### FW

#### The standard is maximizing life. Prefer it:

#### [1] Actor spec: util is the best for governments, which is the actor in the rez governments must aggregate since every policy benefits some and harms others, which also means side constraints freeze action.

#### [2] Death outweighs— A] agents can’t act if they fear for their bodily security. B] biological life is a prerequisite to any alternative advocacy.

#### [3] Extinction outweighs under any framework

Pummer 15 [Theron, Junior Research Fellow in Philosophy at St. Anne's College, University of Oxford. “Moral Agreement on Saving the World” Practical Ethics, University of Oxford. May 18, 2015] AT

There appears to be lot of disagreement in moral philosophy. Whether these many apparent disagreements are deep and irresolvable, I believe there is at least one thing it is reasonable to agree on right now, whatever general moral view we adopt: that it is very important to reduce the risk that all intelligent beings on this planet are eliminated by an enormous catastrophe, such as a nuclear war. How we might in fact try to reduce such existential risks is discussed elsewhere. My claim here is only that we – whether we’re consequentialists, deontologists, or virtue ethicists – should all agree that we should try to save the world. According to consequentialism, we should maximize the good, where this is taken to be the goodness, from an impartial perspective, of outcomes. Clearly one thing that makes an outcome good is that the people in it are doing well. There is little disagreement here. If the happiness or well-being of possible future people is just as important as that of people who already exist, and if they would have good lives, it is not hard to see how reducing existential risk is easily the most important thing in the whole world. This is for the familiar reason that there are so many people who could exist in the future – there are trillions upon trillions… upon trillions. There are so many possible future people that reducing existential risk is arguably the most important thing in the world, even if the well-being of these possible people were given only 0.001% as much weight as that of existing people. Even on a wholly person-affecting view – according to which there’s nothing (apart from effects on existing people) to be said in favor of creating happy people – the case for reducing existential risk is very strong. As noted in this seminal paper, this case is strengthened by the fact that there’s a good chance that many existing people will, with the aid of life-extension technology, live very long and very high quality lives. You might think what I have just argued applies to consequentialists only. There is a tendency to assume that, if an argument appeals to consequentialist considerations (the goodness of outcomes), it is irrelevant to non-consequentialists. But that is a huge mistake. Non-consequentialism is the view that there’s more that determines rightness than the goodness of consequences or outcomes; it is not the view that the latter don’t matter. Even John Rawls wrote, “All ethical doctrines worth our attention take consequences into account in judging rightness. One which did not would simply be irrational, crazy.” Minimally plausible versions of deontology and virtue ethics must be concerned in part with promoting the good, from an impartial point of view. They’d thus imply very strong reasons to reduce existential risk, at least when this doesn’t significantly involve doing harm to others or damaging one’s character. What’s even more surprising, perhaps, is that even if our own good (or that of those near and dear to us) has much greater weight than goodness from the impartial “point of view of the universe,” indeed even if the latter is entirely morally irrelevant, we may nonetheless have very strong reasons to reduce existential risk. Even egoism, the view that each agent should maximize her own good, might imply strong reasons to reduce existential risk. It will depend, among other things, on what one’s own good consists in. If well-being consisted in pleasure only, it is somewhat harder to argue that egoism would imply strong reasons to reduce existential risk – perhaps we could argue that one would maximize her expected hedonic well-being by funding life extension technology or by having herself cryogenically frozen at the time of her bodily death as well as giving money to reduce existential risk (so that there is a world for her to live in!). I am not sure, however, how strong the reasons to do this would be. But views which imply that, if I don’t care about other people, I have no or very little reason to help them are not even minimally plausible views (in addition to hedonistic egoism, I here have in mind views that imply that one has no reason to perform an act unless one actually desires to do that act). To be minimally plausible, egoism will need to be paired with a more sophisticated account of well-being. To see this, it is enough to consider, as Plato did, the possibility of a ring of invisibility – suppose that, while wearing it, Ayn could derive some pleasure by helping the poor, but instead could derive just a bit more by severely harming them. Hedonistic egoism would absurdly imply she should do the latter. To avoid this implication, egoists would need to build something like the meaningfulness of a life into well-being, in some robust way, where this would to a significant extent be a function of other-regarding concerns (see chapter 12 of this classic intro to ethics). But once these elements are included, we can (roughly, as above) argue that this sort of egoism will imply strong reasons to reduce existential risk. Add to all of this Samuel Scheffler’s recent intriguing arguments (quick podcast version available here) that most of what makes our lives go well would be undermined if there were no future generations of intelligent persons. On his view, my life would contain vastly less well-being if (say) a year after my death the world came to an end. So obviously if Scheffler were right I’d have very strong reason to reduce existential risk. We should also take into account moral uncertainty. What is it reasonable for one to do, when one is uncertain not (only) about the empirical facts, but also about the moral facts? I’ve just argued that there’s agreement among minimally plausible ethical views that we have strong reason to reduce existential risk – not only consequentialists, but also deontologists, virtue ethicists, and sophisticated egoists should agree. But even those (hedonistic egoists) who disagree should have a significant level of confidence that they are mistaken, and that one of the above views is correct. Even if they were 90% sure that their view is the correct one (and 10% sure that one of these other ones is correct), they would have pretty strong reason, from the standpoint of moral uncertainty, to reduce existential risk. Perhaps most disturbingly still, even if we are only 1% sure that the well-being of possible future people matters, it is at least arguable that, from the standpoint of moral uncertainty, reducing existential risk is the most important thing in the world. Again, this is largely for the reason that there are so many people who could exist in the future – there are trillions upon trillions… upon trillions. (For more on this and other related issues, see this excellent dissertation). Of course, it is uncertain whether these untold trillions would, in general, have good lives. It’s possible they’ll be miserable. It is enough for my claim that there is moral agreement in the relevant sense if, at least given certain empirical claims about what future lives would most likely be like, all minimally plausible moral views would converge on the conclusion that we should try to save the world. While there are some non-crazy views that place significantly greater moral weight on avoiding suffering than on promoting happiness, for reasons others have offered (and for independent reasons I won’t get into here unless requested to), they nonetheless seem to be fairly implausible views. And even if things did not go well for our ancestors, I am optimistic that they will overall go fantastically well for our descendants, if we allow them to. I suspect that most of us alive today – at least those of us not suffering from extreme illness or poverty – have lives that are well worth living, and that things will continue to improve. Derek Parfit, whose work has emphasized future generations as well as agreement in ethics, described our situation clearly and accurately: “We live during the hinge of history. Given the scientific and technological discoveries of the last two centuries, the world has never changed as fast. We shall soon have even greater powers to transform, not only our surroundings, but ourselves and our successors. If we act wisely in the next few centuries, humanity will survive its most dangerous and decisive period. Our descendants could, if necessary, go elsewhere, spreading through this galaxy…. Our descendants might, I believe, make the further future very good. But that good future may also depend in part on us. If our selfish recklessness ends human history, we would be acting very wrongly.” (From chapter 36 of On What Matters)

