### Elections

#### Obama will win --- a consensus of polls and forecasts prove.

**Silver**, **9/20**/2012 (Nate, Sept. 19: A Wild Day in the Polls, but Obama Ends Up Ahead, Five Thirty Eight, New York Times, p. <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/09/20/sept-19-a-wild-day-in-the-polls-but-obama-ends-up-ahead/#h>[])

There are also going to be some outliers — sometimes because of unavoidable statistical variance

AND

an 80 percent chance of victory, that he achieved late last week.

#### Support for Big Oil causes a populist backlash --- costs Obama the election.

**Cillizza**, 4/8/**2012** (Chris – reporter for the Washington Post, writer for The Fix, ‘Big’ is bad for politicians this election year as populist sentiment prevails, Washington Post, p. http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/in-politics-big-is-bad/2012/04/08/gIQAKE8q3S\_story.html)

Big is out. Big Oil. Big Government. Big Media. Put “

AND

if they want to win. The 2012 election is a populist’s paradise.

#### Obama election is key to determine multiple foreign policy impacts --- Russian nuclear reductions, Iran strikes, Israeli-Palestinian peace, Syrian arms, and Afghanistan withdrawal.

**Diehl**, 9/2/**2012** (Jackson – Deputy Editorial Page Editor at the Washington Post, Understanding Obama’s and Romney’s foreign policy differences, Washington Post, p. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/jackson-diehl-understanding-obamas-and-romneys-foreign-policy-differences/2012/09/02/acf75318-f2c4-11e1-892d-bc92fee603a7_story.html>)

This presidential election will likely determine whether the United States and Russia undertake a major

AND

in his first term, will put Palestinian statehood on a back burner.

#### Iran strikes escalates to a nuclear world war.

**Chossudovsky**, 12/26/**2011** (Michel, Preparing to attack Iran with Nuclear Weapons, Global Research, p. http://globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=28355)

An attack on Iran would have devastating consequences, It would unleash an all out

AND

unthinkable": a nuclear holocaust over a large part of the Middle East.

#### Russian reductions prevent extinction.

**Isaacs**, 12/4/**2009** (John – executive director of the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, Rebuttals to Arguments Against New START, p. <http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/policy/nuclearweapons/articles/rebuttals_to_arguments_against_new_start/>)

Response: First, it is not necessarily the case that Russia will reduce its

AND

exchange still exist. A new arms control treaty will reduce this risk.

### Renewables

#### Renewables are competitive now

**Tickell, 8/20**/12 – British journalist, author and campaigner on health and environment issues, and author of the Kyoto2 climate initiative (Oliver, “Does the world need nuclear power to solve the climate crisis?” <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/aug/20/world-need-nuclear-power-climate-crisis>)

However, non-hydro renewables are growing very fast – up 15% in

AND

dangers and long- term liabilities. It is both romantic and right.

#### - New oil supplies derail renewables

Styles 12 (Geoffrey, “Could Oil's Surge Sink Renewable Energy?,” The Energy Collective, 7-2-12, <http://theenergycollective.com/node/89161>)

A new forecast of global oil production by the end of the decade attracted a

AND

the biggest worry that manufacturers of wind turbines and solar panels have today.

#### Renewables key to solve extinction from warming.

**Jagger, 8** – Chair of the World Future Council (Bianca, 3/6. CQ Congressional Testimony, “RENEWABLE ENERGY,” Lexis.)

"If we go beyond the point where human intervention can no longer stabilise the

AND

we must replace our carbon- driven economy with a renewable energy economy."

### States

#### Text: The United States Federal Government should grant authority for decision making over crude oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to the states. The fifty state governments of the United States should remove restrictions on crude oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. We’ll clarify.

#### Devolving control of regulating energy solves better and promotes more efficient production

Bryner 2 (Gary C. - Professor, Department of Political Science, Brigham Young University, and Research Associate, Natural Resources Law Center. University of Colorado School of Law., “ARTICLE: Policy Devolution and Environmental Law: Exploring the Transition to Sustainable Development”, Fall, 26 Environs Envtl. L. & Pol'y J. 1, lexis)

Devolution theory calls for increased policy authority and discretion to be delegated to state governments

AND

and explores the implications of the theory of sustainable development for policy devolution.

