as a means to an end**

Lesser 10 [Max, Financial Director at the George Washington Pre-Law Student Association, November 9th 2010, Penn Political Review, “The End of the Embargo Era,” <http://pennpoliticalreview.org/2010/11/the-end-of-the-embargo-era/>, accessed 7/12/13]

**Specifically, financial restrictions require the US to oppose any loans to Cuba and dual-use restrictions prevent importation of critical medical supplies**

Bolender 13 [Keith, 4-22-13, Council on Hemispheric Affairs, “The Terrorist List, and Terrorism as Practiced Against Cuba,” http://www.coha.org/22355/, accessed 6-25-13]

**Sanctions also severely affect the Cuban health service**

IHRC 2013 [IHRC, “Economic Sanctions as Human Rights Violations: International Law and the Right to Life,” Islamic Human Rights Commission, 5/14/13, <http://www.ihrc.org.uk/publications/briefings/10518-economic-sanctions-as-human-rights-violations-international-law-and-the-right-to-life>; accessed 8/1/13]

**The sanctions imposed on Cuba are a modern version of siege warfare – they purposefully deprive civilians of basic necessities putting the most vulnerable at risk**

Gordon 06 [Joy, Professor of Philosophy at Fairfield University, published in the Harvard University Press, “A Peaceful, Silent, Deadly Remedy: The Ethics Of Economic Sanctions,” Ethics and International Affairs, Volume 13, Issue 1, 4-11-06, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com.turing.library.northwestern.edu/doi/10.1111/j.1747-7093.1999.tb00330.x/pdf>, accessed 8/1/13]

**This direct violence against the Cuban people is a form of economic terrorism, but is concealed by an ethically bankrupt form of consequentialism that excuses this violence in the name of national security**

Kauzlarich et al., 01 [David, professor of sociology @ Southern Illinois Rick A. Matthews, Ohio University, William J. Miller, professor @ Carthage College, 2001, Critical Criminology, “Toward A Victimology of State Crime”, <http://jthomasniu.org/class/781/Assigs/kauzvictimology.pdf>, accessed 7-1-13]

**Sanctions have caused more deaths than weapons of mass destruction**

**Mueller and Mueller 99** [John and Karl, “Sanctions of Mass Destruction,” Foreign Affairs Vol. 78, No. 3 (May - Jun., 1999), pp. 43-53 Published by: Council on Foreign Relations, Article Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20049279>, accessed 8/29/13]

**Thus, the plan: The United States federal government should remove economic sanctions against Cuba.**

## Contention 2: Ethics

**Utilitarianism is a faulty lens for sanctions – an ethical standpoint is key**

Kochler 94 [Dr. Hans, International Press Organization and Professor of Philosophy, “Ethical Aspects of Sanctions in International Law The Practice of the Sanctions Policy and Human Rights”, <http://i-p-o.org/sanctp.htm#I>, accessed 7/8/13]

**Utilitarian calculus makes decision-making impossible— it justifies atrocities in a framework of “necro-economics”**

**Weizman 11** [Eyal, Prof of visual and spatial cultures @ Goldsmiths, U of London, The Least of All Possible Evils: Humanitarian Violence from Arendt to Gaza, p. 8-10, accessed 9/12/13]

**Backlash of other parties shouldn’t implicate your decision calculus as an ethical policy maker**

Gewirth 82 **[**Alan, Professor of Philosophy @ The University of Chicago, 19 “Human Rights: Essay on Justification and Application.” Pg. 230]

**You should never commit a sure evil to avoid a possible one – consequentialist logic can be manipulated to avoid their disads**

Gewirth 84 [Alan, Absolutism and its Consequentialist Critics, ed. Haber, p. 138-139]

**Placing blame on the Cuban regime and saying policymakers can’t consider morality is a psychological defense mechanism used to evade responsibility for an ongoing genocide**

Simons 97

[Geoff Leslie former chief editor at the National Computing Centre, 97, The Scourging of Iraq: Sanctions, Law and Natural Justice, p. 210]

**We control the scale of violence – structural violence is necessary to psychologically prime people for macro-level conflict**

Scheper-Hughes, Prof of Anthropology @ Cal-Berkely, and Bourgois Prof of Anthropology @ UPenn, ‘4

(Nancy and Philippe, Introduction: Making Sense of Violence, in Violence in War and Peace, pg. 19-22)

**Sole focus on survival destroys value to life and is always used to justify the worst atrocities.**

Callahan 73 [Daniel, Fellow at the Institute of Society and Ethics, 1973, “The Tyranny of Survival”, Pages 91-93]

**Purely conjoining together link and internal link claims only makes predictions less likely and misdirects resources---this flawed methodology leads to policy paralysis**

Berube 2k [David, PhD, and Associate Professor of Speech Communication and Director of Debate at the Univ of South Carolina. “Debunking Mini-Max Reasoning: The Limits of Extended Causal Chains in Contest Debating” Contemporary Argumentation and Debate. 21(2000). Online PDF]