## 1NC

#### Post-Covid economic recovery is fragile now- inflation is adding pressure.

Lynch 6-11 [David J. Lynch Washington, D.C. Financial writer covering trade and globalization Washington Post, 6-11-2021, "Rising prices in the U.S. could rattle other countries amid uneven global recovery," <https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2021/06/11/inflation-fed-biden-recovery/>] 6/13/2021

U.S. leaders stumbled in their initial pandemic response. But they did flood[ed] the economy with several trillion dollars, powering through the worst of the health scare and quickly resuming growth. Europe provided less direct relief to its citizens and has seen weaker results. By the end of June, U.S. output should be slightly above its pre-pandemic level while the European Union will still be about 4 percent below its starting point, said Sheets. Still, the U.S. rebound has been anything but smooth. Labor market progress has disappointed and an uneven reopening has led to widespread shortages, including of semiconductors, resin, ketchup and lumber. Those supply-chain headaches are going global. An increasing number of countries are suffering supply disruptions, shipping problems and delivery delays, forcing companies to raise prices to compensate, said Robin Brooks, chief economist for the Institute of International Finance, an industry group. “The world has never seen the kind of global supply disruptions we are seeing now,” Brooks wrote this week. The Federal Reserve insists that May’s 5 percent annual inflation reading — the highest since August 2008 — represents a temporary fever. The supply of goods will improve as more companies resume normal operations while consumer demand will ease as government stimulus payments taper off, it says. Fed officials insist they will stay the course even as rising prices draw attacks from Republican lawmakers and high-profile economists such as Lawrence Summers of Harvard University, a former Democratic treasury secretary. In Summers’s view, the Biden administration’s lavish multitrillion-dollar spending plan coupled with the Fed’s near-zero interest rates means “overheating is now the largest risk” to the U.S. economy. Summers took to Twitter this week to warn that if the Fed or financial markets ultimately push rates higher in response to galloping inflation, “there will be enormous risks to an already fragile and over leveraged global economy.” There is no doubt that pricing pressures are increasing.G-III Apparel Group, which distributes clothing under brands such as DKNY, Donna Karan, Tommy Hilfiger and Calvin Klein, told investors this week that it plans “to selectively raise prices to largely offset higher freight costs.” Rising raw material and shipping costs likewise prompted Donaldson Co., a maker of filtration systems, to raise prices this year and to draw up plans to do so again, the company said earlier this month. And home builder Hovnanian Enterprises said it will follow suit. “We plan to continue to raise prices to keep up with rising material and labor costs, align sales pace with our ability to start homes and improve our margins,” CEO Ara Hovnanian said this month. But amid Summers’s alarms, financial markets yawned. The S&P 500 index hit a record high on Thursday while the yield on 10-year Treasury bonds continued a month-long decline, reflecting investor comfort with the outlook. The Fed’s patience has been rewarded. Lumber, one of the suddenly scarce commodities that saw prices spike, has fallen by one-third over the past month with the return of more sawmills to normal operations. Despite talk of a labor shortage, the three-month moving average of median hourly wage growth is lower today than at the start of the year, according to a Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta gauge. That means individuals’ expectations of future inflation are not yet driving demands for higher pay, a key component of an unbridled price rise. Central bankers elsewhere are mimicking the Fed. In Canada, where inflation jumped to 3.4 percent in April, the Bank of Canada on Wednesday opted to leave its benchmark lending rate unchanged. “We expect inflation to stay around 3 percent through the summer and then to ease later in the year as remaining slack in the economy pushes inflation down,” said Tim Lane, deputy governor of the Bank of Canada, in a speech to a group of financial advisers. In Europe, consumer prices in May breached the European Central Bank’s policy goal for the first time since 2018, rising at an annual rate of 2 percent. On Thursday, the ECB said it would continue its bond purchases to support the economy while raising its inflation forecasts for this year and next to 1.9 percent and 1.5 percent, up from 1.5 percent and 1.2 percent. Much of the rise in European inflation is due to developments that are unlikely to be repeated: a doubling in oil prices since October and the reinstatement of a German value-added tax that had been suspended during the pandemic, ECB President Christine Lagarde said. In China, producer prices in May rose 9 percent from one year earlier, the National Bureau of Statistics said on Wednesday. Surging global commodity costs — copper is up 80 percent over the past year — were largely to blame for the highest jump since September 2008. Chinese factories so far are largely absorbing the costs. People’s Bank of China Gov. Yi Gang said this week that consumer price growth this year will be below 2 percent, lower than the government’s 3 percent annual goal. Hiring troubles prompt some employers to eye automation and machines History offers support for the Fed’s sanguine stance. Following the 2008 financial crisis, the Bank of England held its fire while the inflation rate more than doubled to 4.5 percent in about a year and a half. Ultimately, the increase fizzled and the authorities were vindicated. Indications that there remains enormous slack in the labor market, even as the unemployment rate has dropped from 14.8 percent in April 2020 to 5.8 percent today, also explains the Fed’s patience. The share of the population age 16 and above that is working or looking for work remains near its lowest point since women entered the workforce in large numbers in the 1970s. Just 61.6 percent of the population is in the labor force today, down from more than 66 percent in 2007. Fed Chair Jerome H. Powell wants to run the economy hot enough, long enough, to lure many of them back to productive work. If that means enduring a year or more of fast-rising prices, it’s a bargain the Fed is willing to take. The Fed says it won’t raise rates for three years. But if it’s forced to act sooner, a sudden rate hike would slow the economy and lead to a stronger dollar. That could trigger destabilizing capital flows from developing nations and make repaying dollar loans more expensive for foreign businesses that earn local currency from their operations.

