**NEG**

In today’s debate we look at both sides of the topic of whether or not the right to strike ought to be unconditional. For today’s round I will represent the NEG and the CONS of allowing this right to be unconditional.

I start off the debate by stating my value:

In today’s debate I value **Societal Good**

Which is defined by Investopedia dot com as: something that benefits the largest number of people in the largest possible way, such as clean air, clean water, healthcare, and literacy. Also known as "common good,"

To achieve this value it is best that we use the value criterion of **Utilitarianism:**

Which is defined by Marium Webster as: a theory that the aim of action should be the largest possible balance of pleasure over pain or the greatest happiness of the greatest number 

For an ethical standpoint, a focus on rights will lead to concrete change in society. Abstract concepts concerning morality neglect to actually help real people.

Interpretation- This means that the debater who provides the most universal net benefit on their side ought to win the debate today.

Business Confidence Remains High in the Squo-

Halloran ’9-14 [Michael; 2021; M.B.A. from Carnegie Mellon University, former aerospace research engineer, Equity Strategist; Janney, “Despite Potential Headwinds, Key Labor Market Indicators Bode Well for the Economy,” https://www.janney.com/latest-articles-commentary/all-insights/insights/2021/09/14/despite-potential-headwinds-key-labor-market-indicators-bode-well-for-the-economy]

However, we remain encouraged by the recovery that has been unfolding since the economy began reopening. We continue to see improvement in important cyclical sectors of the economy while consumers are historically healthy and still have pent-up demand. Business confidence has rebounded with strong corporate profits that should support further capital spending and hiring (there are now more job openings than there are unemployed people by a record amount).

We expect to see further improvement in the international backdrop, supported by unprecedented fiscal and monetary stimulus and accelerating rates of vaccination. Although the impact of the Delta wave is still being felt, recent evidence confirms the effectiveness of vaccines in limiting deaths and hospitalizations. With the pace of vaccination now picking up in the areas most impacted by this wave—Asia and Australia—the case for fading headwinds leading to improving economic growth later this year remains positive.

The signals from financial markets themselves remain positive. Despite consolidating last week, stocks remain near record highs while the 10-year Treasury remains well above the lows of earlier this summer when concerns about Delta first emerged.

These factors support our view of a durable economic recovery from the pandemic that should continue supporting stock prices. A healthy labor market is a critical element for a sustainable recovery that supports profit growth and last week’s news from the labor market remains encouraging.

Unconditional Striking severely damage business confidence

Tenza 20 Mlungisi Tenza, Obiter vol.41 n.3 Port Elizabeth 2020, LLB LLM LLD Senior Lecturer, University of KwaZulu-Natal, "The effects of violent strikes on the economy of a developing country: a case of South Africa," No Publication, http://www.scielo.org.za/scielo.php?script=sci\_arttext&pid=S1682-58532020000300004

The relationship between the business of the employer and its customers is based on loyalty and confidence. The employer is expected to keep this relationship going by supplying goods or deliver services to clients when needed. It is expected that this would take place without disturbance. However, during strikes or conduct in furtherance of a strike, this relationship gets affected since the level of production or service delivery is reduced or does not take place. It is well known that the continued existence of a business relies on customers' satisfaction with services or goods provided. A business that does not have customers can hardly survive as they are the backbone of the business. If a strike is violent and takes long to resolve, this may chase away customers or clients as the possibility of not getting what they want is high if less or no production takes place. The possibility that customers could shift loyalty to other businesses doing the same business as the employer is high. The end result is that a prolonged strike has the potential of chasing away customers or clients as they may not want to associate themselves with a business environment that poses a risk to their lives. In addition, customers may want to share solidarity with employees and refuse to associate with a business whose employees are on strike. To stop this from taking place, the employer and the union need to speed up the process of resolving their dispute through a non-violent mechanism such as a collective bargaining process.

