#### **CI: Affs may defend subsets of workers**

#### **Specific instances prove generics which means I meet**

**Cimpian et al 10** (PhDs – Andrei, Amanda C. Brandone, Susan A. Gelman, Generic statements require little evidence for acceptance but have powerful implications, Cogn Sci. 2010 Nov 1; 34(8): 1452–1482)

**Generic statements** (e.g., “Birds lay eggs”) express generalizations about categories. In this paper, we hypothesized that there is a paradoxical asymmetry at the core of generic meaning, such that these sentences have extremely strong implications but **require little evidence to be judged true**. Four experiments confirmed the hypothesized asymmetry: **Participants interpreted novel generics such as “Lorches have purple feathers”** as referring to nearly all lorches, but they judged the same novel generics **to be true** given a wide range of prevalence levels (e.g., **even when only 10% or 30% of lorches had purple feathers**). A second hypothesis, also confirmed by the results, was that novel generic sentences about dangerous or distinctive properties would be more acceptable than generic sentences that were similar but did not have these connotations. In addition to clarifying important aspects of generics’ meaning, these findings are applicable to a range of real-world processes such as stereotyping and political discourse. Keywords: generic language, concepts, truth conditions, prevalence implications, quantifiers, semantics Go to: 1. Introduction **A statement is generic if it expresses a generalization about the members of a kind, as in “Mosquitoes carry the West Nile virus” or “Birds lay eggs”** (e.g., Carlson, 1977; Carlson & Pelletier, 1995; Leslie, 2008). Such generalizations are commonplace in everyday conversation and child-directed speech (Gelman, Coley, Rosengren, Hartman, & Pappas, 1998; Gelman, Taylor, & Nguyen, 2004; Gelman, Goetz, Sarnecka, & Flukes, 2008), and are likely to foster the growth of children’s conceptual knowledge (Cimpian & Markman, 2009; Gelman, 2004, 2009). Here, however, we explore the semantics of generic sentences—and, in particular, the relationship between generic meaning and the statistical prevalence of the relevant properties (e.g., what proportion of birds lay eggs). Consider, first, generics’ truth conditions: **Generic sentences are often judged true despite weak statistical evidence**. **Few people would dispute the truth of “Mosquitoes carry the West Nile virus”, yet only about 1% of mosquitoes are actually carriers** (Cox, 2004). Similarly, **only a minority of birds lays eggs** (the healthy, mature females), **but “Birds lay eggs” is uncontroversial**. This loose, almost negligible relationship between the prevalence of a property within a category and the acceptance of the corresponding generic sentence has long puzzled linguists and philosophers, and has led to many attempts to describe the truth conditions of generic statements (for reviews, see Carlson, 1995; Leslie, 2008). Though generics’ truth conditions may be unrelated to property prevalence (cf. Prasada & Dillingham, 2006), the same cannot be said about the implications of generic statements. When provided with a novel generic sentence, one often has the impression that the property talked about is widespread. For example, if we were unfamiliar with the West Nile virus and were told (generically) that mosquitoes carry it, it would not be unreasonable to assume that all, or at least a majority of, mosquitoes are carriers (Gelman, Star, & Flukes, 2002). It is this paradoxical combination of flexible, almost prevalence-independent truth conditions, on the one hand, and widespread prevalence implications, on the other, that is the main focus of this article. **We will** attempt to **demonstrate empirically that the prevalence level that is sufficient to judge a generic sentence as true is indeed significantly lower than the prevalence level implied by that very same sentence**. If told that, say, “Lorches have purple feathers,” people might expect almost all lorches to have these feathers (illustrating generics’ high implied prevalence), but they may still agree that the sentence is true even if the actual prevalence of purple feathers among lorches turned out to be much lower (illustrating generics’ flexible truth conditions). Additionally, we propose that this asymmetry is peculiar to generic statements and does not extend to sentences with quantified noun phrases as subjects. That is, the prevalence implied by a sentence such as “Most lorches have purple feathers” may be more closely aligned with the prevalence that would be needed to judge it as true. Before describing our studies, we provide a brief overview of previous research on the truth conditions and the prevalence implications of generic statements. 1.1. Generics’ truth conditions Some of the first experimental evidence for the idea that the truth of a generic statement does not depend on the underlying statistics was provided by Gilson and Abelson (1965; Abelson & Kanouse, 1966) in their studies of “the psychology of audience reaction” to “persuasive communication” in the form of generic assertions (Abelson & Kanouse, 1966, p. 171). Participants were presented with novel items such as the following: **Altogether there are three kinds of tribes—Southern, Northern, Central. Southern tribes have sports magazines. Northern tribes do not** have sports magazines. **Central tribes do not** have sports magazines. **Do tribes have sports magazines?** All items had the same critical feature: only one third of the target category possessed the relevant property. Despite the low prevalence, **participants answered “yes” approximately 70% of the time** to “Do tribes have sports magazines?” and other generic questions similar to it. Thus, **people’s acceptance of the generics did not seem contingent on strong statistical evidence,** leaving the door open for persuasion, and perhaps manipulation, by ill-intentioned communicators. A similar conclusion about the relationship between statistical prevalence and generics’ truth conditions emerged from the linguistics literature on this topic (e.g., Carlson, 1977; Carlson & Pelletier, 1995; Dahl, 1975; Declerck, 1986, 1991; Lawler, 1973). For example, Carlson (1977) writes that “**there are many cases where […] less than half of the individuals under consideration have some certain property, yet we still can truly predicate that property of the appropriate bare plural**” (p. 67), **as is the case with “Birds lay eggs” and “Mosquitoes carry the West Nile virus” but also with “Lions have manes**” (only males do), “Cardinals are red” (only males are), and others. He points out, moreover, that there are many properties that, although present in a majority of a kind, nevertheless cannot be predicated truthfully of that kind (e.g., more than 50% of books are paperbacks but “Books are paperbacks” is false). Thus, acceptance of a generic sentence is doubly dissociated from the prevalence of the property it refers to—not only can true generics refer to low-prevalence properties, but high-prevalence properties are also not guaranteed to be true in generic form

#### **Debate solves arbitrary linguistic intuitions—we can determine the most predictable interp based on factors like clash and limits. Semantics are a floor not a ceiling—if we have a sufficiently predictable interpretation of the topic then division of ground is more important.**

#### **Standards:**

#### **1] Clash—allows us to go in-depth on particular parts of the literature which allows for more nuanced debates because different workers and their squo strike policy are different**

#### **2] Aff ground—No Advantage applies to all workers because each one has different strike policies – i.e. other workers can strike under NLRA, but not agricultural workers**

#### **3] Pics are comparatively worse—a) It forces 1AR restart mooting the 1AC and creating a 13-7 time skew b) negs have generics like the Cap K and Innovation DA but affs don’t have any vs pics**

#### **4] Overlimiting: They make whole res the only topical aff which is devastating vs specific negs**

#### **5] Functional limits check – only workers that don’t have a strong right to strike in the squo are viable affs**

#### **6] Reasonability – good is good enough and key to avoid substance crowdout – otherwise leads to a race to the top which detract from the fairness they try to preserve**

### **1AR**

#### **1] Framework—Interpretation: They have to disprove the desirability of the causal consequences of the plan., prove the alternative solves the links and the case and must disagree with the plan**

#### **Fairness—Arbitrary frameworks moot the 1AC—there are infinite parts of the 1AC they could problematize forcing 1AR restart. Our scholarship is tied to the consequences of the plan so it makes no sense to separate assumptions from implementation.**