#### Unions’ demands for higher wages causes an inflationary spiral.

Guida 6-4 Victoria Guida [an economics reporter covering the Federal Reserve, the Treasury Department and the broader economy. She has spent her Washington career writing about bank regulations, monetary policy and trade negotiations.

A Dallas native, she graduated from the University of Missouri with a double major in journalism and political science.] , 6-4-2021, "Biden’s back door to wage hikes," POLITICO, https://www.politico.com/news/2021/06/04/bidens-back-door-to-wage-hikes-491911

“The ‘shortages’ we are seeing in lower-wage jobs and the accompanying wage pressures are an early sign of success” for the president's agenda, said Julia Coronado, founder of MacroPolicy Perspectives. That success may be short-lived. Higher wages could be among the biggest factors in pressuring the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates if clear signs of an inflation spike appear. They also risk slowing hiring for those who will increasingly seek to return to the workforce as the pandemic subsides, as companies try to keep costs down. That’s why workers’ pay was a major focus for Fed officials in Friday's U.S. employment report for May. They want to see wage gains for the workforce — but what’s behind those raises matters. Wage growth “is positive if it reduces hardship, reduces inequality and is not eaten away or reversed by higher inflation,” said Tim Duy, an economics professor at the University of Oregon and a former U.S. Treasury economist. “But we should be cognizant of the possibility that we’re inducing more inflation.” Income growth has been relatively strong, particularly in the last couple of months, despite disappointing overall job growth. Wages were up about 2 percent in May compared to the year before, and that number likely underestimates the real amount of income growth for technical reasons; lower-wage workers disproportionately lost jobs last year, making the overall average for those who kept their positions look higher then, and the opposite effect is now occurring as Americans return to the labor market. "Anyone looking at the 2.0% increase in yr/yr wages is missing the story," Jason Furman, a Harvard professor and former top economic adviser to President Barack Obama, said in a tweet. "Nominal wages up 1.2% in April/May. That is a 7.4% annual rate. That is huge." The pressure to do more to attract employees could continue to grow in certain public-facing industries. According to the Labor Department‘s jobs report, about 2.5 million people are still being held back from looking for work because of the pandemic. Wages for non-managerial leisure and hospitality workers grew 1.3 percent last month and are up 3.7 percent compared to May 2020. At the heart of the fight for higher pay is a desire for workers to share in a greater portion of the nation's economic rewards after decades of sluggish wage growth — the result of the weakening of labor unions, companies shifting production overseas and increased use of job-displacing automation. This would ideally show up as bigger raises as the economy expands faster. But if higher wages are instead passed along to customers at higher prices, that can create an inflationary cycle, as opposed to the one-time price increases that many experts believe the economy can absorb as people’s behavior, and global supply chains, return to normal. “In the near term, I wouldn’t say this is necessarily a dangerous situation if we’re just raising wages for a group of people who have been traditionally disadvantaged,” Duy said. But the longer there are shortages that make employers feel more comfortable raising prices as well as wages, “that’s where you get into this potential shift in the psychology where the wage gains and the price gains become linked.” Heidi Shierholz, director of policy at the left-leaning Economic Policy Institute and a former chief economist at the Labor Department, said Americans are not seeing the type of widespread shortage-induced wage increases that would be cause for concern. “Things are re-normalizing; it’s not like things are out of whack,” she said, adding that some of the wage increases for leisure and hospitality workers might have come from a return to normal tipping practices as restaurants reopened. “I have longer-run concerns,” she added. “The wages were too low in that sector before Covid hit, so re-normalizing is not exactly where we want to be.” For its part, the Fed is pursuing a state of “full employment,” where wages rise because most people have jobs, and the central bank has said it’s willing to tolerate inflation above its 2 percent target to get there. But the hesitance by some workers to return to the labor force is only creating the illusion of that dynamic, said Adam Ozimek, chief economist at Upwork. “If employers are raising wages right now due to temporary shortages, then that risks slowing job growth when those temporary shortages are gone,” with millions still out of work, Ozimek said. “If we were at full employment, and we were seeing inflationary pressures, that wouldn’t concern me at all,” he added. “You’re getting it because of good and sustainable reasons. That’s not the same thing as inflation due to temporary supply shortages.”