This leads to an economic downfall

Rusoff 21 Jane Rusoff, ThinkAdvisor Contributing Editor specializing in interviews with thought leaders. She has written for The New York Times, The Washington Post, USA Today and Esquire, among numerous other publications. Author/co-author of five books, Jane was a staff editor at London Express Features and Billboard’s Merchandising Magazine; “Harry Dent: ‘Biggest Crash Ever’ Likely by End of June,” ThinkAdvisor; 3/10/21; <https://www.thinkadvisor.com/2021/03/10/harry-dent-biggest-crash-ever-likely-by-end-of-june/>

Why will the downturn that you see be so harsh?

The only reason the 2008 downturn didn’t turn into a depression was that they turned on the monetary spigots so hard and blew us out of it, which kept the bubble going. They kept printing money and put it off. Now we’ve got a bigger bubble. This downturn is going to be the Great Depression that the deep recession of 2008 was.

How long do you think the depression will last?

If the economy finally falls apart after this much stimulus, economists will flip from being endlessly bullish to endlessly bearish. They’ll say, “Now we’re in a decade-long-plus depression, like the 1930s.” But I’ll say, “Nope, this thing will be hell: It’s going to do its work very fast. By 2024, it will be over.” By 2023 or 2024, we’re going to be coming out of it into what I call the next Spring Boom.

Right now, you favor investing in Treasury bonds. What’s your strategy?

Man, what’s better than sleeping with 30-year Treasury bonds — the safest investment in the reserve currency of a country that’s in big trouble — but not as much as Europe and Japan are in and nowhere near as much as China is in. We’re in the best house in a bad neighborhood.

What will happen to the 30-year Treasury bond during the massive crash you foresee?

It’s going to fall to half a percent and maybe zero. It will expand your money 30%, 40%, 50%, while stocks are crashing 70%, 80%, 90%. Real estate will go down 30%, 40%, 50%. Commodities are already down 50% and are going down another 30% or 40%. Everything is going to default. Cash will preserve your money. The 30-year Treasury will magnify your money.

So, do you think 50% of an investment portfolio should be in Treasurys?

If you’re willing to take more risk, you’ll have one bucket in long-term U.S. Treasury bonds and maybe in a few other good governments, like Sweden or Australia. Triple-A corporates could go in there too. Then you’ll have another bucket — of short stocks, not leveraged.

Stocks are very volatile on the way down. You can also be in REITs that are in very solid areas, like multi-family housing in affordable cities and medical facilities because those will hold up the best.

There’s a discernable euphoria now among investors. But John Templeton, the renowned investor and fund manager, famously said that “bull markets die on euphoria.” Do you agree with that?

Yes. And Jeremy Grantham [GMO co-founder] said [on Jan. 5] this level of euphoria means you’re within months — not years — of a major bubble peak. You’re at the end.

Wil cryptocurrency be part of that huge crash?

Yes. I think Bitcoin is the big thing long term and that crypto and blockchain is a big trend. It’s like the internet of finance — money and assets — instead of information. So it’s a big deal — but in its early stages.

Bitcoin is going to go to 58 [thousand], 60, 80 — and then end up back at 3,000 to 4,000. I would buy it long term, a couple of years from now. I wouldn’t touch it between now and then.

What are your expectations for the economy once the pandemic substantially fades?

Some industries are never going to come back. We’re not back to where we were before COVID — by GDP or any other major indicator. Everybody is acting like “When we get over COVID, we’ll be back better than ever.” The stock market is already anticipating that. But it’s wrong.

The only reason people are spending is because the government handed businesses and consumers tons of money. But it will get to a point where it’s not going to matter how much money is printed — and then you’ll have an avalanche. A huge collapse is coming.

What specifically will cause it?

There’s is no way you can [keep] having fake earnings, fake GDP, fake interest rates and super-high valuations. Financial assets have to come down to reality.

What are the implications?

Loans will fail by the boatload. Then money disappears. That causes bank and business failures. We have to get all the financial leverage, financial assets and debt out of our economy.