### Solvency advantage

#### Reserves aren’t sufficient to alter prices or solve demand

**Baker 11**

[ Dean Baker, PhD, Co-Director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research , 3/23/11, [http://www.cepr.net/index.php/op-eds-&-columns/op-eds-&-columns/the-imaginary-world-in-which-washington-lives](http://www.cepr.net/index.php/op-eds-%26-columns/op-eds-%26-columns/the-imaginary-world-in-which-washington-lives)]

According to the Energy Information Agency, the United States has proven reserves of 22

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oil to be energy independent or to substantially reduce the price of gas.”

#### Supply can’t meet U.S. Demand

**Sanders 10**

[Bernie, US Senator (I-VT), 5/27/10, <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2010/may/27/oil-spill-bernie-sanders-energy-offshore-drilling>]

Offshore drilling simply does not achieve the goals that its advocates claim, and it

AND

provides roughly 1% of the oil we use in the United States.

#### Arctic conditions cause accidents- kills the industry

Cunningham 12

[Nicholas, Policy Analyst at the American Security Project, August 2012, <http://americansecurityproject.org/ASP%20Reports/Ref%200076%20-%20Offshore%20Oil%20Drilling%20in%20the%20Arctic.pdf>]

Offshore oil drilling is a highly complex and technologically advanced industrial activity. The Deepwater

AND

incidents, they merely demonstrate that offshore oil drilling remains an inherently risky activity

#### Environmental movements protest- tanks solvency

Broder and Krauss 12

[John and Clifford, NYT, 2/17/12, <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/18/science/earth/us-tentatively-approves-shell-spill-plan-for-new-arctic-drilling.html>]

Shell has spent more than $4 billion over five years in its quest to

AND

, about 70 miles off the coast in approximately 140 feet of water.

### Econ

#### Can’t solve the economy

**Levi 12**

[Michael Levi, senior fellow for energy and the environment at the Council on Foreign Relations and director of its Program on Energy Security and Climate Change, “Think Again: The American Energy Boom”, July 2012, <http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2012/06/18/think_again_the_american_energy_boom?page=0,0>]

The U.S. oil and gas boom has come at an auspicious time

AND

way out of America's job crisis. The numbers just don't add up.

#### Oil independence kills the economy

Massy and Avasalara 12

[ Kevin Massy is associate director of the Energy Security Initiative at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. Govinda Avasarala is senior research assistant with the Energy Security Initiative., 8/29/12, <http://globalpublicsquare.blogs.cnn.com/2012/08/29/energy-independence-no-thanks/>]

But “energy independence” goes further than theoretical self sufficiency by eliminating our exposure

AND

strength of the U.S. economy, we shouldn’t want to.

#### Economic decline doesn’t cause war

Miller 00 (Morris, Economist, Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Administration – University of Ottawa, Former Executive Director and Senior Economist – World Bank, “Poverty as a Cause of Wars?”, Interdisciplinary Science Reviews, Winter, p. 273)

The question may be reformulated. Do wars spring from a popular reaction to a

AND

by increasing repression (thereby using one form of violence to abort another).

#### -- History proves

Ferguson 6 (Niall, Professor of History – Harvard University, Foreign Affairs, 85(5), September / October, Lexis)

Nor can economic crises explain the bloodshed. What may be the most familiar causal

AND

economic catastrophe, and some severe economic crises were not followed by wars.

#### -- No timeframe

Russett 83 (Bruce, Dean Acheson Professor of International Relations and Political Science – Yale University, “Prosperity and Peace: Presidential Address”, International Studies Quarterly, 27(4), p. 384)

The ‘optimism’ argument seems strained to me, but elements of Blainey’s former thesis

AND

two, and war may well occur only after the economy is recovering.

#### -- Economy is resilient

#### Behravesh 06 (Nariman, most accurate economist tracked by USA Today and chief global economist and executive vice president for Global Insight, Newsweek, “The Great Shock Absorber; Good macroeconomic policies and improved microeconomic flexibility have strengthened the global economy's 'immune system.'” 10-15-2006, www.newsweek.com/id/47483)

The U.S. and global economies were able to withstand three body blows

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London bombings would probably have an even smaller impact on overall GDP growth.