#### That collapses the economy.

Colombo 18 [Jesse Colombo is an economic analyst and Forbes contributor who warns about bubbles and future financial crises], “How Interest Rate Hikes Will Trigger The Next Financial Crisis”, Forbes, 9-27-18, https://www.forbes.com/sites/jessecolombo/2018/09/27/how-interest-rate-hikes-will-trigger-the-next-financial-crisis/?sh=5401bf966717

On Wednesday, the U.S. Federal Reserve hiked its benchmark interest rate by a quarter-percentage point to 2% - 2.25%, which is the highest level since April 2008. As rates continue to climb off their post-Great Recession record lows, market participants and commentators are showing almost no signs of fear as the stock market is hitting records again and complacency abounds. Unfortunately, "soft landings" after rate hike cycles are as rare as unicorns and virtually all modern rate hike cycles have resulted in a recession, financial, or banking crisis. There is no reason to believe that this time will be any different. As I've explained in the past, periods of low interest rates help to create credit and asset booms in the following ways: By encouraging more borrowing by consumers, businesses, and governments By discouraging the holding of cash versus spending and speculating in riskier assets & endeavors Investors can borrow cheaply to speculate in assets (ex: cheap mortgages for property speculation and low margin costs for trading stocks) By making it cheaper to borrow to conduct share buybacks, dividend increases, and mergers & acquisitions By encouraging higher rates of inflation, which helps to support assets like stocks and real estate When central banks set interest rates and hold them at low levels in order to create an economic boom after a recession (as our Federal Reserve does), they interfere with the organic functioning of the economy and financial markets, which has serious consequences including the creation of distortions and imbalances. By holding interest rates at artificially low levels, the Fed creates "false signals" that encourage the undertaking of businesses and other endeavors that would not be profitable or viable in a normal interest rate environment. The businesses or other investments that are made due to artificial credit conditions are known as "malinvestments" and typically fail once interest rates rise to normal levels again. Some examples of malinvestments are dot-com companies in the late-1990s tech bubble, failed housing developments during the mid-2000s U.S. housing bubble, and unfinished skyscrapers in Dubai and other emerging markets after the global financial crisis. Though it can be difficult to tell precisely which investments or businesses are malinvestments in a central bank-distorted economy, a quote by Warren Buffett is extremely applicable: "only when the tide goes out do you learn who's been swimming naked." For the purpose of this discussion, "the tide going out" refers to rising interest rates. The mass failure of malinvestments in an economy as interest rates rise typically results in recessions or banking/financial crises. The chart below shows how recessions or financial crises have occurred after historic interest rate hike cycles: Here is a list of historic recessions, banking, and financial crises that have occurred after interest rate hike cycles (this list corresponds with the chart above): Late-1970s/early-1980s rate hike cycle: 1980 recession: A 6-month recession that concentrated in housing, manufacturing, and the automotive industry. 1981 - 1982 recession: A 16-month recession in which 2.9 million jobs were lost. U.S. savings and loans crisis: 1,043 out of the 3,234 savings and loan associations failed as the interest rate at which they could borrow rose above the fixed interest rates on the loans that they had issued. In addition, savings and loan institutions were limited by interest rate ceilings, which caused them to lose deposits to higher-earning commercial bank accounts. U.S. housing market bust: Mortgage rates surged as high as 18%, which caused housing affordability to sink. As a result, existing-home sales fell by 50% from 1978 to 1981, affecting the whole industry - including mortgage lenders, real estate agents, construction workers, etc. Automotive industry crisis: Similar to the situation in housing, higher interest rates made automobile financing much more expensive. As a result, automobile sales plunged, causing 310,000 jobs (or one-third) in the industry to be cut. Latin American debt crisis: Rising interest rates made it harder for heavily-indebted Latin American countries to pay back their debts. Mid-1980s rate hike cycle: Continental Illinois bank failure: In 1984, Continental Illinois became the largest bank failure in U.S. history (until Washington Mutual's failure in 2008). Rising interest rates and bad loans to Texas and Oklahoma oil & gas producers strongly contributed to the bank's demise. Late-1980s rate hike cycle: Early-1990s recession: An 8-month recession in which 1.623 million jobs were lost. U.S. savings and loans crisis: Higher interest rates and the U.S. real estate downturn caused a continuation of the savings and loans crisis that began in the early-1980s. U.S. real estate downturn: Rising interest rates caused a downturn in both commercial and residential real estate. Mid-1990s rate hike cycle: Emerging markets crisis/Mexican peso crisis: Low U.S. interest rates in the early-1990s made higher-yielding emerging markets assets more attractive to investors. As U.S. interest rates rose, Mexico and other emerging economies experienced painful readjustments and currency devaluations. Orange