GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Class 1 (Intention of political violence): The author expresses an intention of violence (threat of / support of / condonation of / a call for violence) targeting an individual or a group in political context.

Class 2 (violent political metaphor): The author's opinion / prediction / argument about essentially non-violent politics is expressed using a violent metaphor but still lacks an intention of violence.

Class 3 (neither): Tweets belonging to neither Class 1 or Class 3.

(Class 9 is used when a given Tweet is not interpretable or too limited information is provided)

GENERAL CODING GUIDELINES

Q1. Does the author express an intention (threat, support, condonation, call) of a violent act that can be interpreted <u>literally (e.g. I will kill you)</u> ?
- Yes: **Class 1** -> An intention of violence is expressed directly
- No. go to Q2

Q2. Does the author use a <u>violent metaphor</u> <u>AND</u> you think the metaphor is used to express <u>an intention of violence</u>?
- Yes: **Class 1** -> An intention of violence is expressed metaphorically
- No: go to Q3

Q3. Is there a <u>violent metaphor</u> <u>BUT</u> you think <u>no intention of violence</u> is expressed (here, do not equate 'violent' with 'aggressive/harsh')?
- Yes: **Class 2** -> Violent metaphor is used but an intention of violence is not expressed. This can still sound aggressive (the examples in 1b and 1c),
- No: **Class 3** -> a violent metaphor does not exist and an intention of violence is not expressed in either way (metaphorically or directly). This also can be aggressive (e.g., F**K you Trump!) or totally benign (e.g., I support Biden)

SPECIFIC CODING GUIDELINES

1. The phrase used to express an intention of physical violence is <u>metaphorical</u>.

   a) Violent metaphors can be used to express an intention of violence, which means that use of a violent metaphor should not automatically lead to coding a Tweet as Class 2. For a Tweet with a violent metaphor to be coded as Class 1, <u>there should be an intention of violence</u> directed at a political target revealed by the author (or the Tweet).

   b) It might be controversial whether the metaphor can be seen as a violent act or not. <u>Above all, consider the context</u>. The 16th Tweet is referencing Trump's defeat in the 2020 Presidential Election, using <u>a violent metaphor</u> (ass being kicked). Here, Trump is <u>not threatened</u> with an act of kicking. Thus, this Tweet <u>makes more sense as Class 2</u> (similar in the 802nd Tweet). Note that such Tweet can still sound aggressive/harsh without expressing an intention of violence. In the 140th Tweet, 'kill' is used to metaphorically accuse Trump of his responses to the pandemic. Here, it is obvious that no one is getting a death threat.

      - *Trump you are desperate Clown because you are going to get your ass fucking kicked in November 2020 (16th)*
      - *@YoungJyoung6350 @Joe_Burrow10 Trump has murdered 103,669 Americans the same as if he shot them on 5th Avenue. Bothered by that loss of life? (140th)*
      - *I will do whatever is necessary to have a true conservative kick your ass out of the Senate (802nd)*

   c) In contrast, the metaphorical (or indirect) phrases in the Tweets below (crush, take down, shut down, burn the cesspools down, kick) <u>can</u> be interpreted as implying <u>an actual act of violence</u>. If we think the Tweet is using such phrases to reveal an intention of violence, we can code it as Class 1. <u>However, note that there is inevitable subjectivity associated with our decision because it depends on how much of violent intention we read from the metaphor. If you do not think it belongs to Class 1, it should be Class 2 because it still contains a violent metaphor.</u>[1]

      - *Crush em.. enough.. (6th)*
      - *It's Up To Us To Take This Son Of A Bitch Down, Prosecuted, & Sentenced For Mass Killing Of Americans, Crimes Against Humanity & Traitor To Our Country ‼️ (9th)*
      - *Shut him down the pandemic is in full swing TRUMP DOES NOT CARE IF U DIE (41st)*
      - *Let them burn the cesspools down. No intervention (107th)*
      - *@mattklewis You're lying and Trump is going to crush the degenerate Democrat left (134th)*
      - *Here is the uncanny juxtaposition AGAIN. Kick Trump out. He is not our president he is Hitler in disguise (144th).*

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[1] My suggestion is to tend to be conservative in coding someting as Class 1 when the phrase of interest could be interpereted as non-violent as well.

