Dear Senator Vitter,

I am writing to you because I was concerned about President Obama’s fairly recent order to launch an attack on Al-Awlaki’s vehicle in Yemen. I am concerned because amendments were ignored, and the government ledged the situation. Al-Awlaki, and his son were United States citizens, and I believe the executive branch of the government had too much power in this situation. For these reasons, I suspect the president’s decisions weren’t entirely legal. I believe an investigation is in order.

Al-Awlaki was born in New Mexico and spent the most of his life in the United States. Because of his citizenship, he was entitled to a fair and speedy trial. However, the President and the CIA took that right away from him on what grounds? Well, none really. The article states that the CIA suspected Al-Awlaki of terrorism, and he was an alleged leader. In the United States court of law everyone is innocent till proven guilty. It was reported that he was never questioned or interrogated. Technically, the United States government took the life of two innocent people.

The innocent son’s life was cut short for no valid reason. He could have done amazing things that drastically improved our quality of life, and we will never know all because the government took the life of an innocent person. One might argue that he was guilty by association but again no one ever proved that Al was guilty.

The United States government is supposed to operate on system of checks and balances. In this scenario, the executive branch has way too much power. They override the system in a way I believe should be illegal. They had no regard for these lives as human beings much less as citizens of their own country. If they’re allowed to kill a citizen of their own country just because the citizen is not on U.S soil, who’s to say they can’t kill a “threating” citizen inside our country borders? Even worse is the fact that it was not even U.S soil.

For future reference I would recommend that the U.S military start using the drones rather than the CIA. The UCAVs should only be used outside of war if the person is an imminent threat to our nation with the permission of the other nation. This way congress would need to approve future attacks increasing the accountability. Furthermore, if a terrorist is not an American citizen the government should not be allowed to just kill them off. Life is sacred and it’s not our government’ place to determine who can and can’t live. If we have a problem with another country’s citizen we should inform that country and let their government handle it.

These are the reasons an investigation on Obama’s security policy are in order. Thank you for taking your time.