County, California bankruptcy: Bad bets on highly leveraged interest rate derivatives bankrupted the county as interest rates rose. Early-2000s rate hike cycle: Early-2000s recession: An 8-month recession in which 1.59 million jobs were lost after the tech bubble burst. Tech bubble bust: Higher interest rates helped burst the late-1990s tech bubble that was centered around internet-related companies, dot-coms, the telecom industry, etc. Mid-2000s rate hike cycle: Great Recession: An 18-month recession in which 8.8 million jobs were lost after the U.S. housing and credit bubble burst. U.S. housing bubble bust/credit crunch: Low interest rates after the early-2000s tech bust led to the formation of a bubble in housing and credit. When interest rates rose again in the mid-2000s, housing prices and mortgage-backed securities plunged. The Current Rate Hike Cycle Won't End Any Differently All of the modern interest rate hike cycles we have examined resulted in recessions or financial crisis, and the current one will be no different. This time around, it will be the "Everything Bubble" that bursts. "Everything Bubble” is a term that I’ve coined to describe a dangerous bubble that has been inflating in a wide variety of countries, industries, and assets – please visit my website to learn more. After nearly a decade of ultra-low interest rates, the U.S. and global economy are saturated with bubbles and other distortions that will only be revealed by rising interest rates. Because of our record debt burden, interest rates do not have to rise nearly as high as in prior cycles to cause a recession or financial crisis this time around. Here are some examples of interest rate-sensitive sectors that I believe are experiencing bubbles that will burst as interest rates rise: Emerging markets: Ultra-low interest rates and quantitative easing in the U.S. and Europe after the Great Recession caused trillions of dollars worth of "hot money" to flow into emerging economies, which led to the development of credit and asset bubbles in those countries. Emerging market debt nearly tripled to $60 trillion in the past decade. Turkey, South Africa, and many other emerging markets are being roiled as U.S. interest rates and the dollar rise. U.S. corporate debt bubble: The low interest rate[s] environment after the Great Recession has encouraged public corporations to borrow heavily in the bond market. Total outstanding non-financial corporate debt has increased by over $2.5 trillion or 40% since its 2008 high. U.S. corporate debt is now at an all-time high of over 45% of GDP (see chart below), which is even worse than the levels reached during the dot-com bubble and U.S. housing and credit bubble. Read my corporate debt bubble warning on Forbes to learn more. U.S. shale energy boom/energy junk bonds: This boom/bubble is closely related to the corporate debt bubble discussed above. Extracting oil and gas from shale via fracking is extremely capital-intensive and would not be feasible in a normal interest rate environment. Thanks to the artificially low interest rate environment since the Great Recession, the shale energy industry’s net debt surged to $200 billion in 2015 - a 300% increase from 2005. Rising interest rates and the bursting of the corporate debt/junk bond bubble will cause a major bust in the shale energy industry. U.S. auto loans: Low interest rates after the Great Recession made financing and leasing automobiles much cheaper, which has resulted in an automobile sales boom. Total outstanding auto loans increased 36% to $1.118 trillion in the past decade. Rising interest rates will cause monthly auto loan payments to be more expensive, which will result in lower sales and a bust in the automotive industry. U.S. commercial real estate: Commercial real estate is a very interest rate-sensitive arena that has levitated due to low interest rates after the Great Recession. According to Green Street Advisors, U.S. commercial real estate prices have more than doubled since 2009. U.S. residential real estate: As I've recently explained in Forbes, U.S. housing prices now exceed their housing bubble peak and are up 50% from their low point in 2012 thanks to ultra-low mortgage rates. Mortgage rates did not reach such low levels on their own, but due to intervention by the Fed in the form of quantitative easing. The Fed is now reversing its quantitative easing program by $40 billion per month and, unsurprisingly, mortgage rates just hit a seven-year high and the housing market is decelerating. U.S. stock market investors are dangerously exposed to coming busts in interest rate-sensitive sectors, which will spill over into the highly-inflated stock market. Please read my U.S. stock market bubble report in Forbes for more information. The S&P 500 has risen over 300% since March 2009 due to the Federal Reserve's market manipulation: Many valuation measures show that the U.S. stock market is more overvalued than it was at major generational market peaks, which means that another sharp bear market is inevitable. According to the U.S. stock market capitalization-to-GDP ratio (also known as Warren Buffett’s "favorite indicator"), the market is more overvalued than it was during even the dot-com bubble: The current interest rate hike cycle won't end any differently than the others discussed in this piece - if anything, it will likely end in an even worse manner because interest rates were held at record low levels for a record period of time. The coming recession, crisis, and bear market will be proportionate to the unprecedented imbalances and distortions that have built up in our economy.

