=1AC Drug War=

==Observation 1 is the War on Drugs==

**We start our debate with the following letter from hundreds of grass-roots organizations to the heads of state in Latin America and the United States**

**Dear Honorable,**

**We, the undersigned civil society organizations throughout the region, are writing to you. We urge our states to address our concerns about the dire human rights crisis in Mesoamerica. Our organizations have documented an alarming increase in violence and human rights violations. While we recognize that transnational crime and drug trafficking play a role in this violence, we call on our governments to acknowledge that failed security policies that have militarized citizen security have only exacerbated the problem, and are directly contributing to increased human suffering in the region. It is time to refocus regional dialogue and resource investment to address the root causes of violence. Harmful “development” policies have similarly caused increased conflict and abuses, while forced migration and criminalization of migrants and human rights activists continues to divides families.**

**Militarization of the drug war has caused increased violence and has failed to provide citizen security. Human rights abuses against our families and communities are, in many cases, directly attributable to failed and counterproductive security policies that have militarized our societies in the name of the “war on drugs”. With little civilian control over security forces, massive deployments across the country have contributed to increases in forced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, torture and attacks on human rights defenders. The US government’s directly affect the human rights situation in Mesoamerica, resulting in a dramatic surge in violent crime, often reportedly perpetrated by security forces themselves**

**The violence we face today has its roots in the poverty, injustice, and inequality of our societies. National and bilateral investment policies enshrined in Free Trade Agreements exacerbate these problems. Governments and businesses routinely violates communities’ rights to consultation**

The Obama administration has beefed up military presence in Mexico

Main 13 ~~[May 9, 2013, Alex Main is a writer for the Americas~’ blog @ CEPR- Obama and the Militarization of the "Drug War" in Mexico and Central America, http://www.eurasiareview.com/24062013-ecuador-or-another-country-should-grant-asylum-to-snowden-cepr-co-director-says%E2%80%8F/~~]

During his trip last week to Mexico and Costa Rica, President Obama sought to

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continue to wait for some form of justice and compensation for the killings.

The drug war is nothing more than a genocide done in our name

Smith 11 ~~[Phillip Smith et al, November 09, 2011-Mexico~’s Symbol of Drug War Resistance Says It~’s Our Fight, Too ~~[FEATURE~~]- Online- http://stopthedrugwar.org/chronicle/2011/nov/09/mexicos\_symbol\_drug\_war\_resistan~~]

At the 2011 International Drug Policy Reform Conference in Los Angeles last weekend, one

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crimes against humanity because they are done by our governments," he said.

A genocide known all too well by blacks on the domestic front

Dix 11 ~~[2011, Carl Dix, Activist and Author- Mass Incarceration + Silence = Genocide- Online BlackAdgendaReport.com~~]

This article is a response to Bruce Dixon~’s March 27 piece, "Black mass

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and more, telling us the problem was something other than US imperialism%21)

Hence we call for the impossible economic engagement with Mexico, the bill the US can never pay. A substantial increase that erases the position of the US as the arbitrator of power. We call for reparations based on the genocide evoked on people of color due to the war on drugs and the prohibition of marijuana

Reparations or bust: No other reform is a viable option

Lee 12 ~~[2012, Martin A Lee - the author of Smoke Signals: A Social History of Marijuana – Medical, Recreational and Scientific (Scribner, 2012). He is the director of Project CBD, cofounder of the media watch group FAIR, and the author of Acid Dreams and The Beast Reawakens. For more information and regular updates, follow Smoke Signals—the book on Facebook.Image by Rolling Okie, courtesy of Creative Commons license. Marijuana legalization is a beginning, not an end. Online- http://www.realitysandwich.com/marijuana\_legalization\_not\_enough~~]

When residents of Colorado and Washington voted to legalize the adult use of cannabis,

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that doesn~’t address pathological income inequality will not be able to heal itself.

==Observation 2 is Our Framework==

Reparations for the war on drugs is rhetorically justified

Watkins 12 ~~[May 2012, Dr. Boyce D. Watkins (male) is a Scholar in Residence in Entrepreneurship and Innovation @ Syracuse University, American author, economist, political analyst, and social commentator. Formerly a member of the finance faculty @ Syracuse and also a Distinguished Scholar with the Barbara Jordan Institute for Policy Research, previously a visiting Fellow at the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics and the Centre for European Economic Research (Mannheim, Germany). He is also a faculty affiliate with the College Sports Research Institute @ the University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill; "Why Blacks Deserve Reparations for War on Drugs; NEWSONE.COM, http://newsone.com/2005463/author-of-the-new-jim-crow-agrees-with-reparations-for-the-war-on-drugs/\

The other day, I mentioned that it makes sense for Black America to call

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the mess in our community. It~’s time to start making things right.

THE 1AC~’S DISCOURSE WITHIN THE DEBATE SPACE IS ON POINT%21

Alexander 2010 ~~[Michelle Alexander is a former lawyer turn anti-incarceration activist- The New Jim Crow- 221-225~~]

The list could go on, of course, but the point has been made

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employed in the War on Drugs, this result is no freak accident.

Racism must be rejected in every instance

Memmi ~’00 ~~[2000, Albert is a Professor Emeritus of Sociology @ Unv. Of Paris, Albert-; RACISM, translated by Steve Martinot, pp.163-165~~]

The struggle against racism will be long, difficult, without intermission, without remission

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. True, it is a wager, but the stakes are irresistible.

Reject the DA – it is an attempt to deny reparations on the altar of political expediency.

Cook 2000 (Anthony E. Cook is a Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center, "RACE AND RELIGION: REVISING ~’AMERICA~’S MOST SEGREGATED HOUR~’: King and the Beloved Community: A Communitarian Defense of Black Reparations", The George Washington Law Review)

If private confession is good for the individual~’s soul, societal confession is equally important

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humiliation have led to the historic atrocities committed against black people in America.