#### Text: The United States federal government should enter into genuine, open-ended negotiations with the government of Cuba that avoid hostility and emphasize a friendly and mutually beneficial relationship. In these negotiations, the United States should offer to <*mimic the plan text e.g. remove embargo, normalize relations, economically engage, etc.>* if the government of Cuba agrees to end political repression and release all political prisoners.

#### The Affs decision to engage outside the framework of negotiations is perceived as a victory for the Cuban hardline –and– it eliminates the leverage needed to end political repression in Cuba. Only the counterplan results in the release of political prisoners and only the counterplan empowers Cuban reformers.

#### Perez, 2010(David A., Yale Law School, America’s Cuba Policy: The Way Forward: A Policy Recommendation for the U.S. State Department, Harvard Latino Law Review, Spring, 13 Harv. Latino L. Rev. 187, Lexis)

American diplomacy has traditionally suffered from a lack of funding and use. n62 This

AND

the stick of increased sanctions, and a reversion back to diplomatic isolation.