#### **2] Case o/w—prioritize existential impacts. They foreclose any possibility of political changes, material improvements, and interpersonal value. Mass death would be horrible—it would incinerate billions while the rest die a slow and painful death from starvation, disease, and Ice Age. Even if the world is bad, they should not get to make that decision for billions of people that find value in the world.**

#### **3] Alt can’t solve case -- committing to a communist agenda does nothing to solve the aff – multiple solvency deficits: A] farmer growth – farmers lose access to wage pushing and establishing them in the economy**

#### **4] perm do both – it solves the unions link since it wouldn’t view unions as key for cap which is the only argument and it would solve income balance since only the aff materially changes wages**

#### **5] Perm do the aff then the alt – it solves better by creating a slower transition to communism with the plan and then a complete shift over. Movements in the aff help restore working conditions to agricultural workers.**

#### **6] Link turn – agricultural worker disparities are at the heart of capitalist wage exploitation so the aff is better at establshing the disticntion**

### **1AR—Alternative Fails**

#### **Crackdown DA—the alternative fails absent the case— the link is bolstered by crackdown and backlash against any radical leftist movement, proven by the state’s response to Portland. Small incremental reforms are necessary to make movements more effective.**

#### **Classrooms DA—capitalism is not merely an economic system—it is an ideology. People are not going to freely let go of concepts such as currency, consumerism, and productivity. This means that production merely shifts from one organize around corporations to one around the state proven by the USSR communist china, etc.**

#### **Authoritarianism DA—socialist movements devolve into authoritarian—it is impossible to force a revolutionary vision without a centralized force coercing them, turning all their impacts. Look at Cuba, where Castro had people killed for wanting to move to the U.S.**

#### 

### **A2 Socialism**

#### **Socialism fails – kills incentives to work and causes abuse of power**

**Zermop 12/11 [Bob Zermop. “Why Capitalism Works and Socialism Doesn't.” Hug Pages, Politics and Social Issues. 12/11/14]**

Far left socialism is no less dangerous. Though I think the socialist ideal of a worldwide and local cooperation is good, **the socialist model** is not the way to do it. The problem with the really far left model, involving equal work and equal distribution, has already been discussed in depth by many, so I will only cover it briefly. I suppose that it once seemed like a better alternative to capitalism-gone-wild (it prevents the wealth gap and the consequent abuse of the $ owned government), but the society based on this model **quickly collapses. Look at Communist China, Cuba**, or to a certain extent, today's Europe. Europe is still great, but the cracks are starting to show. The **two major reasons are 1.) Socialism discourages work** and effort **by shifting consequences** (positive and negative) **onto others. 2.) Socialism restricts freedom of the individual.** I'll begin by addressing the first. **By having a "security net" so secure that it's easier to not work than** to **work, nobody** (well, few) **will work**. In a future world of more resources, perhaps that will become possible. But we are not even close to being there yet, and this system is unsustainable as it takes from those who would advance society and gives to those who don't. The entire point of a security net is to make sure those who are deserving have the ability to exercise their potential (Note: I am aware that the ultimate point is to allow the happiness of everyone. I mean in the sense of its function in a developing society.). Why work your hide off to drag along those who are just kicking back? This system encourages laziness, and after a while **even those who naturally would work will stop because of their unjust load.** This problem with socialism has a solution: move towards the center. By arranging society so that those who work harder, smarter, more creatively, and more productively are rewarded, all of society will ultimately benefit from their advances. If a safety net is retained, and it should be, downward spirals can be prevented and a basic standard of living can be available to all. However, problem 2 (Socialism restricts freedom of the individual.) is not so easily solved. In fact, I can't think of a solution at all. I believe this is socialism's fatal flaw, and it's basically the reason I am capitalist. I will address this in detail later on, when it flows more appropriately.

### **1AR—Capitalism Inevitable**

#### **Cap inevitable - evolution means we are all selfish**

**Thayer 2000** Bradley A., Former Research Fellow, International Security Program, Associate Professor of Defense & Strategic Study, Missouri State University, International Security, 01622889, Fall2000, Vol. 25, Issue 2 “"Bringing in Darwin: Evolutionary Theory, Realism, and International Politics"

Evolutionary theory offers two sufficient explanations for the trait of egoism. The **first** is a classic Darwinian argument: **In a hostile environment where** resources are scarce and thus **survival precarious**, **organisms** typically **satisfy their** own physiological **needs** for food, shelter, and so on **before assisting others.**[41] In times of danger or great stress, **an organism usually places its life** its survival--**before** that of **other members** of its group, be it pack, herd, or tribe. For these reasons, **egoistic behavior contributes to fitness.** Evolutionary theorist Richard Dawkins's selfish gene theory provides the second sufficient explanation for egoism. A conceptual shift is required here because Dawkins's level of analysis is the gene, not the organism. As Dawkins explains, at one time there were no organisms, just chemicals in a primordial "soup."[42] At first, different types of molecules started forming by accident, including some that could reproduce by using the constituents of the soup--carbon, nitrogen, hydrogen, and oxygen. Because these constituents were in limited supply, molecules competed for them as they replicated. From this competition, the most efficient copy makers emerged. The process, however, was never perfect. Sometimes mistakes were made during replication, and occasionally these accidents resulted in more efficient replication or made some other contribution to fitness. One such mistake might have been the formation of a thin membrane that held the contents of the molecule together--a primitive cell. A second might have involved the division of the primitive cell into ever larger components, organs, and so on to create what Dawkins calls "survival machines." He explains, "The first survival machines probably consisted of nothing more than a protective coat. But making a living got steadily harder as new rivals arose with better and more effective survival machines. **Survival machines got** bigger and **more elaborate, and the process was cumulative** and progressive."[43] From a genetic perspective, there is no intentionality in this process, but it continued nonetheless because of evolution. Dawkins makes clear, however, that the interests of the gene and the organism need not coincide at different stages in an organism's life, particularly after reproduction.[44] In general, however, **the selfishness of the gene increases its fitness, and so the behavior spreads.**

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### **1AR—Impact Turns (General)**

#### **Free market capitalism has drastically improved the world.**

Empirical education in child mortality and increase in life expectancy, development of tech innovation in the private market k2 medical advances, food production increased with agriculture tech green revolution, also decreased armed conflicts

**Feyman 14** Yevgeniy [adjunct fellow at the Manhattan Institute. He writes on health care policy, entitlement reform, and the Affordable Care Act. His research has focused on a variety of topics, including the physician shortage, the cost of health care reform, and consumer-directed health care. Feyman was previously the deputy director of health policy at the Manhattan Institute and is currently a research assistant in the department of health policy at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health] “The Golden Age Is Now” May 23, 2014. IB