- *November. Trump will die in November (150th).*
- *@realDonaldTrump You sound totally stable. @JoeBiden is going to kick your ass. #Biden2020 #ObamaWasBetterAtEverything #25thAmendmentNow (355th).*
- *THIS NEEDS TO STOP IMMEDIATELTY @realDonaldTrump you are causing a war and you will die! (426th).*

2. Tweets with a violent religious curse (e.g. burn in hell) can be aggressive but do not belong to Class 1 because it does not contain an intention of violence in itself but is just aggressive (harsh/hateful). Code them as Class 3. Also, we do <u>not</u> consider this a metaphor (so, do not confuse with Class 2)

- *We already lose everything, now it's your turn!!! @realDonaldTrump you are a FKG psycho!! You will burn in hell because of the pain that you have made to our people!! #anonymous #anonymusisback https://t.co/r34uB2KgQh (162nd)*

3. The Tweet <u>quotes</u> a text containing an intention of violence
   a) In general, this should not be coded as Class 1 because the quoted text itself does not tell anything about the author's intention.
   b) <u>If the author reveals an intention of violence using a quote</u>, this <u>may be considered Class 1</u> (e.g., I love it: "the only good Democrat is a dead Democrat").

4. Class 1 includes a call for self-harm as shown in the Tweets below.

- *@realDonaldTrump, do us a favor and just jump off a cliff (7th)*
- *@realDonaldTrump @SenatorTimScott WTF?! Are you kidding me? You are a dickhead. You have done nothing but divide the country, create chaos, try and make yourself a "great, very great, person all the while being a major dildo. Please stick your head a little bit farther up your ass, jump, and disappear (491st).*

5. The act in the Tweet is a legal punishment (e.g. "should go to jail" or "should be arrested right now"):
   a) <u>The general rule is that we do not code them as Class 1</u> even though they might sound aggressive/harsh/hateful. According to the general guidelines above, the following Tweets do not contain a violent metaphor (jailing and arrested are not a violent metaphor) nor do they express an intention of violence. Thus, Class 3.

- *Trump go to jail for treason that doesn't make sense ?? How about all you luciferian baby eating Satan worshiping new world order fuck heads ? You will be going to jail (24th)*
- *@Texasfreespirit He's the leader of antifa so if Trump deems antifa as a terrorist group Soros is the head terrorist so he should be arrested right along with them he's funding it! (29th)*

   b) <u>An exception to the general rule</u> is that the legal punishment involves a call for some direct harm on the target. In this case, a given Tweet can be Class 1.

- *@Nightmareobses1 @realDonaldTrump Those cops should be tried and executed. All the cops who are standing around while he bleeds should as well. Nothing but pus#:es without their badge and gun (44ᵗʰ)*

6. The Tweet uses violent political rhetoric but it is sarcasm. What to do?
   - *Of course not bro. These fckin liberals and demonRATS are and have been ruining our country for centuries! But hey let's fckin burn the cities and maybe that will solve everything🤦 #QAnon #WWG1WGA #ObamaGate #Trump2020 (365ᵗʰ).*
   - *@DonaldJTrumpJr @SenAlexander Just shoot all the sick people. That way we don't have to deal with them. Huh. You white privileged prick (380th).*

7. The meaning of a given Tweet is unclear. We code them as 9.
   a) This can happen when the text of the Tweet (and accompanied information such as the quoted Tweet, if any, and Tweets or users being replied to) does not provide sufficient information.
      - *@ConservaMomUSA @sistronk @POTUS @realDonaldTrump Nice shot! (19th)*
      - *@greggutfeld Fine people. Shithole countries. Central Park five. "Get the son of a bitch of the field". Etc.... Trump is a white nationalist. Burn it down (295ᵗʰ).*
   b) Ill-articulated text (uninterpretable in the first place)