### 2NC—Conditionality Good

We get \_\_ advocacies

Conditionality is good—

1. **Neg Flex**—multiple worlds are crucial to test the aff from every angle—it prevents us from being locked in to a strategy
2. **Innovation**—conditionality incentivizes risk taking—vital internal to argument research—prevents stale and repetitive debates
3. **Mixedscanning**—Argument introduction determines what warrants in-depth review—best middle ground between breadth and depth—key to priority-setting and high-pressure decision-making.
4. **Info processing**—more arguments teach students to process information—most portable skill

Now defense—

No skew—condo leads to more critical thinking—without it, being aff would be too easy

2NR means we have a stable advocacy

Err neg—the aff speaks first and last and infinite prep—voting on theory leads to substance crowd-out—if we don’t make debate impossible don’t vote us down

### 1NR O/V

#### NATO impact outweighs and turns hegemony – Brezinski proves hegemony only effective when NATO can be leveraged – defense cuts under Obama disincentivize allies to invest in NATO as well – it’s a comparatively larger internal to heg and Brezinzki proves political leadership through NATO is independently key to address global conflicts and the rise of belligerent countries – means it’s the only external extinction scenario

#### Romney win is key to avoid going over the fiscal cliff – motivates GOP compromises – otherwise economic collapse is inevitable

Weisenthal 8/13 Joe is a writer at Business Insider. “It's More Obvious Than Ever That Only Mitt Romney Can Save The US Economy,” 2012, http://www.businessinsider.com/mitt-romney-and-paul-ryan-will-save-the-us-economy-2012-8

The biggest threat to the U.S. economy is the fiscal cliff. As Morgan Stanley's Adam Parker explained in a note today, there's a very plausible scenario where **5 percent of GDP is lopped off**, and corporate profits get absolutely shredded. And this assumes that the debt ceiling is passed without creating a gigantic shock to the economy.¶ The U.S. economy faces other issues, but this is the biggie right now. And given that the main crisis facing the U.S. is unemployment (and more specifically long term unemployment) another big leg down would be devastating**, reopening scars that are healing terribly already after the crisis of 2008**-2009.¶ The best scenario for avoiding a fiscal cliff mess is to see Mitt Romney elected. As we argued back in early April, **the surest way to get Republicans on board** with ongoing deficits **is for them to be the party in power** again.¶ History seems to be pretty clear on one issue: Parties out of power favor austerity. Parties in power favor stimulus.¶ A newly elected Mitt Romney and a Republican Congress would sail past the fiscal cliff with the fewest disruptions possible, insuring ongoing stimulus and deficits.¶ But now Mitt Romney has tapped Paul Ryan to be his running mate, and since then, at least 4 people have asked us whether we still think that Mitt Romney will be the spending and deficits candidate, given Ryan's proposals to get the U.S. back to a balanced budget.¶ The answer is still yes. And in fact, the pro-deficits case for Mitt Romney may be more powerful than ever.¶ In a column at Bloomberg View, Josh Barro speculated about Paul Ryan's Role in Romney’s Secret Economic Plan.¶ The gist: Because Paul Ryan has budget credibility, he'll be a messenger from the Romney White House to feisty House conservatives that they have to play along with stimulative budgets:¶ As Secret Economic Plan skeptics routinely point out, conservatives are never fully going to trust Romney. If he comes to them with, say, economist Glenn Hubbard’s proposal to throw about a hundred billion taxpayer dollars at restructuring underwater home mortgages, they’re likely to resist.¶ But what if Vice President Paul Ryan makes the pitch? Won’t House Republicans be much more likely to conclude that mortgage bailouts actually are conservative?¶ I’m not suggesting that Ryan is going to throw conservatism entirely under the bus. Romney surely wants to do some things that Republicans in Congress will love and others they will be resistant to—only part of his economic plan is secret. So both sides of Ryan’s skill set will come into play.¶ Not having Ryan in the House also definitely helps Mitt Romney roll House Republicans on stimulus issues.¶ And there's more to this idea than just a theoretical notion that Ryan will be a useful tool.¶ When the going gets tough, Paul Ryan has a role in dropping his ideology in favor of ongoing support to the economy. As we noted last night, Paul Ryan was just one of 20 House GOPers to bravely support TARP.¶ Last summer, when the debt ceiling fight was reaching its climax, who did House leadership turn to to convince House Freshmen that they needed to raise the debt ceiling? That's right: Paul Ryan.¶ The U.S. recovery remains weak and needs support. **A hard fall off the fiscal cliff could easily put it** back into recession.¶ If Obama is elected, not only will there be divided government, you'll have Republicans who are more furious than ever that they blew it by nominating a moderate. And you'll have the new leader of the Republican party—Paul Ryan—right there in the House looking to cement his role and launch his own race for 2016.