In How Much Have Global Problems Cost the World? **Lomborg and a group of economists conclude that, with a few exceptions, the world is richer, freer, healthier, and smarter than it’s ever been.** These gains have coincided with the near-universal rejection of statism and the flourishing of capitalist principles. At a time when political figures such as New York City mayor Bill de Blasio and religious leaders such as Pope Francis frequently remind us about the evils of unfettered capitalism, this is a worthwhile message. **The doubling of human life expectancy is one of the most remarkable achievements of the past century.** Consider, Lomborg writes, that “**the twentieth century saw life expectancy rise by about 3 months for every calendar year.**” **The average child in 1900 could expect to live to just 32 years old; now that same child should make it to 70. This increase came during a century when worldwide economic output, driven by the spread of capitalism and freedom, grew by more than 4,000 percent.** These gains occurred in developed and developing countries alike; among men and women; and even in a sense among children, as child mortality plummeted. **Why are we living so much longer? Massive improvements in public health certainly played an important role. The World Health Organization’s global vaccination efforts essentially eradicated smallpox. But this would have been impossible without the innovative methods of vaccine preservation developed in the private sector** by British scientist Leslie Collier. **Oral rehydration therapies and antibiotics have also been instrumental in reducing child mortality. Simply put, technological progress is the key to these gains—and market economies have liberated, and rewarded, technological innovation.** People are not just living longer, but better—sometimes with government’s help, and sometimes despite it. **Even people in the developing countries** of Africa and Latin America **are better educated and better fed than ever before. Hundreds of thousands of children who would have died during previous eras due to malnutrition are alive today. Here, we can thank massive advancements in agricultural production unleashed by the free market. In the 1960s, privately funded agricultural researchers bred new, high-yield strains of corn, wheat, and various other crops thanks to advances in molecular genetics. Globalization helped spread these technologies to developing countries, which used them not only to feed their people, but also to become export powerhouses. This so-called “green revolution” reinforced both the educational progress (properly nourished children tend to learn more) and the life-expectancy gains** (better nutrition leads to better health) of the twentieth century. **These children live in a world with fewer armed conflicts, netting what the authors call a “peace dividend.” Globalization and trade liberalization have surely contributed to this more peaceful world (on aggregate).** An interdependent global economy makes war costly. Of course, problems remain. As Lomborg points out, most foreign aid likely does little to boost economic welfare, yet hundreds of billions of dollars in “development assistance” continue to flow every year from developed countries to the developing world. Moreover, climate change is widely projected to intensify in the second half of the twenty-first century, and will carry with it a significant economic cost. But those familiar with the prior work of the “skeptical environmentalist” understand that ameliorating these effects over time could prove wasteful. Lomborg notes that the latest research on climate change estimates a net cost of 0.2 to 2 percent of GDP from 2055 to 2080. The same report points out that in 2030, mitigation costs may be as high as 4 percent of GDP. Perhaps directing mitigation funding to other priorities—curing AIDS for instance—would be a better use of the resources. Lomborg’s main message? Ignore those pining for the “good old days.” **Thanks to the immense gains of the past century, there has never been a better time to be alive**.

### **ADV 1: Sustainable Agriculture**

#### **Population expansion requires farmland expansion to meet food demand—we are on the brink of prohibitive ecological costs from deforestation**

**Tian et al 21**-- Tian, Zhixi [principal investigator, Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology and former research geneticist at Purdue], et al. "Designing future crops: challenges and strategies for sustainable agriculture." The Plant Journal 105.5 (2021): 1165-1178. (AG DebateDrills)

From the perspective of human evolution, each period of rapid population growth, such as during the Neolithic agricultural revolution, which began at about 8000 BC, the hydro agricultural or irrigation revolutions in the Near East, which began about 3000 BC, and the medieval and modern agricultural periods, which began about 1000 AD, benefited from an advance in agriculture (Taiz, 2013; Wallace et al., 2018). The recent rapid population growth during the past 300 years, in contrast, mainly resulted from the Industrial Revolution, which began in Britain about 1760. **The Industrial Revolution greatly increased the range of human activities and accelerated farmland expansion. In 1700, it was reported that nearly 95% of Earth’s ice-free land consisted of wildlands and semi-natural anthromes; however, by 2000, ~55% of these regions were used as arable land** (Figure 1a, data from https://ourworldindata.org/). The Industrial Revolution also gave birth to new technologies and production systems in agriculture, such as the application of larger irrigation systems, and more fertilizers and pesticides. In the 1960s, semi-dwarf wheat and rice varieties were introduced. These semi-dwarf crops exhibit beneficial characteristics, such as improved response to fertilizer input, lodging resistance and enhanced light utilization (Hedden, 2003; Wallace et al., 2018). Along with the fertilizers, pesticides and irrigation systems made possible by the Industrial Revolution, semi-dwarf crops were quickly adopted and resulted in a significant increase in total grain production globally. This big leap in agriculture was known as the ‘Green Revolution’ (Khush, 2001). Indeed, statistical data have revealed that the average daily food supply per person (in terms of calories) has doubled since the middle of the 19th century (Figure 1b, data from https://ourworld indata.org/). It is estimated that the world population will rise to more than 9 billion by 2050 (Alexandratos, 1999; Cassman, 1999), and at that time we will need at least 60% more food than is consumed by humans today. Moreover, our population will continuously increase, reaching over 11 billion by 2100 (Figure 1a, data from https://ourworldindata.org/). **How to feed the increasing population is a challenge facing the whole world** (Tilman et al., 2001; Godfray et al., 2010; Foley et al., 2011; Wallace et al., 2018). **A simple solution to feed a population of 9 billion is to constantly turn wild habitats into farmland**. However, this type of expansion is unrealistic as most of the world’s icefree and non-barren land area has been exhausted, and much of the rest is unlikely to sustain high yields (Cassman, 1999). More importantly, intact forests have been known to play essential roles in protecting the environment, such as storing fresh water, decreasing flooding and regenerating fertile soils. **Clearing of forests will result in prohibitive ecological costs, such as loss of biodiversity and greenhouse gas emissions. It was reported that, due to agriculture expansion, ~30% of all plant species will become extinct** (Taiz, 2013). The destruction of tropical forests releases about 1.1 9 1012 tons of carbon per year, which accounts for 12% of total anthropogenic CO2 emissions (Friedlingstein et al., 2010).

#### **Biod loss causes extinction – outweighs neg disads and is a threat multiplier**

**Torres 16** [Phil Biologist, conservationist, science advocate & educator. 2 years based in Amazon rainforest, now exploring science around the world. “[Biodiversity Loss: An Existential Risk Comparable to Climate Change](http://futureoflife.org/2016/05/20/biodiversity-loss/)” <http://futureoflife.org/2016/05/20/biodiversity-loss/>.]

According to the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, the two greatest existential threats to human civilization stem from climate change and nuclear weapons. Both pose clear and present dangers to the perpetuation of our species, and the increasingly dire climate situation and nuclear arsenal modernizations in the United States and Russia were the most significant reasons why the Bulletin [decided](http://thebulletin.org/press-release/doomsday-clock-hands-remain-unchanged-despite-iran-deal-and-paris-talks9122) to keep the Doomsday Clock set at three minutes before midnight earlier this year.

But there is another existential threat that the Bulletin overlooked in its Doomsday Clock announcement: biodiversity loss. This phenomenon is often identified as one of the many consequences of climate change, and this is of course correct. But **biodiversity loss is also a contributing factor behind climate change**. For example, deforestation in the Amazon rainforest and elsewhere reduces the amount of carbon dioxide removed from the atmosphere by plants, a natural process that mitigates the effects of climate change. So **the causal relation between climate change and biodiversity loss is bidirectional.**

Furthermore, there are myriad phenomena that are driving biodiversity loss in addition to climate change. Other causes include ecosystem fragmentation, invasive species, pollution, oxygen depletion caused by fertilizers running off into ponds and streams, overfishing, human overpopulation, and overconsumption. All of these phenomena have a direct impact on the health of the biosphere, and all would conceivably persist even if the problem of climate change were somehow immediately solved.

Such considerations warrant decoupling biodiversity loss from climate change, because the former has been consistently subsumed by the latter as a mere effect. Biodiversity loss is a distinct environmental crisis with its own unique syndrome of causes, consequences, and solutions—such as restoring habitats, creating protected areas (“biodiversity parks”), and practicing sustainable agriculture.

