### Contention One: The History of America’s engagement with Cuba

**We begin our discussion of the resolution with an examination of the United States 1912 military intervention in the Cuban Government’s repression of the island’s first black political party. Like so many other times throughout history American racism overshadowed liberal democracy in the violent oppression of minority rights.**

**De la Fuente 1999**

(Myths of Racial Democracy: Cuba, 1900-1912, Alejandro de la Fuente, Latin American Research Review, Vol. 34, No. 3 (1999), pp. 39-73)

**The P**artido **I**ndependiente de **C**olor **had been founded in 1908 by a number of Afro-Cuban veterans**, most of them former Liberals who, de-spite their patriotic merits, had been overlooked by the dominant parties in the distribution of patronage.

**" could not afford the humiliation of a military intervention, particularly in an election year.**

**The revolutionaries appealed to the liberal nature of the United States; they assumed that the US would intervene on their behalf in order to ensure black and minority political representation. Instead when US property became threatened massive political pressure was brought to bear by the US on the Cuban government to exterminate and detain massive numbers of oppressed minorities**

**Pérez 1986**

Politics, Peasants, and People of Color: The 1912 "Race War" in Cuba Reconsidered

Author(s): Louis A. Pérez, Jr. Source: The Hispanic American Historical Review, Vol. 66, No. 3 (Aug., 1986), pp. 509-539

**The uprising began as an organized political protest, an armed movement designed to force the Gomez administration to repeal the Morua law**

**Race and gender converged in deadly combination: black men were killed summarily.' Nor were security forces inclined to make distinctions be-tween black Cubans and black foreigners. Scores of Haitian contract workers fell victim to government repression.'** Few prisoners were taken, and only in the larger provincial towns. The government reported modest casualties: two rural guards dead, a few wounded.92 By the end of the summer, peace returned to Oriente. "The movement fell away," wrote a slightly baffled Hugh Thomas 6o years later, "almost as mysteriously as it had begun."93 Just in time, too, for preparations for the 1912-13 zafra were about to begin.

**Even today when the United States supposedly has no relations with the island of Cuba we see fit to base a torture and indefinite detention facility in Guantanamo Bay against the wishes of the Sovereign Cuban government. Guantanamo, however, is not an exception, the US domestic prison system is being exported around the world causing a global penal order based around white supremacy.**

**Jiwani 2011**

“Trapped in the Carceral Net: Race, Gender, and the “War on Terror””, Yasmin Jiwani , Concordia University, Canada, Global Media Journal -- Canadian Edition, 2011.

In his analysis of the rise of the carceral state, Michel **Foucault** (1978/1995) **argues** that **the**

**prison serves as a paradigm of sorts**—**organizing the** particular **ways in which society objectifies the criminal while congealing and legitimizing disciplinary functions.**

, **“even if Guantánamo eventually closes, the problem that Guantánamo symbolises—the lawlessness, racism and imperialist mentality of the powerful—remains”** (2010: 31).

**We offer this historical analysis of our past and current engagements with the island of Cuba in order to reflect on the historical influence of whiteness and white supremacy and the constant contradiction with the supposed values of liberal democracy. White supremacy creates itself in opposition to sub-human others through a genocidal process of incarceration in a penal system that operates on the assumption guilty until proven innocent for minorities.**

**The prison industrial complex stands at both the heart of white supremacy and the American State. Minority bodies compromise the vast majority of prison populations compared to societal averages. The modern war against the black, red and brown body can only be seen as a core integral function of the current American State.**

**Rodriguez 2007**

(Dylan Rodriguez, American Globality and the U.S. Prison Regime: State violence and White Supremacy from Abu Ghraib to Stockton to Bagong Diwa, PhD. Department of Ethnic Studies, University Of California, Riverside. Kritika Kultura. 2007)

For the theoretical purposes of this essay, **white supremacy may be understood as a logic of social organization that produces**

**brutality, torture, and excess should be understood as an essential element of American statecraft, not its corruption or deviation.**

### Contention Two: Privilege in Debate

**Shanelle and I understand our privilege. We benefit from the social structure of whiteness—we don’t have to worry about being stopped by police on the street for “random checks” or that our skin color will prevent us from getting a job or getting into college. We recognize that we are fundamentally incapable of understanding what it’s like to be silenced by the racism of the state, but what we believe we need to do is to acknowledge that whiteness and abolish it, breaking it down from inside by abandoning our very identities as white and Latina.**

**The resolution is a forced choice towards endorsing whiteness. It asks us to engage with the topic countries yet the debates we have all year long are about U.S. hegemony and the merits of policymaking in order to further American empire. Never are we forced to ask the question “why are we, as in the individual debaters, in social location to say that one day they might become policymakers?” Our affirmative asks some of the necessary questions about how white privilege and a discourse of whiteness creates and shapes the carceral system that undergirds modern society.**

**Thus, we ask that you, the judge vote affirmative to endorse our methodology for abolishing whiteness.**

#### We must be traitors to whiteness, attacking the pedagogical institutions like debate that maintain whiteness and disrupting them—an anti-whiteness stance on an individual level is the only way to create the critical mass that will dissolve the white race

Ignatiev 97 (Noel, “The Point Is Not To Interpret Whiteness But To Abolish It”, Talk given at the Conference “The Making and Unmaking of Whiteness”University of California, Berkeley, April 11-13, 1997, http://racetraitor.org/abolishthepoint.pdf)

**The white race is a club. Certain people are enrolled in it at birth, without their consent, and brought up according to its rules. For the most part they go through life accepting the privileges of membership, without reflecting on the costs.**

**building a new human community.**

#### Educational institutions are the place to begin—the state uses them to maintain white supremacist structures—no strategy that does not oppose the state can destroy whiteness for it is the root

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If abolitionism is distinct from White Studies, it is also distinct from what is called “anti-racism.” There now exist a number of publications

are doing more harm to black children than all the “racist” groups combined.

#### Although we acknowledge the inevitability of the state we should work outside of it in order to develop alternative modes of knowledge production in order to deconstruct whiteness—the prison system demonstrates the necessity of abolishing whiteness in order to dismantle the racial, capitalist prison industrial complex

Davis 98 (Angela, Professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz, “Masked Racism: ¶ Reflections on the ¶ Prison Industrial Complex”, ColorLines, Fall 1998, http://www.thirdworldtraveler.com/Prison\_System/Masked\_Racism\_ADavis.html)

Mass incarceration is not a solution to unemployment, nor is it a solution to the vast array of social problems that are hidden away in a rapidly growing network of prisons and jails. However, the great majority of people have been tricked into believing in the efficacy of imprisonment, even

. To safeguard a democratic future, it is possible and necessary to weave together the many and increasing strands of resistance to the prison industrial complex into a powerful movement for social transformation.