**Soft Power**

**U.S. soft power is low and declining now**

**Borger and Clark, Reporters for The Guardian**, 9-11-**12**

(Julian and Tom, “Widespread distrust of US extends beyond Middle East, poll shows,” The Guardian, accessed 10-24-12, HYPERLINK "http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/sep/11/distrust-us-middle-east-poll" http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/sep/11/distrust-us-middle-east-poll)

**American influence on…**still **deeply divided**.

**Increased domestic energy production increases U.S. soft power—it’s the lynchpin to soft power projection capabilities**

**Padilla, Young Democrats of America Treasurer, 10**

(Jonathan, “The Vanguard of Global Leadership: The Case for American Energy Independence in the 21st Century,” accessed 9-23-12, HYPERLINK "http://www.ascfusa.org/app/webroot/files/fckfiles/Jonathan%20Padilla%20Essay.pdf" http://www.ascfusa.org/app/webroot/files/fckfiles/Jonathan%20Padilla%20Essay.pdf)

“We become just…**of global leadership.**

**U.S. soft power destabilizes foreign societies and cultures- turns case**

**Garten**, **Dean of the Yale School of Management**, 11-30-**98**

(Jeffrey, Dean of the Yale School of Management, “'CULTURAL IMPERIALISM' IS NO JOKE,” Business Week, p. lexis)

**The transmission of…confrontation, not conciliation.**

**Strong cultural diversity is key to planetary survival**

**UNESCO, 00**

(“The Earth’s Linguistic, Cultural, and Biological Diversity,” HYPERLINK "http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL\_ID=18391&URL\_DO=DO\_TOPIC&URL\_SECTION=201.html" http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL\_ID=18391&URL\_DO=DO\_TOPIC&URL\_SECTION=201.html)

**The world’s languages…is for our planet.**

**Politics**

**Obama is playing the perfect hand on immigration now but contentious action ensures polarization**

**Weber, senior editor at TheWeek.com, 1/29**

(Peter, graduate of Northwestern University, Peter has worked at Facts on File and The New York Times Magazine, he speaks Spanish and Italian, January 29, 2013, “Should Obama stay out of the immigration fight?” http://theweek.com/article/index/239363/should-obama-stay-out-of-the-immigration-fight, 2/1/13, atl)

President Obama travels…without saying anything

**Nuclear fractures consensus and derails important legislation- environmentalist backlash and no funding push**

**Simon, LA Times staff writer, 7**

(Richard, "Climate bill could turn friends into foes as some go nuclear," LA Times, 4-9-07, http://articles.latimes.com/2007/apr/09/nation/na-nuke9, accessed 11-4-12, mtf)

The renewed push…and taking up crack."

**Path to citizenship solves the deficit**

**Tucker, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution columnist, 10**

(Cynthia, November 19, 2010, “We need immigrants to help pay the deficit,” <http://blogs.ajc.com/cynthia-tucker/2010/11/19/we-need-immigrants-to-help-pay-the-deficit/>, 1/31/13, atl)

Recommendations for taming…federal tax rolls?

**Deficit will collapse hegemony and the economy---trigger global nuclear war**

**Khalilzad, United States ambassador to Afghanistan, Iraq, and the UN during Bush’s Presidency, 11**

(Zalmay, the director of policy planning at the Defense Department from 1990 to 1992, February 8, 2011, “The Economy and National Security; If we don’t get our economic house in order, we risk a new era of multi-polarity,” <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/259024/economy-and-national-security-zalmay-khalilzad>, 1/31/13, atl)

Without faster economic…**hegemony and aggression**