Deforestation of the Amazon rainforest decreases natural mitigation of CO2 and destroys the habitats of many endangered species.

The sixth extinction.

The repercussions of biodiversity loss are potentially as severe as those anticipated from climate change, or even a nuclear conflict. For example, according to a 2015 [study](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26601195) published in Science Advances, **the best available evidence reveals “an exceptionally rapid loss of biodiversity over the last few centuries, indicating that a sixth mass extinction is already under way.”** This conclusion holds, even on the most optimistic assumptions about the background rate of species losses and the current rate of vertebrate extinctions. The group classified as “vertebrates” includes mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, and all other creatures with a backbone.

The article argues that, using its conservative figures, the average loss of vertebrate species was 100 times higher in the past century relative to the background rate of extinction. (Other scientists have suggested that the current extinction rate could be as much as 10,000 times higher than normal.) As the authors write, “The evidence is incontrovertible that recent extinction rates are unprecedented in human history and highly unusual in Earth’s history.” Perhaps the term “Big Six” should enter the popular lexicon—to add the current extinction to the previous “Big Five,” the last of which wiped out the dinosaurs 66 million years ago.

But the concept of biodiversity encompasses more than just the total number of species on the planet. It also refers to the size of different populations of species. With respect to this phenomenon, multiple studies have confirmed that wild populations around the world are dwindling and disappearing at an alarming rate. For example, the 2010 [Global Biodiversity Outlook](https://www.cbd.int/gbo3) report found that the population of wild vertebrates living in the tropics dropped by 59 percent between 1970 and 2006.

The report also found that the population of farmland birds in Europe has dropped by 50 percent since 1980; bird populations in the grasslands of North America declined by almost 40 percent between 1968 and 2003; and the population of birds in North American arid lands has fallen by almost 30 percent since the 1960s. Similarly, 42 percent of all amphibian species (a type of vertebrate that is sometimes called an “ecological indicator”) are undergoing population declines, and 23 percent of all plant species “are estimated to be threatened with extinction.” [Other studies](http://commondreams.org/views/2016/02/10/biodiversity-loss-and-doomsday-clock-invisible-disaster-almost-no-one-talking-about) have found that some 20 percent of all reptile species, 48 percent of the world’s primates, and 50 percent of freshwater turtles are threatened. Underwater, about 10 percent of all coral reefs are now dead, and another 60 percent are in danger of dying.

Consistent with these data, the 2014 [Living Planet Report](http://bit.ly/1ssxx5m) shows that the global population of wild vertebrates dropped by 52 percent in only four decades—from 1970 to 2010. While biologists often avoid projecting historical trends into the future because of the complexity of ecological systems, it’s tempting to extrapolate this figure to, say, the year 2050, which is four decades from 2010. As it happens, a 2006[study](http://science.sciencemag.org/content/314/5800/787) published in Science does precisely this: It projects past trends of marine biodiversity loss into the 21st century, concluding that, unless significant changes are made to patterns of human activity, there will be virtually no more wild-caught seafood by 2048.

48% of the world’s primates are threatened with extinction.

Catastrophic consequences for civilization.

**The consequences of this rapid pruning of the evolutionary tree of life extend beyond the obvious. There could be surprising effects of biodiversity loss that scientists are unable to fully anticipate in advance. For example, prior research has shown that localized ecosystems can undergo abrupt and irreversible shifts when they reach a tipping point.** According to a 2012 [paper](http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v486/n7401/full/nature11018.html) published in Nature, there are reasons for thinking that we may be approaching a tipping point of this sort in the global ecosystem, beyond which the consequences could be catastrophic for civilization.

As the authors write, **a planetary-scale transition could precipitate** “substantial losses of ecosystem services required to sustain the human population.” An ecosystem service is any ecological process that benefits humanity, such as food production and crop pollination**. If the global ecosystem were to cross a tipping point and substantial ecosystem services were lost, the results could be “widespread social unrest, economic instability, and loss of human life.” According to Missouri Botanical Garden ecologist Adam Smith, one of the paper’s co-authors, this could occur in a matter of decades—far more quickly than most of the expected consequences of climate change, yet equally destructive.**

**Biodiversity loss is a “threat multiplier” that, by pushing societies to the brink of collapse, will exacerbate existing conflicts and introduce entirely new struggles between state and non-state actors.** Indeed, it could even fuel the rise of terrorism. (After all, climate change has been [linked](http://thebulletin.org/climate-change-and-syrian-uprising) to the emergence of ISIS in Syria, and multiple high-ranking US officials, such as former US Defense Secretary [Chuck Hagel](http://www.defense.gov/News-Article-View/Article/603441)and CIA director [John Brennan](http://www.cnsnews.com/news/article/cnsnewscom-staff/cia-director-cites-impact-climate-change-deeper-cause-global), have affirmed that climate change and terrorism are connected.)

The reality is that we are entering the sixth mass extinction in the 3.8-billion-year history of life on Earth, and the impact of this event could be felt by civilization “in as little as three human lifetimes,” as the aforementioned 2012 Nature paper notes. Furthermore, the widespread decline of biological populations could plausibly initiate a dramatic transformation of the global ecosystem on an even faster timescale: perhaps a single human lifetime.

The unavoidable conclusion is that **biodiversity loss constitutes an existential threat** in its own right. As such, it ought to be considered alongside climate change and nuclear weapons as one of the most significant contemporary risks to human prosperity and survival.

#### **The only yet extremely effective solution is innovation that leads to more crop yield—there’s multiple possibilities for innovation**

**Tian et al 21**-- Tian, Zhixi [principal investigator, Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology and former research geneticist at Purdue], et al. "Designing future crops: challenges and strategies for sustainable agriculture." The Plant Journal 105.5 (2021): 1165-1178. (AG DebateDrills)

The first straightforward strategy for designing future crops that meet sustainable agriculture requirements is to improve the following aspects of current well-cultivated crops. **Increasing yield. It is estimated that the yields of major crops need to increase at a rate of 2.4% per year to meet the food supply demand by 2050. However, the current growth rates of the four major crops, maize (Zea mays), rice (Oryza sativa), wheat (Triticum aestivum), and soybeans (Glycine max), are only approximately half of this anticipated rate (Ray et al., 2013).** The development of new varieties with high yield potential that can fill this gap is the foremost mission of the Future Crops Design project. **In fact, in a trial, it was reported that a super-high-yield rice variety could produce one- to threefold more grains under optimal conditions than in normal paddy fields (Liu et al., 2020a). Improving nutritional quality.** Although the amount of food supply has been significantly improved in the last half-century, changes in human lifestyle and food consumption have resulted in a phenomenon called hidden hunger (Nair et al., 2016). For instance, in sub-Saharan Africa and America, about 17–30% of children under the age of 5 years have an inadequate daily intake of Vitamin A (Harjes et al., 2008; Haskell, 2012). **It has been reported that about two billion people are suffering from a chronic deficiency of micronutrients (WHO, 2008), a new threat to human health.** Moreover, the incidence of type-2 diabetes, obesity and colon disease has markedly increased in the past decade (Zhou et al., 2016). **Hence, the second mission of the Future Crops Design project is to generate crops with higher/balanced nutritional quality or specialized metabolites using metabolic engineering and synthetic biology approaches** (Francis et al., 2017; Martin and Li, 2017; Sweetlove et al., 2017; Vasconcelos et al., 2017). **Increasing agricultural resource use efficiency. It was reported that ~17% of arable land has lost productivity since 1945 due to inappropriate agriculture management** (Oldeman, 1994). In fact, nutrient-use efficiencies of today’s crops only reach 30–50% for nitrogen fertilizer (Cassman et al., 2002) and ~45% for phosphorus fertilizer (Smil, 2000). Moreover, fresh water has become a limiting factor for agriculture in many areas in the world. It is estimated that about 2800 km3 of fresh water per year is used for agricultural irrigation, and that crop production decreases by ~20% without irrigation (Siebert and Doll, 2010). **Therefore, to reduce agricultural inputs and environmental burdens, we should aim to develop high nutrient and water-use efficiency crops without yield penalty.**

