### States CP

### 1AR Process CPs Theory

Process counterplans are a voter

1. They artificially eliminate aff offense because we can’t leverage the 1AC against them---rigs policy comparison – undermining cost-benefit analysis skills – most important impact since it’s portable
2. Unpredictable --- impossible to research and generate offense against hundreds of possible conditions --- trades-off with in-depth debate about the topic which is important because energy is a timely issue---learning about it is effective to becoming good advocates for change in this context

### AT Neg Flex

Neg flex isn’t intrinsic—conditionality, counterplans, K’s, and disads check

Leads to a neg flex glut—the neg no longer has to research or debate the merits of an aff—kills education and advocacy skills

### AT Education

Process disads solve education

Don’t solve—process debates devolve to debates about certainty and immediacy

Trades off with debating about merits of the plan—that’s a bigger internal to topic education

### 1AR Perm

#### Perm: do the counterplan

#### It doesn’t sever—

The resolution doesn’t require defending certainty or immediacy

(Insert definitions as needed)

#### Severance has no impact in this instance—

Only ground lost from severing these things is a loss of process counter-plans—we’ve impact turned them

### 1AR Uniqueness

Romney will win—most recent polls shows he’s ahead in swing states—swing states override everything—the candidate that wins Florida, Ohio, and Virginia wins the election—that’s Chambers

#### Romney win now – polls wrong and best models prove

UCB 10/5 University of Colorado at Bolder, “Updated election forecasting model—based on economic data—still points to Romney win”, October 5, 2012, http://phys.org/news/2012-10-election-modelbased-economic-datastill-romney.html

(Phys.org)—An update to an election forecasting model announced by two University of Colorado professors in August continues to project that **Mitt Romney will win the 2012 presidential election**. ¶ According to their updated analysis, Romney is projected to receive 330 of the total 538 Electoral College votes. President Barack Obama is expected to receive 208 votes—**down five votes from their initial prediction**—and short of the 270 needed to win. ¶ The new forecast by political science professors Kenneth Bickers of CU-Boulder and Michael Berry of CU Denver is based on more recent economic data than their original Aug. 22 prediction. The model itself did not change. ¶ "**We continue to show that the economic conditions favor Romney even though many polls show the president in the lead**," Bickers said. "**Other published models point to the same result,** but they looked at the national popular vote, while we stress state-level economic data." ¶ While many election forecast models are based on the popular vote, the model developed by Bickers and Berry is based on the Electoral College and is the only one of its type to include more than one state-level measure of economic conditions. They included economic data from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

#### Silver agrees

Silver 10/5 Nate, Election Predicting Genius for the NYT, 2012, "Oct. 5: Day After Debate, Strong Swing State Polls for Romney", fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/10/05/oct-5-day-after-debate-strong-swing-state-polls-for-romney/

On Friday, Mitt Romney had his best day in state-level polling since at least the party conventions, something that very probably reflects improvement in his standing following the presidential debate in Denver on Wednesday.¶ Two automated polling firms, Rasmussen Reports and We Ask America, released polls in Ohio, Florida and Virginia on Friday. All of these polls were conducted on Thursday, the day after the Denver debate.¶ In the Rasmussen Reports polls, Mr. Romney trailed Barack Obama by 1 point in Ohio. But he led him by 1 point in Virginia and by 2 points in Florida.¶ These are very good numbers for Mr. Romney as compared with the ones we were seeing recently, although part of that is because Rasmussen has shown more favorable numbers for him in these states throughout the year. As compared with Rasmussen Reports’ previous polls of the same states, the margin in Ohio held steady, but Mr. Romney gained 2 points in Virginia and 4 in Florida, for an average gain of 2 points among the three states.¶ The We Ask America polls suggested that Mr. Romney made much larger gains. He led in all three states in its polls — and gained an average of 7 points from We Ask America’s prior polling of the same states.

