### 1AC

**I am sorry, my brother.**

**The shackles bind my hands**

**And iron is circling the place where I sleep.**

**I am sorry, my brother,**

**That I cannot help the elderly or the widow or the little child.**

**Do not weigh the death of a man as a sign of defeat.**

**The only shame is in betraying your ideals**

**And failing to stand by your beliefs.**

#### -Othman Abdulraheem Mohammad

#### Guantanamo exists in a realm beyond good and evil, defined by pure violence. Built on Cuban land by the American military, it is governed by neither and falls outside the juridical control of any nation. The trip to Guantanamo is one of ontological transformation – the “enemy combatant” is at once accused, judged, and punished - stripped of all nationality and rights, and reduced to bare life under the guise of “detainee”.

**Pease, 03** (Donald E. Pease, the Avalon Foundation Chair of the Humanities at Dartmouth College, “The Global Homeland State: Bush's Biopolitical Settlement”, Duke University Press, boundary 2 30.3 (2003) 1-18, rm)

The detention camps … "persons of interest."

#### This exception to the condition was ratified by the American public. The Homeland Security Act magnified the state’s power to administer the collective vitality of its citizens, inscribing the body-politic into a state order with power over its collective life and death.

**Pease, 03** (Donald E. Pease, the Avalon Foundation Chair of the Humanities at Dartmouth College, “The Global Homeland State: Bush's Biopolitical Settlement”, Duke University Press, boundary 2 30.3 (2003) 1-18, rm)

As we have seen, … to the Homeland.

#### The Gulag, Apartheid, Holocaust, Factory Farm, Middle Passage, and Guantanamo are all synonymous with modernity. We live in the biopolitical epoch, balanced on the knife-edge of bare life and defined by wholesale slaughter. We must foster openness in otherwise administered spaces for the radical politicization of existence.

**Duarte, 06** (Andre De Macedo Duarte, Professor of Philosophy at Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba, Brazil, “Biopolitics and the dissemination of violence: the Arendtian critique of the present,” <http://works.bepress.com/andre_duarte/18>, rm)

These historic transformations … solidarity towards others.

Will you please observe through the wire

I am sewing my feet together

They have walked about as far

as they ever need to go.

Will you further observe

through the wire

I am sewing my heart together

It is now so full of

the ashes of my days

it will not hold any more.

Through the wire

one last time

please observe

I am sewing my lips together

that which you are denying us

we should never have

had to ask for.

--Mehmet al Assad

#### Guantanamo is not one isolated example, but the order of the day. In response to the horrors of the modern state, we request observation through the wire - a view into the despair, hopelessness, isolation, rightlessness, invisibility and voicelessness of detainees around the world. Poetry from detainees is a verbal expression of solidarity that escapes the constraints of traditional methods of speech. We recognize that we cannot change government policy - instead, the goal is to question the very grounds upon which debates about policy are premised.

**Edkins and Pin-Fat, 05** (Jenny Edkins is Professor of International Politics at the University of Wales Aberystwyth, and Véronique Pin-Fat is Lecturer in International Relations in the Centre for International Politics at the University of Manchester, “Through the Wire: Relations of Power and Relations of Violence”, Millennium - Journal of International Studies 2005 34: 1, 8/1/05, rm)

Certain, albeit limited, … policy are premised.

#### We must recall what makes debate unique and reclaim the potential it holds. Remember, there are no rules - we need only to save our activity from ourselves. The future could fundamentally surpass the present, but first we must engage creatively rather than programmatically.

**Barsky 2008** (Robert F., professor of English, French, and comparative literature at Vanderbilt University, “Safe Spaces in an Era of Gated Communities and Disproportionate Punishments,” <http://www.mlajournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1632/prof.2008.2008.1.40>)

I was going … contagious as can be.

#### Combating textual hegemony is a prior-question – do not concern youself with legibility – instead align yourself with the unwritten spoken resistance of poetry

Conquergood 2002 (Dwight Conquergood, Performance studies Interventions and Radial Research, The Drama Review Summer 2002, New York University and the Massachusetts Institution of Technology) RW

Only middle-class academics … under greater or lesser duress, opt not to do so” (1997:48; see also Scott 1990)?

#### The presentation of poetry in homogenized space opens up the possibility of the coming community – leveling zoe and bios is a prior question

Edkins and Pin-Fat, 05 (Jenny Edkins is Professor of International Politics at the University of Wales Aberystwyth, and Véronique Pin-Fat is Lecturer in International Relations in the Centre for International Politics at the University of Manchester, “Through the Wire: Relations of Power and Relations of Violence”, Millennium - Journal of International Studies 2005 34: 1, 8/1/05, rm)

One potential form of challenge …reinstated from a relation of violence.

#### Commodification exists now – our performance is a first step to reverse that

Veeren, 2 Elspeth van Veeren, PhD in the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Bristol and Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of International Relations at the University of Sussex focusing on the production of meaning in world politics through an exploration of the material and visual practices at Joint Task Force Guantánamo; “Clean War, Invisible War, Liberal War: The Clean and Dirty Politics of Guantánamo,” 3/19/2002

\*We do not defend ableist language

On top of this, many activists … Camp X-Ray and its dirty practices.

#### The poetry serves as an act of resistance and leads to activism. By showing things that are not seen and utilizing the subjective nature of language, it highlights the truth at Guantanamo Bay.

Kinsella 10 (John, world-renowned literary critic, 3/8/10, “Poetry Activism”, Huffington Post Books, <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2009/12/02/poetry-activism_n_377461.html>)

I live where I live to help … by a genuine political-ethical idea.

#### This year’s resolution presents us with the question of increasing economic engagement toward Latin America. We respond with another question: “What of the detainees”? Guantanamo has historically been a centerpiece of US economic policy toward Cuba, and we believe criticism of the effects current policy has on Guantanamo detainees is a prerequisite to further engagement

Ree, 12 Patrick Ree, student of Arts (BA), Art History, Criticism and Conservation at Rutgers University; “Locating in Obscurity: Cuba and Guantánamo Bay,” 4/19/2012, http://blog.gitmomemory.org/2012/04/19/locating-in-obscurity-cuba-and-guantanamo-bay //bghs-ms

The geography of Guantánamo has always … expansion that is evolving with new meanings of global political economy.