### heg

#### Energy Independence is Impossible

**Levi 12**

[Michael Levi, senior fellow for energy and the environment at the Council on Foreign Relations and director of its Program on Energy Security and Climate Change, “Think Again: The American Energy Boom”, July 2012, <http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2012/06/18/think_again_the_american_energy_boom?page=0,0>]

In any case, energy independence requires more than impressive arithmetic. As long as

AND

their windfalls, skyrocketing prices could still knock the economy on its back.

#### Plan Kills Independence- delays transition to fossil fuels and can’t solve prices

**Klare 12**

[Michael T. Klare, Five Colleges professor of Peace and World Security Studies, 3/19/12, “The New Fossil Fuel Fever”, The Nation p 15-22]

Finally, there is the overarching claim that increased reliance on domestic oil and gas

AND

but, as Obama said in 2008, a threat to national security.

#### Fuel efficiency solves dependence in the long term

Isidore 12

[Chris, Cnn Money, 8/28/12, <http://money.cnn.com/2012/08/28/autos/fuel-economy-rules/index.html>]

The Obama administration finalized new fuel economy rules Tuesday that within 12 years will almost

AND

"While the requirements are aggressive, we intend to pursue them vigorously."

#### We don’t have refining capabilities- prevents any short term solvency

Winters 4

[Jeffery, Associate Editor Mechanical Engineering, December 2004, Vol. 126 Issue 12, p28-31]

The familiar model for the U.S. oil industry has been that crude

AND

longer able to meet domestic demand. Gasoline must be imported from elsewhere.

#### The U.S. is still vulnerable and we’d still have to protect the Middle East

**Nye 12**

[ Joseph S. Nye, a former US assistant secretary of defense and chairman of the US National Intelligence Council, 7/11/12, <http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/energy-independence-in-an-interdependent-world>]

But one should not jump to conclusions. A balance of energy imports and exports

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$50 billion per year – to protect oil routes in the region.

#### Oil independence devastates the dollar and hegemony

Hulbert 12 (Matthew, Senior Researcher at the Clingendael International Energy Programme (CIEP) in The Hague, The Netherlands, B.A. in history and politics from Durham University and an Mphil in international relations from Cambridge University, Forbes Contributor, “America Will Deeply Regret Its Fixation On Energy Independence,” 8-19-12, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/matthewhulbert/2012/08/19/why-america-will-deeply-regret-us-energy-independence/>)

The U.S. energy independence debate is getting very tetchy of late.

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interests to promote and extend U.S. influence across the globe.

#### Heg doesn’t prevent conflict

Crawford 3 (Timothy W., Professor of Political Science – Boston College, Pivotal Deterrence: Third-Party Statecraft and the Pursuit of Peace, p. 209-210)

*Forward Engagement, Global Leadership, and U.S. Pivotal Deterrence*

As the preponderant power in a globalized and interdependent world, the United States—

AND

"jiggle loose" as many deadly conflicts as it knits back together.

#### Hegemony isn’t true – data’s on our side

Fettweis, 11 (Christopher J., Department of Political Science, Tulane University, “Free Riding or Restraint? Examining European Grand Strategy”, 9/26, Comparative Strategy, 30:316–332, Ebsco)

It is perhaps worth noting that there is no evidence to support a direct relationship

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global policeman. Those who think otherwise base their view on faith alone.

#### Historically true

Layne 97 (Christopher, Visiting Professor – Naval Postgraduate School, From Preponderance to Offshore Balancing)

Two critical objections could be lodged against an offshore balancing grand strategy: an offshore

AND

fact minimize the risk of U.S. involvement in future wars.

#### -- Internal conflicts drive wars – heg can’t solve

Conry 97 (Barbara, Foreign Policy Analyst – Cato, Policy Analysis No. 267, 2-5, “U.S. ‘Global Leadership’: A Euphemism for World Policeman,” http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa-267.html)

Other proponents of U.S. political and military leadership do not point to

AND

into it, as it did in Somalia and Bosnia. [59]

#### -- Heg is resilient

Wohlforth 7 (William, Professor of Government – Dartmouth College, “Unipolar Stability”, Harvard International Review, Spring, http://hir.harvard.edu/articles/1611/3/)

US military forces are stretched thin, its budget and trade deficits are high,

AND

its self-inflicted overstretch and tap potentially large wellsprings of latent power.