Romney will eliminate all regulatory barriers to fossil fuels exploration and production

Walsh 8/28 Bryan is an environment writer at Time. “The Romney Energy Plan: Drill, Baby, Drill — Again,” 2012, http://science.time.com/2012/08/28/the-romney-energy-plan-drill-baby-drill-again/

In all likelihood, Isaac will prove only a minor inconvenience to the Republican convention, but the storm and its likely economic effects provide a valuable backdrop for considering the energy policies of soon-to-no-longer-be-just-presumptive GOP Presidential nominee Mitt Romney. In a speech he gave in New Mexico last week — and a white paper the campaign published on August 23 — Romney outlined an energy vision built around two things: domestic oil and domestic natural gas. Romney promised to boost U.S. fossil fuel production by de-emphasizing federal environmental regulations for drilling, and empowering individual states to do as they will with their energy riches. If Alaska or Montana or Virginia wanted to drill for oil and gas within their borders — or along their shoreline — a President Romney wouldn’t let the federal government get in the way.

### UQ

Prefer models

#### Obama will lose---enthusiasm gap and lack of undecided support---their polls are biased

Morris 9/14 Dick, former political adviser to Sen. Trent Lott (R-Miss.) and President Bill Clinton, is the author of "Outrage", "Why Romney Will Win", 2012, www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2012/09/14/why\_romney\_will\_win\_115452.html

Now that both conventions are over, the dimensions of the likely Romney triumph are becoming clear. Both through an analysis of the polling and an examination of the rhetoric, the parameters of the victory are emerging.¶ Start with the polling. It appears that the bulk of the Obama post-convention bounce has been in blue states where his left-oriented convention stirred up the enthusiasm of an already committed group of voters. Among likely voters identified in The Washington Post poll -- taken after the conventions -- Obama holds a slim one-point edge. And an analysis of Rasmussen's state-by-state likely voter data indicates a tie in the the battleground states. ¶ But it's not really a tie at all. All pollsters are using 2008 models of voter turnout. Some are combining '04 and '08 but skewing their samples to '08 numbers. African Americans cast 11 percent of the national vote in '04, but their participation swelled to 13 percent in '08. These 2 million new black voters backed Obama overwhelmingly. Will they come out in such numbers again? Will college and under 30 voters do so as well? Will Latino turnout be at historic highs? All these questions have to be answered "yes" for the polling samples so widely published to be accurate.¶ For example, when a poll shows an Obama lead among likely voters of, say 47-45, it is based on an assumption that blacks will cast 13 percent of the vote. But the lack of enthusiasm among Obama's base for his candidacy and their doubts about the economy make an 11 percent black turnout more likely. In this event, Romney would actually win in this sample by 46-45.¶ And then there is the enthusiasm gap. All recent polling suggests that Republican- and GOP-leaning Independents are 13 points more enthusiastic and following the race more closely than their Democratic counterparts. If the grassroots do their job, this will yield a stronger Romney vote.¶ Finally, when every poll among every sample has Obama below 50 percent of the vote, it is most likely that the undecided have, in fact, decided not to back his re-election.¶ But to crawl out of the statistical weeds, let's examine the state of the partisan dialogue. Former President Bill Clinton made a huge blunder when he accepted the Republican challenge and flatly -- and loudly -- asserted that we are, in fact, better off than we were four years ago. Polls show that only about 33 percent of voters agree, while close to half do not see the world that way.¶ Finally, both parties seemed happily to embrace the same formulation of the difference between them. Both agreed that the Republican Party is based on a philosophy of individual responsibility. Obama articulated it as, "You're on your own." Republicans put it differently: "We'll get government off your back." Democrats said theirs was a party that would lend you a hand.¶ Gallup measured these two options, and voters chose "leave me alone" over "lend me a hand" by 54-35.¶ Over the long haul, these are the questions that will dominate voting intentions. The function of the conventions is to formulate and articulate each party's view of the world. The fact that they were so similar and that each was willing to trust its fate to the question of, "Are you better off?" means that the Romney message will have a very strong advantage. The decision of the Democrats to embrace this choice and not to move to the center will make it impossible for them either to re-elect their president or to command a majority in the new Senate.