#### **The reason innovation isn’t happening is lack of profit incentive—there needs to be an incentive for risk taking**

**Mackenzie 20**—Conway Mackenzie; Harve Light Managing Director; Innovation in Agriculture: Why is it so slow?; Shale Magazine; February 3 2020; <https://shalemag.com/innovation-in-agriculture-why-is-it-so-slow/>. (AG DebateDrills)

**Innovation is not a new concept in the agriculture industry. As an example, self-driving farm equipment has been around for years and well ahead of the auto industry**. This has been a major factor in improving yields and reducing input costs as planting accuracy has improved. **However, further automation is needed to improve operating efficiency along the supply chain.** Both farmers and processors face significant labor cost increases due to minimum wage hikes that will continue for the next several years. These increases have little positive effect as both farmers and processors still struggle to find people willing to do the work. Robotics will play a significant role in addressing this issue. Whether it’s picking crops in the field or automating functions at the processor, business owners are looking for ways to reduce their labor dependence.

Sensor technology via the Internet of Things has also made significant inroads. **These sensors improve farmer visibility into what is going on with their land and crops**. This allows them to focus their resources to address known issues. Sensors also help processors maintain quality standards throughout their facilities. Sensor technology is also a major component in addressing another industry challenge, traceability. Today, consumers want to easily determine where their food came from. They want to know that it came from companies that believe in and use sustainable practices. In addition, regulators want to be able to pinpoint sources when food safety issues arise. Sensor technology collects the data needed to meet this need. The second part of the issue is harnessing all that data.

**There are several efforts in their infancy that work toward a data solution.** One of the most advanced is blockchain technology. In simple terms, blockchain is a technology that allows for collection of data from all market participants in a single, secure repository. It will allow for an end to end supply chain trail of a single item. This technology will allow for better traceability by retailer, consumer and regulator which is being requested by the likes of Walmart. Eventually, it will also allow for better collaboration between all members of a particular supply chain. Today, the biggest hurdles to this innovation are the protocols or data formats. Companies in the industry need to know what data to collect and the form it should take. They will need a lot of help in putting these requirements all together.

**So, what’s holding innovation back? While there has been improvement, technological innovation remains slow compared to other industries. Two of the major causes are lack of connectivity and insufficient investment returns**. Lack of connectivity is an issue based on the nature of the industry. Farming takes place in rural areas where internet access is spotty at best. This lack of connectivity hampers farmers from collecting data in the field. This results in an inability to make decisions in time to make a difference. Innovation is also inhibited by a lack of investment. **Entrepreneurs and startups do not want to invest in developing solutions where they can’t see a clear path to a return on their capital.** In agriculture, they can’t see an exit strategy which typically includes the sale of the company to a large industry supplier. **For many years, the agriculture industry has been dominated by a few large input suppliers. These suppliers have been making good profits years and see no reason to take on innovation investment risk.** Without these large players, startups have no incentive to risk their capital on new solutions. This has led to a very slow rate of development and innovation.

## **1AC — Plan**

#### **Plan text: The United States ought to recognize an unconditional right to strike for agricultural laborers by amending the National Labor Relations Act to extend the definition of ‘employee’ to include agricultural laborers.**

#### **Squo NLRA fails to protect farmer’s rights to strike – plan amends the NLRA to collectively bargain**

**Reilly, 11**, Penn State Law, “Agricultural Laborers: Their Inability to Unionize Under the National Labor Relations Act”, Penn State: Masters of Science, JD Law, URL: <https://pennstatelaw.psu.edu/_file/aglaw/Publications_Library/Agricultural_Laborers.pdf>, 2011 + since most recent citation is from then, KR

**The NLRA gives workers “freedom of association, self-organization, and designation of representatives of their own choosing” in order to equalize the bargaining power** between employers and employees in the hopes of limiting the interruptions to the free flow of commerce.10 **The statute covers a large number of workers based on the broad definition of “employee,”11 but excludes from coverage all agricultural laborers**.12 The NLRA does not define who these agricultural laborers are that are excluded from the right to organize, but rather Congress has instructed the National Labor Relations Boards (NLRB)13 in the annual Appropriations Act that in determining who is an agricultural laborer excluded from the NLRA, to rely on the definition of “agriculture” **found in the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).14 Agriculture in the FLSA is defined as “farming in all its branches ... and any practices ...** performed by a farmer or on a farm as an incident to or in conjunction with such farming operations...”15 The definition also lists specific activities to further define what would specifically be considered agricultural work.16 Therefore, workers whose responsibilities are contained in the FLSA’s definition of “agriculture” are excluded from the right to organize and form unions under the NLRA.

The reasoning behind this exclusion is somewhat vague, especially considering that the bill originally proposed in the Senate did not exclude agricultural laborers from the definition of “employee.”17 There is not much mentioned about the agricultural exclusion because of the statute’s primary focus on addressing problems in the industrial sector. There is, however, a debate from in the House addressing the agricultural laborer exemption,18 where an argument was made that **agricultural laborers should be included because they needed the same protections as industrial** workers. Agricultural labor issues were brought to light in 1935 after governmental investigations into child labor issues and the lack of clean water provided for such workers.19

In response, **two possible reasons were briefly mentioned that may explain why agricultural laborers were excluded: first, in regions like the Midwest, farms are mostly family farms and should not be within the scope of the NLRA,** and second there was a concern that Congress did not have jurisdiction over agricultural workers because it was questionable whether such workers were engaged in interstate commerce.20 Many commentators believe that it was the former argument that led to the exclusion of agricultural workers from protection under the NLRA. Another possible reason for this exclusion as presented by some commentators is that the larger farms lobbied to have their workers excluded from the NLRA.21 While not expressly stated, the most likely explanation is that Congress wanted to protect the family farmer from having to pay higher wages that unions would inevitably demand of the employers.22 Realizing that agriculture was important to the entire nation, Congress wanted to shield this industry from unionization, and wanted to protect the family farmer from having to pay what they could not afford. Congress did not think it necessary to equate the family farmer with big business.