#### Causes global nuclear war

Tønnesson 15, Dr. Stein Tønnesson is a Norwegian peace researcher and historian. International Area Studies Review, 18(3), “Deterrence, interdependence and Sino–US peace.” <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/2233865915596660> you know how to access it | ahsBC

Mutual economic dependence between China and the US within an integrated global economic system including Japan, South Korea and the ASEAN countries is probably the most cited reason for expecting East Asia to remain peaceful. The cost of conflict is assumed to be prohibitive. So although East Asia does not derive its peace from strategic trust, institutional integration or shared values, peace may still be preserved because national leaders give priority to their economic development, realize how costly a conflict would be, and expect to make further gains from open trade. Lampton (2014: 3, 7, 122, 136) holds that peace is enhanced by ‘the idea of global interdependence’, and puts forward an ‘interdependence theory’: institutional and economic interdependence dampens impulses toward conflict. While it does not make conflict impossible, and makes war even more destructive should it occur, it provides ‘incentives to keep conflict with major partners manageable’. There is now a ‘struggle for the soul of Chinese foreign policy between the realities of interdependence and the impulses of assertive nationalism’. Lampton does not go into detail about the question of when interdependence precludes war and when it does not. Christensen (2015: 41–46), however, is more specific as to why global interdependence today is of a different kind than in the past, and more likely to hinder war: trans-national production chains make it necessary for an aggressor state to ‘persuade a diverse set of foreign investors, suppliers of key components, and logistics companies to continue doing business’ after it has invaded a territory, and it is easy to see how difficult this may be.1 Thus it is less tempting than in the past to go to war: ‘While transnational production and interdependence is certainly no guarantee against war’, says Christensen, ‘it is still a major force for peace’ (Christenen, 2015: 46). The Russian invasions of Georgia and the Crimea, and the US invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq prove Christensen’s point about how difficult and costly it is to reconstitute a functioning economy after invading a territory, but show also that some governments disregard the costs when they see weighty geopolitical reasons for resorting to force against an inferior country with no nuclear arms. While conceding that interdependence restrains ambition and rivalry, White (2012: 50–52, 55, 116) doubts that restraints will prove stronger than pressures going the other way. He points at a psychological factor: ‘…most often people see it as shameful to put economic concerns first when issues of power and status are engaged’. When a choice has to be made in the glare of an international crisis, ‘it is very hard to put economics first’. And if both sides think the costs will be worse for their adversary than for themselves, they may wait for the other to blink. Since there is now just ‘one big global economy’ no major power can slam economic sanctions on another without hurting itself severely, but the momentum of rivalry could build up ‘before leaders or public wake up to the economic consequences’. Escalating rivalry could ‘begin to erode economic interdependence, rather than interdependence curbing escalation’, White adds. This must mean that interdependence actually does prevent or delay open conflict; only after governments have taken action to reduce their dependence are they willing to risk war. Steve Chan’s Enduring Rivalries in the Asia-Pacific (2013) is very optimistic: the general trend in East Asia, he says, is toward abatement rather than exacerbation of rivalries. Territorial disputes are less likely to escalate today than during the Cold War since East Asian states have shifted to policies emphasizing economic development. This has created a ‘synergistic effect that restrains interstate tension and rivalry’. Ties have been multilateralized, with many third parties gaining a vested stake in interstate stability. While China has increased its military capabilities it has also acquired an interest in preserving regional stability. On its side, the US faces resource constraints that make it wary of providing too strong support to its allies. This should work against bipolarization of regional relations. Chan’s optimism is not derived from recent events but from an assumption that underlying long-range forces create interests securing the peace: ‘Economic interdependence and political pluralism promote stakeholders that have a vested interest in stabilizing and expanding foreign ties, and these stakeholders are, in turn, self-motivated to lobby their government to undertake policies that abate rivalry’ (Chan, 2013: 20). Chan finds that the normal mechanism behind the outbreak and escalation of large wars is that a smaller state in an asymmetrical relationship chooses a confrontational behaviour in the hope of gaining support from a major patron; those with little or no hope of receiving foreign support and those with a great deal of confidence in their ally’s commitment ‘are less likely to initiate such confrontation than those that are in an intermediate position’ (Chan, 2013: 108, 114, 186). Given the nature of Sino–US relations, no provocation by a smaller state in East Asia is likely to escalate. North Korea cannot count on Chinese support against South Korea. South Korea, Japan, and the Philippines are subjected to US ‘escalation control’. From the perspective of power balance theory, says Chan, greater power parity between China and the US should have ‘a stabilizing rather than a destabilizing effect’. This defies Mearsheimer’s reasoning but conforms to Yan’s analysis. Chan thinks China’s rise should stabilize regional relations by ‘curtailing any US tendency toward assertive unilateralism … the last thing Beijing wants to do is to trigger a costly arms race or precipitate forces that will pressure its neighbors to choose between it and Washington’ (2013: 82, 102, 104). While this seems reasonable, China’s behaviour in the last few years does not quite confirm Chan’s argument. The ways and the conditions under which cost concerns enter into Beijing’s decision-making need to be gauged. Who calls for caution? At which stage in a crisis? According to Chan the people and governments of East Asia have turned away from being garrison states to a model of political economy emphasizing economic growth. This presents ‘the most powerful firebreak against conflict contagion’. The region-wide transition to ‘economy first’ policies has been successful, and ‘successful policies are likely to be continued … emulated and replicated’. But can they continue to be successful if Western markets are no longer able to absorb huge quantities of Asian goods? Chan qualifies his argument: ‘…when states expect future economic relations to be disrupted or curtailed, they are likely to stop cooperating and might even lash out in war’ (2013: 135, 140, 147, 149). This same argument forms the nucleus of Dale Copeland’s ‘trade expectation theory’ (Copeland, 2015), which builds on his ‘dynamic differentials theory’ (Copeland, 2000). Copeland does not include nuclear deterrence as a part of his theory (he treats nuclear as no different from conventional deterrence), and has not studied Sino–US relations in particular. What he has done is to develop a comprehensive theory of major war, based on defensive realism while including liberal elements, and paying particular emphasis to the security–economy nexus. His findings, which are based on a number of historical case studies, are of considerable interest in the context of this paper. Copeland includes three kinds of power in his theory: military; economic; and ‘potential’. The latter includes several elements, such as size, age and education of the population, access to natural resources, and economic growth prospects. In Copeland’s most recent books he focuses more narrowly on just the economic aspect of potential power, namely ‘trade expectations’. His The Origins of Major War (2000) and Economic Interdependence and War (2015) include a number of elements and findings from which interesting implications for Sino–US relations today may be seen. As in the Thucydides trap (see below), third parties can play a significant role in provoking wars between major powers (Copeland, 2015: 443–444). Hence the need to cautiously manage the disputes between the two Korean states, China and Taiwan, China and Japan, and China and the Philippines has lost none of its importance. National leaders act on the basis of their beliefs about phenomena not necessarily on accurate knowledge (Copeland, 2000: 31–32; Copeland, 2015: 17). Beliefs about likely future trends are particularly salient, and the future cannot of course be accurately known. In bipolar systems a state believing itself to be in decline is much more likely than a rising power to initiate conflict: ‘rising states should want to avoid war while they are still rising, since by waiting they can fight later with more power’ (Copeland, 2000: 2–3, 14, 20). Hence China and the US have a mutual interest in preventing each other from fearing decline. Strong military powers who believe themselves to be in decline (have negative trade expectations) are particularly dangerous (Copeland, 2000: 5, 13, 22, 237, 241, 244; Copeland, 2015: 429). Thus Beijing must be weary of tying itself up too closely with a declining Russia and even more weary of American fears of decline. Dynamic relational factors such as ‘potential power’ or ‘trade expectations’ are more important in determining choice between war and peace than static factors, such as the actual level of trade, or a state’s form of governance on the ‘unit level’ (Copeland, 2000: 235–236, 238, 245; Copeland, 2015: 12, 14, 27–50, 435–436). To the extent that unit level differences count, the character of the target state is more important than that of the aggressor; while the liberal assumption that some kinds of regimes are more likely to initiate war than others is wrong, it is true that some kinds of regimes are more likely to be targetted than others.2 To avoid becoming a target it may help to be seen as predictable, transparent, respectful of international law, and open to trade and investments. In the conclusion to his exhaustive examination of how trade expectations have influenced various decisions for war in the period 1790–1991, Copeland is optimistic about today’s prospects: ‘there are strong reasons to believe that China will stay peacefully engaged in the system over the long term, at least as long as the United States proves willing to maintain an open and free-flowing global economic system’; ‘the reasons for optimistic economic expectations in both China and the United States should outweigh the reasons for pessimism for at least a couple more decades’ (Copeland, 2015: 432, 444). Chan’s and Copeland’s optimism depends on the continued success of globalization. If trade expectations falter on any or both sides of the Pacific the unit-level economy-first policies may lose their pacifying effect. Chan confirms that the dampening effect of economic inter-dependence on conflict behaviour depends on policies of economic openness and integration. Hence there is need to understand global financial politics, global trends and economic expectations in Beijing, Washington, Tokyo and other East Asian capitals before assessing the likelihood that economic interdependence will continue to ensure peace among major nuclear powers.