#### Abortion

Rose 9/12—Life Site News (Susanna, Obama will lose ‘because of abortion’: Knights of Columbus head, [www.lifesitenews.com/news/obama-will-lose-because-of-abortion-knights-of-columbus-head/](http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/obama-will-lose-because-of-abortion-knights-of-columbus-head/))

President Obama’s extreme views on abortion may be about to cost him the election, according to the supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus.¶ Carl A. Anderson wrote in an Aug 24 National Review column that Democrats’ strategy making “unrestricted access to abortion a key component” to the reelection effort was bound to backfire on the president.¶ “On November 7, we may well look back at this week’s events and see that this was the week that President Obama lost the presidency — because of the abortion issue,” he wrote.¶ He notes that a Knights of Columbus/Marist poll from this year shows a majority of Americans disagreeing with Obama’s views on abortion: while 12 percent of Americans support Obama’s abortion position, 88 percent opted for significant restrictions on the procedure.¶ The Democratic National Convention last week featured several leaders of the abortion movement and unveiled a party platform touting unrestricted abortions regardless of income - implying taxpayer funding of abortion - and declaring the party will “oppose any and all efforts to weaken or undermine that right.”¶ Any political mileage Democrats might have gotten from Missouri U.S. Senate candidate Todd Akin’s “legitimate rape” gaffe, Anderson said, wouldn’t be nearly enough to cover for such extremism.¶ “Come November, those entering voting booths from coast to coast are unlikely to be concerned by the poorly worded comments of a Senate candidate in Missouri,” wrote Anderson.¶ “What they are likely to remember is that the president has embraced the most radical abortion position possible — one out of step with nearly nine in ten Americans.”¶ § Marked 13:09 § Anderson pointed out the dramatic change between today’s party line and Obama’s toned-down abortion rhetoric four years ago when he courted the Catholic and Evangelical vote: Evangelical pastor Rick Warren, who said the prayer at Obama’s inauguration ceremony, has since vowed to go to jail rather than comply with the administration’s attack on religious freedom through the HHS mandate.¶ The pastor, Anderson said, “can hardly be alone in his disillusionment.”¶ “What must those voters who believed the president’s rhetoric in the last election think now? And what will they think in November?” he wrote.¶ The Knight of Columbus noted that if Obama continues to fall out of favor with Catholics, it will be unlikely he can win the election: no president in recent years has won without backing from Catholic majority.¶ “It is clear that the president’s winning coalition of 2008 is fractured, and it is unlikely to be resurrected by appealing to 12 percent of the population,” he wrote.

#### Laundry list

London 9/11 Herbert, President emeritus of Hudson Institute and author, "Why Obama Loses in November", 2012, www.newsmax.com/HerbertLondon/Obama-Lose-November-Romney/2012/09/11/id/451402

For one thing, the Romney candidacy is less significant than what is emerging as a referendum on the Obama presidency. President Obama has gone negative attempting to point out why voters should not support Romney, but he has not provided a narrative for his own support. In fact, with an approval rating of 47 percent he is losing the pro-Obama constituents.¶ Second, bread and butter issues count. With the unemployment rate likely to remain above 8 percent by November, it is clear the president’s stimulus efforts have not worked. No incumbent running for president has been re-elected with an unemployment rate over 7 percent. Moreover, the present unemployment rate does not take into account those who have stopped looking for a job.¶ Third, while a majority of those polled approve of the president’s foreign policy initiatives, his inability to halt the Iranian surge for nuclear weapons has created widespread uneasiness.¶ Fourth, the Jewish vote — while relatively small in size — has an influence beyond the magnitude of its vote in financial support and media saturation. In 2008 Obama obtained 78 percent of Jewish voters. According to recent polls his support has been reduced to 57 percent. ¶ Fifth, the president’s campaign team has called for the submission of all of Romney’s tax forms, with Senator Reid acting as the attack dog. As I see it, this strategy is likely to backfire. If transparency is called for, the Romney team should demand that Obama’s Columbia and Occidental records be unsealed and he should be asked to explain why he registered for Social Security in Connecticut, a state in which he never resided. What is good for the goose should be good for the gander.¶ Sixth, key states in this campaign are led by Republican governors: Ohio, Florida, Virginia, Indiana. In addition, the president’s approval of homosexual marriage has virtually assured a victory for Romney in North Carolina. Potential swing states such as New Mexico, Nevada, South Carolina, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania are led by active Republican governors.¶ Seventh, the novelty of electing an African-American president has passed. Many who did so in the last election believed America was beyond racial politics. However, the president’s hasty reaction to the Skip Gates arrest and the Trayvon Martin killing reveals an instinctive racial orientation.¶ Eighth, those who have come to know Barack Obama well, including former President Bill Clinton, have described him as inept and “over his head.” Even media cover-ups cannot erase malapropisms such as “campaigning in 57 states,” the mispronunciation of “corpsman,” and “Austrian as the language of Austria.” ¶ Ninth, a presidential desire to spread the wealth and impose punitive taxes on those earning more than $200,000 has led to the belief the president has socialist impulses. As Abraham Lincoln noted, you cannot make a poor man rich by making a rich man poor. That axiomatic American claim is still embraced by most Americans.¶ Tenth, Obama’s numerous golf outings (four times more frequently than President Bush) and his forays into New York on Air Force One for a night at the theater suggest to many in the public an elitist sentiment. It is also noteworthy that Michele Obama has more assistants than any first lady in our national history.¶ Eleventh, Obamacare may be the most unpopular legislative act in our history. The belief that a government bureaucrat can insinuate himself between a doctor and patient on treatment provisions is a condition most Americans consider unacceptable. ¶ In addition, the transfer of $700 billion from Medicare to Medicaid suggests, willy nilly, insensitivity to the elderly, a constituency that does not sit out elections.¶ Twelfth, dissimulation has caught up with President Obama. He said the stimulus bill would reduce unemployment. When it didn’t, he said it wasn’t designed to do so. He spoke of an unshakeable bond with Israel and then argued Israel should return to the ’67 borders. ¶ Last, the selection of Paul Ryan as Romney’s running mate offers a hopeful sign of renewal for the Republican Party and the nation. Since Ryan has been the one Republican with a plan for reducing deficits and the overall debt, he is in the forefront of reform and a lightning rod who will absorb much of the Democratic criticism leveled at Mitt Romney. Republican pundits such as Mark McKinnon have criticized the selection, but Ryan is not Sarah Palin. He is decidedly a voice for principle at a time the public craves it. ¶ Any one of these factors would not be determinative. In the aggregate, however, they produce an effect that indicates an Obama defeat and a Romney victory. Of course, we won’t know the result till November. But, as I see it, the die is cast.