#### Romney will win – multiple reasons

Anas 10/4 Brittany Anas, writer for the Daily Camera, “CU-Boulder prof's updated forecast still gives win to Mitt Romney”, October 4, 2012, http://www.dailycamera.com/cu-news/ci\_21698333/cu-boulder-profs-updated-forecast-still-gives-win

With the presidential election a little more than a month away, political science professors from the University of Colorado have updated their election forecast with more current economic conditions **and are standing by their prediction that Mitt Romney will win**.¶ The professors -- Kenneth Bickers of CU's Boulder campus and Michael Berry of CU's Denver campus -- project that Romney will earn 330 of the total 538 Electoral College votes.¶ "**The economic fundamentals still suggest it's a difficult terrain for any incumbent to run for re-election**," Bickers said in an interview.¶ President Barack Obama is expected to receive 208 votes, which is down five from the initial prediction that the professors announced on Aug. 22.¶ Bickers said that economic conditions continue to favor Romney, even though many polls are showing the president in the lead.¶ Bickers recalled that incumbent Jimmy Carter led Ronald Reagan in the polls well into October during the 1980 election that Reagan ended up **winning in a landslide**.¶ The model developed by Bickers and Berry is based on the Electoral College and, they say, it is the only one of its type to include more than one state-level measure of economic conditions. To make their predictions, the professors comb economic data from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.¶ The professors' model includes state and national unemployment figures as well as changes in income.¶ The new analysis includes unemployment rates from August rather than May and changes in per capita income from the end of June rather than March. This is the last update they'll release before the election.¶ The U.S. Department of Labor's jobs report will be released Friday.¶ The professors have identified 13 battleground states and the only one to change in the update was New Mexico, which they now predict as a narrow victory for Romney.¶ The model predicts that Romney will carry Colorado, with 53.3 percent of the vote. Bickers said that Colorado should expect to see more activity from both the Obama and Romney campaigns.¶ "Colorado is very much on the bubble," he said.

### Elections--- AT: China Bashing Link---1AR

#### Their link ev is non-unique but also means Romney pressing on the issue insures an Obama victory

Kadlec 9-25-12, Charles, member of the Economic Advisory Board of the American Principles Project, an initiative founded in 2009 by Professor Robert George of Princeton University, MBA with honors from the University of Chicago, and his BA in Political Science/Chemistry from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Will China Bashing Cost Mitt Romney The Election?, http://www.forbes.com/sites/charleskadlec/2012/09/25/will-china-bashing-cost-mitt-romney-the-election/2/