The broad definition of “agriculture” under the FLSA would seem to exclude from the NLRA any worker who is employed by any agricultural entity. This is not the case, however, because **the Supreme Court has adopted a two-part test to determine if an employee is in fact an agricultural laborer excluded from the NLR**A.23 An agricultural employee will be excluded from the right to organize if he or she is engaged in either primary or secondary farming. The Supreme Court has taken the FLSA definition of agriculture and essentially limited its application based on a strict application of the statutory language. Primary farming are those tasks specifically referred to in the statutory definition of “agriculture” such as “cultivation and tillage of the soil [and] dairying.”24 The rest of the definition is considered secondary farming, and therefore a worker is an agricultural laborer if the work performed is of the type that would be performed “by a farmer or on a farm as an incident to or in conjunction with such farming operations.”25

In one of the more recent cases to address the question of who is considered an agricultural employee, the Supreme Court in Holly Farms Corp. v. N.L.R.B. upheld the determination made by the NLRB that workers on live-haul chicken crews do not engage in agricultural labor and therefore are not subject to the agricultural exception from the NLRA.26 The responsibility of the live-haul crew is to enter the farms of independent contractors who raise chickens supplied by Holly Farms; the chickens are then caught and caged by nine chicken catchers, moved by a forklift operator onto a truck to be transported by a truck driver to the processing plant.27 These live-haul crews were not engaged in primary farming because primary farming would have been the actual raising of the poultry, which was the responsibility of the independent contractors, not the live- haul crews.28

The court then focused on whether these live-haul crews were engaged in secondary farming. In doing so, the court immediately found that that the work performed by the live-haul crews were not of the kind “performed by a farmer” because Holly Farms gave up its farmer status as soon as the chicks were delivered to independent contractors for raising.29 As a result of this determination, the truck drivers were not considered agricultural laborers and were therefore not part of the agricultural exception to the NLRA and were able to unionize.30

The court then looked to whether the chicken catchers and forklift operators were engaged in work “on a farm as an incident to or in conjunction with” raising poultry.31 The Supreme Court found that neither the chicken catchers nor the forklift operators “worked on a farm” because the work these employees performed were part of Holly Farms’ poultry processing operations and was not of the type of work contemplated to be included in the statutory definition of “farming.”32 The Supreme Court adopted the reasoning of the NLRB in deciding that the catchers and forklift operators were not performing work “incident to or in conjunction with” the farming operations of the independent contractors.33 In doing so, the Supreme Court decided that it was more important to look at the status of the employer as a farmer rather than where the laborer carried out the responsibilities of the job he or she was hired to perform. Because, as previously determined, Holly Farms was not considered a farmer by the time the live- haul crews went in to catch the chickens, the catchers and the forklift operators were not engaged in secondary farming as defined in the FLSA.34 This meant that all the members of the live-haul crews were not agricultural laborers and therefore all had the right to organize under the NLRA.

The Supreme Court limited the applicability of the definition of “agriculture” in Holly Farms and in doing so opened up the possibility that more workers employed by large, vertically integrated employers would be able to organize.35 By taking the approach to look at the status of the employer rather than where the work is performed, the Supreme Court broadened the already broad definition of “employee” under the NLRA. More employees working for these vertically integrated employers will be able to experience the protection of the NLRA that has been open to industrial workers since the act was first passed in 1935. The impact of the Holly Farms decision is for courts to engage in an in depth analysis before deciding whether a worker is an agricultural laborer not protected by the NLRA. Switching the focus to the status of the employer rather than where the employees are performing their responsibilities will ensure greater protection for workers and a broader reach of the NLRA.

While the definition of “employee” has expanded to include some employees who are employed by agricultural employers, **there is still the exception for agricultural laborers included in the statute and therefore there are still many workers who are unable to form unions.** These may be the **workers that need the most protection because they are the field workers who are subjected to abuse, poverty and hazardous working conditions.36** Many commentators would like to see **the NLRA extended to include agricultural laborers**. The main advantage to **extending the definition of “employee” to include agricultural laborers under the NLRA is that the statute has been in existence for many years, and most of the challenges that would be brought up with respect to agricultural laborers attempting to unionize have most likely already been resolved in other employment sectors allowing the NLRB and courts to rely on precedent. This will make application of the statue to the agricultural laborers consistent with other employment sectors. Reliance on precedent would lead to predictable outcomes when labor disputes arise.** Agricultural laborers still have a ways to go before they will be able to reap the benefits of the NLRA; but, if this were to happen, **agricultural laborers would be able not only to unionize and have their association protected, but also would have the advantage of being able to rely on others with experience and knowledge of the NLRA and its intricacies**.

### **1AC — Solvency**

#### **First is creation of unions**

#### **Agricultural laborers don’t form unions in the status quo because of they don’t have an explicit right to strike**

**Reilly n.d.**-- Jaclyn Reilly; JD from Penn State University; Agricultural Laborers: Their Inability to Unionize Under the National Labor Relations Act; Penn State Law Review; https://pennstatelaw.psu.edu/\_file/aglaw/Publications\_Library/Agricultural\_Laborers.pdf

**Since the enactment of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), agricultural laborers have been excluded form its protection to organize workers and form unions for the purpose of collectively bargaining with employers.** Employees who engage in collective bargaining are able to band together to bargain with employers for better wages, a safer working environment, fringe benefits and other terms and conditions of employment.1 The NLRA protects this bargaining process and the parties involved. Agricultural laborers are one of only two classes of workers excluded from the protection of the NLRA.2 Although agricultural laborers are not protected under the NLRA because of their exclusion from the definition of “employee,” there is no mention that agricultural laborers are forbidden from forming unions.3 **But without the protection offered by the NLRA, farmers do not have to recognize the union nor will they face any consequences in failing to so recognize in contrast with employers in other industries**.4 **This lack of protection leads to agricultural laborers not forming unions because of the backlash they could face from employers without any recourse to protect themselves from retaliatory practices or the general refusal of employers to bargain.**5

#### **Unions are important for fighting for environmental issues- their interests often align with the community’s**

**Rathzel and Uzzell 11**-- Räthzel, Nora, and David Uzzell. "Trade unions and climate change: The jobs versus environment dilemma." Global Environmental Change 21.4 (2011): 1215-1223. (AG DebateDrills)

**The importance of unions as actors contributing to sustainable development was advocated almost twenty years ago in the Agenda 21 proposals from the 1992 Rio Earth Summit in a document on ‘Strengthening the Role of Workers & their Trade Unions’** (United Nations, 2009). Reading it today, three features in particular are striking. **First, environmental issues are often bound up with health and safety issues, an association that we have found in our research as well. Second, there is an emphasis on collaboration within a tripartite system of government, employers’ and workers’ organisations to encourage capacity building within unions in order to involve them in decision-making on the design, implementation, promotion and evaluation of programmes for sustainable development. Finally, it is advocated that unions should be involved in the development of improvements to both the work environment and the production process, as well as working within the local community.** Given this early initiative, it is surprising that it was not until 2006 that an international trade union conference on the environment involving more than 150 unions was held in Nairobi (UNEP, 2006). Not only did they discuss the significance of sustainable development for the trade union movement, but also agreed to incorporate environmental rights into their definition of traditional workers’ rights. **In 2009, the International Metalworkers Federation (IMF) organised an international conference to formulate their demands for an international agreement on climate change policies, and in 2010 the International Federation of Transport (ITF) workers dedicated one day of their three-day world conference to issues of climate change**. And as part of COP 15 and 16 local and international unions organised workshops at the World of Work Pavilion (WOW) attended by more than 1000 participants, arguing it is no longer acceptable for unionists to ignore environmental concerns or ‘‘leave them to the environmentalists’’. Since 2009 the ITUC, along with other national and international unions, has constructed a website dedicated to climate change issues. Whether these activities translate into policies at national and local levels is a question that remains to be investigated. Nevertheless,trade unions have become social actors, whose positions towards climate change need to be taken into account by governments, business, and scholars.