### Link

#### There’s incredibly strong support for offshore drilling – recaptures critical voters

TNS 8/14 Targeted News Service, citing a poll conducted by the American Petroleum Institute. “71 Percent of Voters Favor More Oil and Natural Gas Development,” 2012, http://www.equities.com/news/headline-story?dt=2012-08-15&val=380481&cat=energy

Seventy-one percent of American voters favor increased access to U.S. oil and natural gas resources, 90 percent believe more oil and natural gas development could lead to more U.S. jobs, and 87 percent believe it could lower energy costs for consumers, according to a new poll released today.¶ "Strong majorities of voters support more domestic energy development, regardless of party affiliation," said API President and CEO Jack Gerard. "And they don't like what they're seeing in Washington where development has been slowed or stopped despite millions of Americans still out of work. Nearly two out of three voters believe the nation is moving in the wrong direction on energy."¶ The telephone poll, conducted by Harris Interactive, among 1,016 registered voters also found that nearly two-thirds (65 percent) feel that an increase in taxes on oil and natural gas companies could hurt consumers, three out of four (75 percent) support building the Keystone XL pipeline, and more than seven in ten (73 percent) support a change in policy to allow more offshore drilling. More than nine in ten **(92 percent) say energy security and producing at home more oil and natural gas is an important issue this election.** Strong majorities of Republicans, Democrats and Independents believe increased access to domestic oil and natural gas could lead to more American jobs.

### Environmentalists

#### Environmentalists are already furious at Obama but will vote for him no matter what – they know Romney will be infinitely worse

Politico 12 – Darren Samuelsohn, writer for Politico, June 18th, 2012, "Greens give Obama wilting enthusiasm," [dyn.politico.com/printstory.cfm?uuid=A89E603A-7C5C-4E57-9DB8-FB3AE331776F](http://dyn.politico.com/printstory.cfm?uuid=A89E603A-7C5C-4E57-9DB8-FB3AE331776F)