Governor Mitt Romney’s campaign for President made a potentially fatal error on September 13th by moving to the left of President Barack Obama on the emotional issue of trade with China. On that day, the Romney campaign released a major press release attacking Obama for not labeling China a “currency manipulator.” Claiming China is cheating, Romney is promising the American people he will seek to force the Chinese to allow the dollar to fall in value relative to the Chinese yuan.¶ Last January, I warned Romney’s support for a weak dollar policy relative to China would prove to be the economic Achilles Heel of his campaign. And, unless he changes course, that appears to be exactly what is happening.¶ Ever since the Romney campaign’s China bashing initiative, the momentum has shifted to President Barack Obama. Within six days, Michigan, then Wisconsin went from “toss up” to “lean Obama” according to the Real Clear Politics (RCP) electoral map. And, in RCP’s latest no toss-up results, President Obama now is expected to roll up a 347 to 191 majority in the Electoral College by winning all of the swing states. According to Intrade, odds of President Obama being re-elected have shot up about 10 percentage points to 70%.¶ Moreover, the shift in favor of Obama came at a time when the latest economic data point to continued slow economic growth and high unemployment, unrest roils the Middle East and anti-Americanism is on the rise throughout the Muslim world, and the Obama Administration appears ill prepared to defend its diplomats, embassies or America’s interests and ideals. It also began before the secret recording of Romney’s comments about the “47%” of Americans who believe they are “entitled” to government assistance, which did not become public until the evening of September 17th.¶ No doubt, focus groups and other campaign research support the China bashing initiative. And, Obama was quick to respond to the attacks by filing a complaint in the World Trade Organization claiming Beijing is unfairly subsidizing exports of auto parts. But, putting trade restrictions and a weak dollar at the center of an economic policy agenda has never proven to be an effective path to the White House. Americans reflexively support the idea to defend American jobs, but their common sense also informs them to be suspect of policies that would reduce competition and lead to higher prices.¶ Here is the circumstantial evidence the China bashing is hurting Romney’s appeal. During the week ending September 21, he gained strength at the national level, pulling even with the President in the Rasmussen and Gallup tracking polls, even as he has fallen behind in the swing states. Simple math therefore indicates that Romney is moving ahead of Obama in the non-swing states even as he falls behind in the critical ones.¶ And, it is in the swing states that voters have been most exposed to the Romney focus on China bashing as his key policy to create 12 million new jobs.¶ Greater insight is provided by a poll commissioned by the Ohio Newspaper Organization of 861 likely voters in Ohio conducted between September 13 and 18. As reported by the Cleveland Plain Dealer that poll showed Obama leading Romney 51% to 46% (margin of error +/-3.3%).¶ The single most important issue: the economy. According to Eric Rademacher, co-director of by the University of Cincinnati’s Institute for Policy Research which conducted the poll, 95% of those who said Romney would do best on the economy choose him, while 96% of those who said Obama would do best on the economy pick Obama.¶ On the critical issue of who can be trusted to improve economic conditions, Obama leads Romney 49% to 44%. That is an extra-ordinary turn-around from a Rasmussen national poll on September 13th which showed Romney ahead of Obama on this crucial question, 50% to 43%.¶ Given the status of the economy, how could this be?¶ The answer can be found in the Romney campaign’s initiative to attack Obama for not being tough enough on China’s trade policy. On September 13, the first day of the poll, the Romney campaign released the ad, “Failing American Workers,” which accuses Obama of failing to keep China from increasing its manufacturing jobs during a period in which manufacturing jobs in the U.S. were in decline. Romney says: “It is time we stand up to the cheaters, and protect jobs for the American people.” On September 15th, the ad, “The Romney Plan” starts with Romney saying: “Trade has to work for America. That means cracking down on cheaters like China and opening new markets.”¶ Ever since those ads began to run, Romney has been losing ground and the President’s rating on his handling of the economy has been on the rise!¶ The reason: Romney’s attack on China as a currency manipulator indicates he will be for an even weaker dollar than President Obama. And, there is nothing that threatens the middle class more than a decline in the value of the dollar.¶ First, the dollar’s decline reduces the real value of wages as the price of imports – and internationally traded goods, most importantly oil and food – rise.¶ Second, a weaker dollar erases the value of savings, especially dollars held in savings deposits or checking accounts.¶ Third, the historic record is overwhelming that, while intuitively appealing, a weak dollar does far more harm than good. The dollar has fallen more than 70% against the Japanese yen and German mark/euro since President Nixon began to devalue the dollar in 1971. Yet, the merchandise trade account has gone from a minor deficit to a massive 3% of GDP. Since 2003, the Chinese yuan has appreciated more than 30% against the dollar. The Chinese are as competitive as ever. But, the real median household income has fallen to its lowest level since 1995.¶ A falling currency drives capital away, and therefore is a threat to U.S. manufacturing jobs. Just as investors avoid companies whose stock is falling in price, so too, capital tends to flee weak currency countries. For example, as the risk that Greece would leave the euro went up, the amount of capital leaving the country increased and the economic activity declined.¶ Though more subtle, the same has been true of the U.S. During the weak dollar 1970s, the unemployment rate rose to 7.1% from 4.9%. Under the weak dollar policies of Bush 43 and Obama, the unemployment rate increased to a peak of 10% in 2009 from 4.0% in 2000, and has remained above 8% for 43 consecutive months. Moreover, during the 2000-2007 expansion, the 10% increase in industrial production was a full 8 percentage points less than the expansion in real GDP, indicating that the falling dollar destroyed rather than increased manufacturing jobs.¶ Accosting China for selling quality goods in the U.S. at a competitive price suggests Romney views the economy from a businessman’s perspective, as a zero sum game where one company’s success comes at the expense of it competitors. However, what drives economic growth and job creation is the discovery of mutually beneficial exchanges – “win-win” opportunities — whether that be with the purchase of an iPhone or the discovery of a lower priced good of equal value at the local super store, or to contribute to the success of a company by providing it your skills and intelligence in exchange for compensation.¶ Just because most American voters may not be able to explain much of this, it doesn’t mean they do not understand it. They have lived under a weak dollar for 12 years and suffered its consequences. That is why Governor Romney’s promise to deliver even more of the same is driving swing voters into his opponent’s camp.¶ Finally, blaming China for the loss of American jobs leaves on the cutting room floor those policies that would improve America’s competitive position relative to China and the rest of the world, including Romney’s pro-growth energy plan and calls for reforming the corrupt and dysfunctional corporate and personal income tax systems.¶ Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush all were weak dollar Presidents. Each of them were unpopular when they left office. Presidents Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton were strong dollar Presidents, and remain popular to this day. Yet by all accounts, Romney is fully committed to the negative sum policy of bashing China, instead of the positive sum pro-growth policies in his quest for the Oval Office. If so, such a strategy will go a long way toward explaining why the American people may decide they trust the President with all of his policy failures more than the challenger from the world of business.

### 1AR Small Business

The solar tariff cuts jobs—our evidence says that is perceived by the rest of the middle class—that turns their economy links—pollings prove voters care about jobs more than anything else