#### **Agricultural unions, in particular, are necessary for restoring competition—it’s in the interest of unions to do so**

**IATP 2000**—Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy; Farmers Union Tells Congress to Restore Competition in Agriculture; Oct 4 2000; <https://www.iatp.org/news/farmers-union-tells-congress-to-restore-competition-in-agriculture>. (AG DebateDrills)

**National Farmers Union (NFU) President Leland Swenson today requested that Congress act immediately to restore competition in agriculture.** He did so before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition in testimony on the current state of agricultural industry concentration, antitrust activity and enforcement, and its implications. **"Besides price, competition in the agriculture industry is the issue of greatest concern to family farmers and ranchers," said Swenson. "We need stronger enforcement and greater authority for those charged with fighting antitrust violations."** Farmers Union called on Congress to enact legislation to improve market competition and promoted higher levels of enforcement and greater authority for the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Justice and the Federal Trade Commission to fight anti-competitive behavior. **The family farmer and rancher organization also called on Congress to increase antitrust oversight of the retail sector where a few large chains not only exert the market power to independently set food prices, but are also exerting market pressure that affects the price that producers receive.** "Competition in the agriculture sector is rapidly diminishing," added Swenson. "Congress and the administration must act quickly before it is too late."

#### **Second is increased worker costs meaning more investment in capital**

#### **Migrant workers make up the bulk of farm workers— right now they face extreme treatment in the status quo because of their vulnerable position**

**LeRoy 99**-- LeRoy, Michael H. [Professor, School of Labor and Employment Relations, at University of Illinois], Should 'Agricultural Laborers' Continue to Be Excluded from the National Labor Relations Act?. Emory Law Journal, Vol. 48, No. 3, 1999, U Illinois Law & Economics Research Paper No. LE07-023, Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=992923>

**At least part of this labor market competition appears to be coming from 600,000 of farm**

**workers who currently are illegal aliens**.29 **By one estimate, 57% of all migrant farm workers in the U.S. are illegal aliens**30 A recent report by the Department of Labor’s Inspector General suggests that agricultural producers prefer to hire illegal aliens.31 **Thus, many farm workers are in one of two binds: they are legal immigrants who are passed over in favor illegal aliens in an already crowded labor market; or, they are illegal aliens who, because of their unlawful presence in the U.S., are exposed to extraordinary potential for employer over-reaching.** Current labor market statistics suggest, therefore, that the slow progress that farm workers experienced over the past two decades is giving way to more exploitation. **In recent cases of extreme treatment, migrant farm workers were enslaved by a labor contractor,**32 **coerced into field work against their will,**33 **or connected to forced prostitution.**34 As these abuses have suggested a growing pattern, the U.S. Attorney General has responded by forming a task force to propose suitable solutions.35 Even if coercion happens only rarely to migrant farm workers, they nevertheless are vulnerable to more mundane forms of employer over-reaching. **Their itinerant work, combined with their poverty, often means that they depend on employer-provided housing**. Housing for migrants, while improved over a generation ago,36 is still sub-standard.37 **Ironically, since migrant housing is regulated by federal38 and state law,39 many producers provide no housing and, as a result, migrant workers set up shanty-camps.**40

#### **The cause of worker exploitation is lack of collective bargaining so right to strike drastically improves conditions and wages—other industries prove**

**Perea 11**—Juan Perea [Professor of Law at Loyola University Chicago]; The Echoes of Slavery: Recognizing the Racist Origins of the Agricultural and Domestic Worker Exclusion from the National Labor Relations Act; 72 OHIO ST. L.J. l 95 (2011).; https://lawecommons.luc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1150&context=facpubs

**There is a direct relationship between this modem slavery and contemporary labor law.** Advocates for migrant farm workers express that relationship: **"Modem-day slavery cases don't happen in a vacuum. They only occur in degraded labor environments, ones that are fundamentally, systematically exploitive.** In industries where the labor force is conti[n]gent, day-haul, with subpoverty wages, no benefits, no right to overtime, no fight to organize-that's where you see slavery taking root. ' 13 **Slavery does not exist in labor environments that offer adequate worker protections like collective bargaining and other federally protected rights. A huge disparity exists between the exploitation and vulnerability lived by agricultural and domestic workers and the more reasonable and humane labor conditions existing in most other occupations.**

#### **Since conditions are so bad and demand is so constrained in agriculture, increase in wages will drastically increase capital investment in areas like R&D**

**Bhaskar 92**-- Venkataraman Bhaskar [Researcher at Delhi School of Economics]; The Effect of Wages on Investment and Employment in a Vintage Model with Uncertain Demand; The Scandinavian Journal of Economics , Mar., 1992, Vol. 94, No. 1 (Mar., 1992), pp. 123-129; <https://www.jstor.org/stable/3440473>. (AG DebateDrills)

This note investigates the effect of an increase in the wage on investment and employment when demand is uncertain, and when incentives to factor substitution arise from the existence of different vintages of capital equipment. **It is shown that the effect on investment is nonmonotonic and depends on the relative likelihood of demand and supply constraints.** Moreover, a wage increase can have an ambiguous effect on employment, raising it in some states while reducing it in others. The effect on the expectation of employment may be positive. The model of investment presented here relates most closely to the work of Albrecht and Hart (1983), Artus and Muet (1984), Lambert and Mulkay (1987) and Moene (1985), who assume a putty-clay technology, a fixed output price, and stochastic demand. The innovation in this note is that incentives to factor substitution arise from the existence of different vintages of installed capital equipment, rather than ex ante substitutability. **Investment is undertaken to economize on labour costs by replacing older equipment and to meet additional demand.** Higher wages reduce the return to incremental investment in supply-constrained states, by reducing the absolute profit margin. **However, a wage increase raises the return to incremental investment in demand-constrained states. Since additional output cannot be sold, new equipment can only be used for replacing older vintages and economizing on labour costs. This return depends on the difference in labour costs between old and new equipment, which is greater with higher wages.** Hence a wage increase reduces the return to incre- mental investment if supply-constrained states are more likely, but raises investment if the probability of being demand constrained is high. For a given distribution of future demand, I show that there is a critical level of the wage above which the probability of being supply-constrained becomes dominant. Investment is increasing in the wage if it is below this critical level, but decreasing thereafter. The possible positive effect of wage increases on employment may seem surprising and contrary to standard comparative statics under certainty, but it follows from the effects on investment and demand uncertainty. If higher wages reduce investment, this increases employment in demand- constrained states since the firm must use older equipment. This could more than offset the reduced employment in supply-constrained states, thereby increasing expected employment

## **1AC — FW**

### **FW**

#### **The standard is maximizing expected wellbeing.**

#### **Prefer it:**

#### **1] Actor specificity:**

#### **A] Aggregation – every policy benefits some and harms others, which also means side constraints freeze action.**

#### **B] No act-omission distinction – choosing to omit is an act itself – governments decide not to act which means being presented with the aff creates a choice between two actions, neither of which is an omission**

