**Response to Drone Usage**

Dear Senator Vitter,

After learning of the drone attack on Anwar al-Alkawati. I have made my decision about the use of drones for combat purposes. My opinion is that the government should be able to utilize drones. Even though his son was also killed, one civilian life is worth the security of a nation. Although he was an American citizen born in Colorado, the Constitution granting his right for a fair trial under any circumstances, he had committed treason against the government and the people within the country by acting as a terrorist and threat to national security and the American people. By acting on his own free will as a human being, he chose to hide on foreign soil, commit large scale acts of terrorism, and not cooperate with the United States Government.

Some people in the government tried to come up with multiple solutions to this question, “…how are we going to kill/capture Alkawati when he is on foreign soil?”. One way officials looked at the problem was to send in troops to infiltrate the facility and kill Alkawati using force. A problem to this is we could start a war and, also, we cannot deploy soldiers on foreign soil without permission from the country. But, since Yemen is governed by the Taliban, there was really no authentic government to ask for permission. Another way to carry out the operation is to fly a drone over and accurately bomb his position. This way we can honestly say that we have no military personnel on the ground or in foreign air space. By using the word personnel, we make a loop hole through the country’s policy, therefore allowing us to have a drone in their airspace. A bad thing about this idea as some say is that you could kill numbers of innocent lives that didn’t have anything to do with Alkawati or his plans. Another problem is he has his son with him at this moment because his son never leaves his side.

In my own opinion, at the time there were numerous fights and combat operations going on around the middle east after September 9, 2001 (the attack on the twin towers in New York City and the Pentagon) and a good percentage of the male population in those cities were al Qaeda members who were armed and ready to fight. If his son never left his side, then he saw all of his dealings and operations with the terrorist and certain ethnic groups. Assuming that he would most likely follow in the footsteps of his father, he would probably soon join the Taliban, so it wouldn’t hurt to bomb both.