**Strikes hurt economy and halt growth-**

**Tenza 20**

“The effects of violent strikes on the economy of a developing country: a case of South Africa” http://www.scielo.org.za/scielo.php?script=sci\_arttext&pid=S1682-58532020000300004 These strikes are not only violent but take long to resolve. Generally, a lengthy strike has a negative effect on employment, reduces business confidence and increases the risk of economic stagflation. In addition, such strikes have a major setback on the growth of the economy and investment opportunities. It is common knowledge that consumer spending is directly linked to economic growth. At the same time, if the economy is not showing signs of growth, employment opportunities are shed, and poverty becomes the end result. The economy of South Africa is in need of rapid growth to enable it to deal with the high levels of unemployment and resultant poverty.

**Warrant:**

**It’s essential today that we don’t allow for an unconditional right to striking because this leads to a lack of business confidence that then leads to an economic downfall. It is best that we avoid this economic downfall and going into a recession to achieve both values in today’s debate. Because it is best that we maintain economic stability of all countries and achieve the value of societal good, that you choose the negative today.**

**Rebuttal:**

**Now that I have read my case, I will go on to attack my opponent’s case:**

**A real quick roadmap of my rebuttal: V, VC, Solvency**

**STRIKES NO LONGER COUNTER-BALANCE CORPORATE POWER.**

**Ahmed White**, (Prof., Law, U. Colorado, Boulder), WISCONSIN LAW REVIEW, 2018, 1068.

Nevertheless, in most quarters the decline in strikes has been taken in stride, if noticed at all. For most people, strikes are hardly more than historical relics or quaint curiosities that seldom affect their daily lives or command much of their attention. Ironically, this is probably one reason the very modest labor conflict of the last year has been so over-characterized. Once a preoccupation of newspaper editorialists, lawyers, and other commentators, a concern of government, and the subject of numerous hearings and reports, abundant litigation, and seemingly endless attempts at legislation, strikes are now rarely of any interest in any of these quarters.

**STRIKES RARELY SUCCEED IN ACHIEVING MEANINGFUL OBJECTIVES**.

**Ahmed White,** (Prof., Law, U. Colorado, Boulder), WISCONSIN LAW REVIEW, 2018, 1127.

So it is that workers have found themselves with a right to strike that equals little more than a right to quit work - and maybe lose their jobs or their houses and savings in the balance. They have a right to strike, as Steinbeck's character, Mac, complained, but they "can't picket" - at least, not in a way that is really apt to change anything. And so they do not strike - in fact, under these circumstances they usually should not strike. The proof of this is readily evident, not only in the dramatic decrease in strikes since the 1970s, but in the sad regularity with which even the most vibrant strikes have ended in defeat for workers. Phelps Dodge (1983), Greyhound (1983 and 1990), Hormel (1985-1986), Caterpillar (1992, 1993, and 1994-1995), Detroit Daily News/Daily Free Press (1995-1997) - these are but the most notable of a litany of vibrant strikes since the 1970s that ended in failure

**THE RIGHT TO STRIKE DOES NOT HELP WORKERS IN LOWER INCOME LEVELS**.

**Alex Gourevitch**, (Prof., Political Science, Brown U.), A RADICAL DEFENSE OF THE RIGHT TO STRIKE, July 12, 2018. Retrieved Oct. 12, 2021 from https://jacobinmag.com/2018/07/right-tostrike-freedom-civil-liberties-oppression Lower skill, high-labor-supply workers in sectors like service, transportation, agriculture, and basic industry are in a different situation. These kinds of workers, in part because they are in such great supply, tend to have less bargaining power and therefore usually face lower wages, longer hours, and worse working conditions. They are also more vulnerable to forms of illegal pressure, wage theft, and other abuses. These are the workers we intuitively think should have the strongest case for a right to strike. Yet even if all of those workers walk off and respect the picket, production will continue rolling because replacements are much easier to find, train, and put to work.

**STRIKES OFTEN ARE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE**.

**Martin Malin**, (JD), OHIO STATE JOURNAL ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION, 2013, 149. Depending on the political and economic climate, strikes and strike threats can backfire on unions and unions appear to recognize this and behave accordingly.