#### **C] No intent-foresight distinction – If we foresee a consequence, then it becomes part of our deliberation which makes it intrinsic to our action since we intend it to happen**

o/w

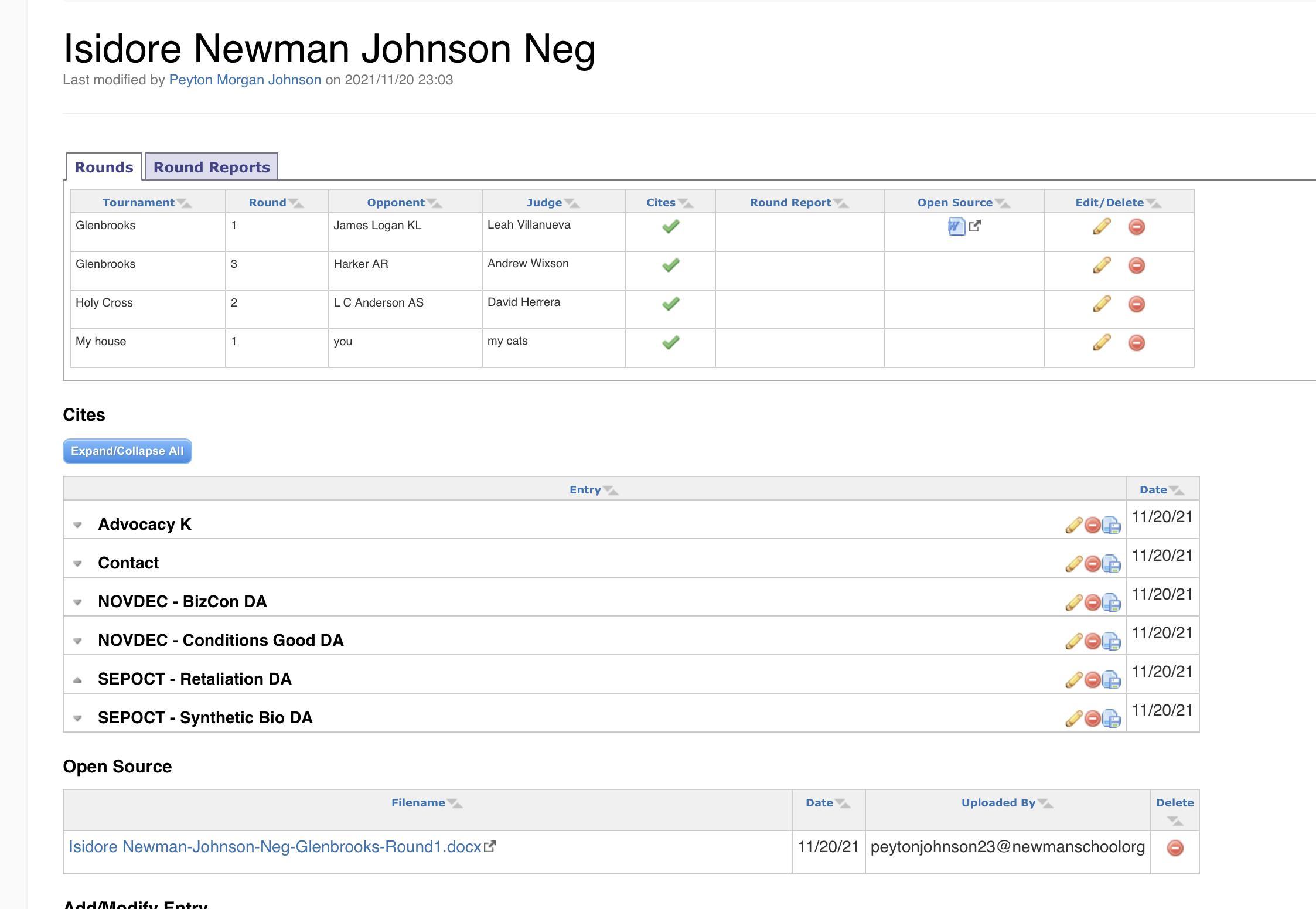
#### **2] Lexical pre-requisite: threats to bodily security preclude the ability for moral actors to effectively act upon other moral theories since they are in a constant state of crisis that inhibits the ideal moral conditions which other theories presuppose**

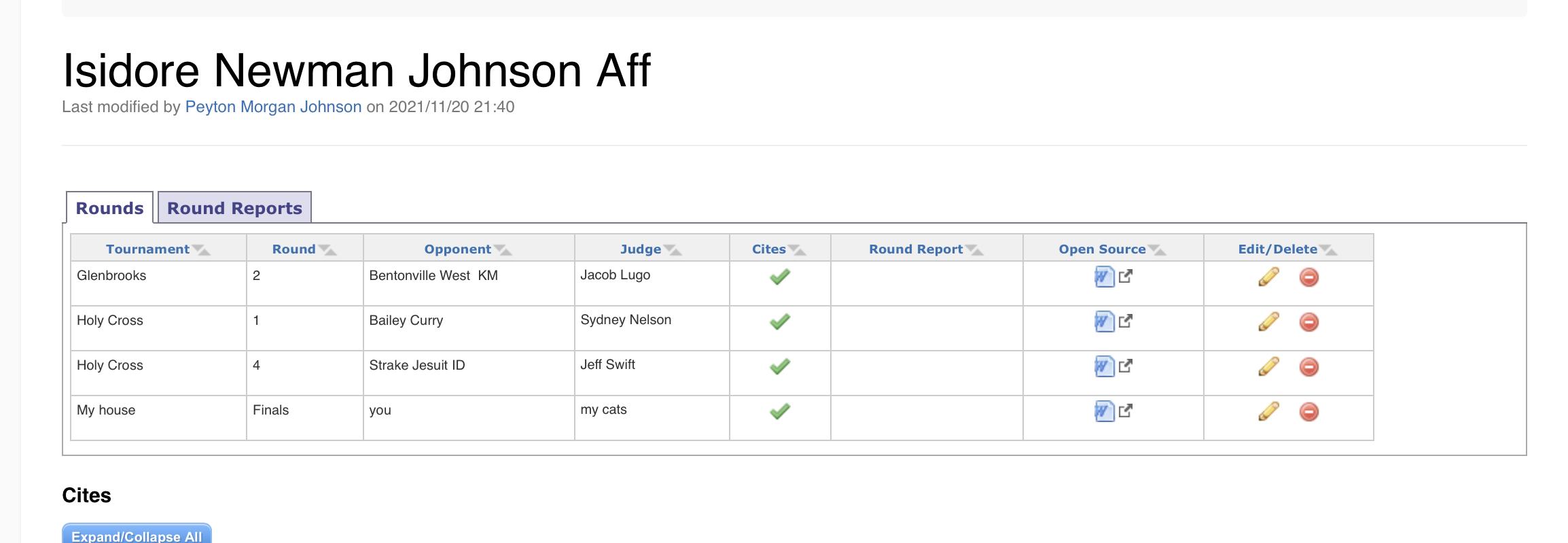
#### **3] Only consequentialism explains degrees of wrongness—if I break a promise to meet up for lunch, that is not as bad as breaking a promise to take a dying person to the hospital. Only the consequences of breaking the promise explain why the second one is much worse than the first. Intuitions outweigh—they’re the foundational basis for any argument and theories that contradict our intuitions are most likely false even if we can’t deductively determine why.**

### **2**

#### **Interpretation: Debaters must disclose all constructive speech docs open source with highlighting on the NDCA LD wiki within an hour after debating.**

#### **Violation – [insert screenshots] they opened source 1 of their rounds. 0 were even of SEPTOCT**





#### **Debate resource inequities—you’ll say people will steal cards, but that’s good—it’s the only way to truly level the playing field for students such as novices in under-privileged programs. Best for norms.**

#### **Evidence ethics – open source is the only way to verify before round that cards aren’t miscut – otherwise you could have highlighted unethically. That’s a voter – maintaining ethical ev practices is key to being good academics and we should be able to verify you didn’t cheat**

#### **1ac theory is -DTD, No RVIS, Competing Interps, and highest layer of round anything else means Neg can just dump.**

#### **Fairness is a voter – its constitutive of any competitive activity**

#### **Drop the debater to set a norm for deterrence**

#### **Competing interps – reasonability is arbitrary and bites intervention**

#### **No neg rvi – otherwise the 7 minute 1nc can collapse to a short shell and get away with infinite 1nc abuse via sheer brute force**