Environmentalists are furious at President Barack Obama — he failed on cap and trade, his energy message has turned into the more GOP-friendly “all of the above” and he’s all but done talking about global warming.¶ But he’s racking up the endorsements anyway.¶ This is life for Democratic-aligned interest groups in the 2012 presidential campaign — Obama’s term has been full of disappointments, but it’s a tight election and there’s **fear of just how opposed to their agendas Mitt Romney would be.**So the message is simple: Shut up and fall in line.¶ The latest gripe comes via the administration’s approach to the Earth Summit that starts Wednesday in Rio de Janeiro.¶ (Also on POLITICO: Obama needed at Earth Summit)¶ Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is going, but with 130 countries sending their presidents and prime ministers, greens see her presence as the perfect metaphor of Obama’s interest and commitment falling short.¶ And it’s a fresh reminder of just how little they’ve got to show for the first 3½ years of the Obama presidency — other leaders are coming with plans and records but Clinton is coming with promises and talk.¶ Obama aides insist the United States is making strides as the biggest development donor in the world. Obama’s decision not to go to Rio, they add, shouldn’t be seen as a snub.¶ “Look, I am not able to speak to the president’s schedule, but we are coming at a level which is quite comparable to a great many other countries,” Todd Stern, the top U.S. climate envoy, told reporters last week.¶ All that history explains Obama’s less-than-gushing endorsements from the Sierra Club, League of Conservation Voters, Environment America and Clean Water Action.¶ “Elections are about choices, and this choice was clear and simple both because President Obama understands why we need to take action and just as important, a President Romney would be the first climate denier president in our nation’s history,” said LCV President Gene Karpinski.¶Karpinski pointed to upcoming Environmental Protection Agency moves to finalize standards for new power plants and fuel economy, identifying them as key accomplishments of Obama’s global warming agenda. “Those are the real decisions that cut carbon pollution,” he said.¶ Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune said his group “is proud to endorse President Obama” and would “work hard to give the president a mandate to continue to protect our air and water and accelerate the transition to clean energy in a second term.”¶ “We see stark differences between Romney and the president on climate and nearly every environmental issue, and we hope the president will accentuate those differences as the campaign progresses,” Brune added.¶ As governor, Romney initially backed cap-and-trade policies, but he declared during the GOP primary campaign: “My view is that we don’t know what’s causing climate change on this planet.” If elected, Romney has promised to push legislation that would overturn the Supreme Court’s landmark 2007 decision allowing the EPA to advance climate regulations.

### Florida

#### Florida isn’t necessary to Obama victory

Nicholas and Lee 9/7 Peter and Carol are politics writers for the Washington Post. “Campaign Confident It Has Many Roads to Re-Election,” 2012, http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10000872396390443589304577635930616062476.html?mod=googlenews\_wsj

But even if Mr. Obama loses the Sunshine State**, he could still prevail in November**. The idea is to hold onto **some combination** of states that he won last time around, Obama aides said. A Midwest strategy hinges on victories in Ohio and Iowa; a Western path depends on Nevada and Colorado; a Southern route, North Carolina and Virginia. Florida is its own pathway.

### 2nc Intrinsicness Bad

It’s a voting issue

---Political education—politics DA is key to being an informed citizen and how agenda items implicate the political climate. That’s the CRUX of policy debate

---Extra T—intrinsicness lets the aff solve all DAs with non-energy policies that are infinite in scope—overstretches our research burden and undermines preparedness for all debates—reject the team for time-skew reading theory and to deter crappy theory args that t/o with substance

Neg ground—USFG could circumvent the link to any DA or NB to CP—forces debates about impact-turns that disincentivize specific research about the implementation of the plan

( ) No coherent decision-maker—no one can assume the role of the USFG. Even if policy-makers can make unitary decisions no one has the power over the enactment of policies—their interpretation has NO real-world applicability

### Energy Key – Generic

#### Energy's a key election issue

Lamonica 8/13 Martin is a contributor to MIT's Technology Review. "Paul Ryan's Energy Views Could be a Factor in the Presidential Race," 2012, http://www.technologyreview.com/view/428858/paul-ryans-energy-views-could-be-a-factor-in-the/

Political pundits say that presidential hopeful Mitt Romney’s choice of Paul Ryan creates more clearly divided views between Republicans and Democrats on fiscal and economic issues. That’s true in energy as well.¶ Ryan (R-WI) has been a harsh critic of the Obama administration’s agenda to advance clean-energy technologies, including the loan guarantee program which provided money to failed solar company Solyndra, according to a report in Politico. In general, Ryan’s views hew closely to the GOP position of expanding oil drilling and pulling back renewable energy policies, according to the report.¶ On his Web site, Ryan advocates expanded oil and gas drilling in the United States and support for nuclear power. The House budget, which he authored, also reflects his positions to expand drilling and slash incentives for clean-energy technologies, according to TheHill.com.“This budget would roll back federal intervention and expensive corporate-welfare funding directed to the president’s allied industries,” the proposal says.¶ The budget blueprint also proposes scaling back EPA regulations, according to a profile in Politico. The League of Conservation Voters was quick to criticize Romney’s choice of Ryan, calling him “Big Oil’s Dream VP Pick.” ¶ **Energy is already becoming a topic on the campaign trail.**