### Healthcare Workers PIC

#### CP Text: A just government ought to recognize an unconditional right of workers to strike except for public health officials and those who work in the public health industry.

#### In the squo, the right to strike is banned by the ILO for essential workers.

Chima 13 Chima, Sylvester C. “Global Medicine: Is It Ethical or Morally Justifiable for Doctors and Other Healthcare Workers to Go on Strike?” *BMC Medical Ethics*, BioMed Central, 19 Dec. 2013, bmcmedethics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6939-14-S1-S5. SJEP

Despite the fundamental importance of the right to strike in collective bargaining and industrial relations, it has been recognised that derogations or restrictions to this right may be necessary to avoid abuse or usage of this right contrary to the needs of the community [[33](https://bmcmedethics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6939-14-S1-S5#ref-CR33)]. The concept of 'essential service' expresses the idea that certain activities are of such fundamental importance to the community, that their disruption may have particularly harmful consequences to the health, safety or welfare of members of the public [[51](https://bmcmedethics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6939-14-S1-S5#ref-CR51)]. Therefore one of the mechanisms by which governments or elected officials have used to manage the impact of strikes on certain professional groups has been to designate such groups as "essential workers". These employee groups are then statutorily prohibited from striking. In other words they are not allowed to withdraw their labour, regardless of the circumstances. The international labour organization (ILO) has provided a strict list of such "essential services", including the hospital sector, electricity services, water supply services, the telephone service, the police and the armed forces, the fire-fighting services, public or private prison services, the provision of food to pupils of school age and the cleaning of schools and air traffic control. However, the ILO list is not exhaustive and a state can add other services to its national legislation if it these are deemed essential to its particular circumstances [[33](https://bmcmedethics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6939-14-S1-S5#ref-CR33)].

