…Against All Enemies, Foreign and Domestic

Dear Mr. Vitter,

Recently, there has been a great deal of controversy surrounding the murder of the American citizens Anwar al-Awlaki and his sixteen year old son. As many may know, al-Awlaki was a serious threat to the security and safety of the United States. He was a suspected terrorist that could possibly harm or even kill other Americans. After many years of vigilance and surveillance of al-Awlaki, the President gave CIA permission to launch a drone in order to kill the treasonous terrorist. Many American citizens are upset that al-Awlaki never got the chance to actually be convicted. They claim that al-Awlaki should have been given his rights of due-process by trial. Some Americans are also distressed that al-Awlaki’s son was killed in the process. As the senator of Louisiana, I assume that you have been on the receiving end of this controversy. Citizens are pressuring you to pick whether you are with the President or with your constituency. I am writing this letter to convince you to uphold our trust in the government to keep us safe and secure.

I understand what kind of dilemma the United States was in when this issue began. Neither choice that they had to make was necessarily good. They could spare al-Awlaki’s life and risk millions of lives. Or, they could extirpate al-Awlaki and only risk a few lives. Doesn’t the choice seem to be clear? When government officials are voted in, they take on the obligation to protect American citizens, no matter what the cost. The rights of one do not supersede the rights of another: the right to life and liberty. I believe that the President made the right choice because his choice protected us. For example, when a shooter walks into a school building full of little children who have just begun their lives, any reasonable person would get the kids out no matter what the cost. The government doesn’t really want to kill a human being, but they have an obligation to protect the innocent. It doesn’t matter if the shooter walks out of that building or if he rolls out of the building in a body bag. What does matter, however, is that we didn’t lose an abundance of lives.

The government was given an ultimatum. They could protect their home or they could sit still and risk it being destroyed, along with the people residing in this country. I believe that the government picked the lesser of two evils. They solved the problem to the best of their ability. Apparently, they made the right decision because we thwarted a potential terrorist attack. Honestly, I think that we citizens should be proud that our government was concerned about our safety. We should be proud that they acted on their suspicions, thus protecting the American citizens. I know that I am proud of this fact. Mr. Vitter, I strongly believe that you will not regret taking the side of the president’s national security policy. Our security and safety should always be the top priority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Citizen