It competes: Unconditional is not subject to any conditions (Google Definitions) – Sector is a condition. Our definitions outweigh on common usage -it’s the first definition on google definitions

#### Nurse strikes increase the percentage of patient mortality and destroy hospital finances – empirics.

**Masterson 17** [Les Masterson. Managing editor at HCPro. “Nursing strikes can cause harm well beyond labor relations”. 8-15-2017. Healthcare Dive. https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/nursing-strikes-can-cause-harm-well-beyond-labor-relations/447627/.] SJ//VM

When officials at Tufts Medical Center in Boston refused to allow nurses just off of a one-day strike return to their jobs, the footage spread across TV news programs and social media. Boston Mayor Martin Walsh, a former labor leader, spoke in favor of the striking nurses and the hospital found itself in an uncomfortable spotlight. About 1,200 nurses went on a one-day strike after their union, the Massachusetts Nurses Association, and Tufts couldn't come to a new contract agreement after more than a year of negotiations. Tufts, in turn, [locked out the nurses](https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/12k-striking-nurses-barred-from-returning-to-work-at-boston-hospital/447088/) when they attempted to return to work the next day. Officials said the lockout was required because they needed to give at least five-day contracts to 320 temporary nurses brought in to fill the gap. [The nurses are back on the job](https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2017/07/17/tufts-medical-center-nurses-expected-return-work-monday/fXGBic58UjRv8934CeVgDJ/story.html) now without a new contract, but the strike and subsequent lockout got the public’s attention. Hospital strikes aren't that common — usually, the sides agree to a new contract. Strikes or threatened strikes in recent years have typically involved conflicts over pay, benefits and staff workloads. When strikes do happen, however, they can hurt a hospital’s reputation, finances and patient care. A [study on nurses’ strikes](https://dspace.mit.edu/openaccess-disseminate/1721.1/71824) in New York found that labor actions have a temporary negative effect on a hospital’s patient safety. Study authors Jonathan Gruber and Samuel A. Kleiner found that nurses’ strikes increased in-patient mortality by 18.3% and 30-day readmission by 5.7% for patients admitted during the strike. Patients admitted during a strike got a lower quality of care, they wrote. “We show that this deterioration in outcomes occurs only for those patients admitted during a strike, and not for those admitted to the same hospitals before or after a strike. And we find that these changes in outcomes are not associated with any meaningful change in the composition of, or the treatment intensity for, patients admitted during a strike,” they said. They said a possible reason for the lower quality is fewer major procedures performed during a strike, which could lead partially to diminished outcomes. The study authors found that patients that need the most nursing care are the ones who make out worst during strikes. “We find that patients with particularly nursing-intensive conditions are more susceptible to these strike effects, and that hospitals hiring replacement workers perform no better during these strikes than those that do not hire substitute employees,” they wrote. [Allina Health’s Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis](http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/quality/cms-puts-allina-hospital-in-immediate-jeopardy-for-drug-error-during-nurses-strike.html) faced a patient safety issue during a strike last year that resulted in the CMS placing the hospital in “immediate jeopardy” status after a medication error. A replacement nurse administered adrenaline to an asthmatic patient through an IV rather than into the patient’s muscle. The patient, who was in the emergency room (ER), wound up in intensive care for three days because of the error. Allina said the error was not the nurse’s fault, but was the result of a communication problem. The CMS accepted the hospital plan of correction, which included having a nurse observer when needed and retraining ER staff to repeat back verbal orders. Hospitals also take a financial hit during strikes. Even the threat of a one- or two-day nurse strike can cost a hospital millions. Bringing in hundreds or thousands of temporary nurses from across the country is costly for hospitals. They need to advertise the positions, pay for travel and often give bonuses to lure temporary nurses. The most expensive recent nurse strike was when [about 4,800 nurses](https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/4800-striking-nurses-cost-allina-health-104-million/430523/) went on strike at Allina Health in Minnesota two times last year. The two strikes of seven days and 41 days cost the health system $104 million. The hospital also saw a $67.74 million operating loss during the quarter of those strikes. To find temporary replacements, [Allina needed to include enticing offers](https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/allina-to-search-for-1400-nurses-in-face-of-possible-strike/421079/), such as free travel and a $400 bonus to temporary nurses. Even the threat of a strike can cost millions. Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston spent more than $8 million and lost $16 million in revenue preparing for a strike in 2016. The 3,300-nurse union threatened to walk out for a day and much like Tufts Medical Center, Brigham & Women’s said the hospital would lock out nurses for four additional days if nurses took action. At that time, Dr. Ron Walls, executive vice president and chief operating officer at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, said the hospital [spent more than $5 million](https://www.bizjournals.com/boston/blog/health-care/2016/06/brigham-nurses-strike-already-costing-hospital.html) on contracting with the U.S. Nursing Corp. to bring on 700 temporary nurses licensed in Massachusetts. The hospital also planned to cut capacity to 60% during the possible strike and moved hundreds of patients to other hospitals. They also canceled procedures and appointments in preparation of a strike.

#### Hospitals are the critical internal link for pandemic preparedness.

Al Thobaity 20, Abdullelah, and Farhan Alshammari. "Nurses on the frontline against the COVID-19 pandemic: an Integrative review." Dubai Medical Journal 3.3 (2020): 87-92. (Associate Professor of Nursing at Taif University)

The majority of infected or symptomatic people seek medical treatment in medical facilities, particularly hospitals, as a high number of cases, especially those in critical condition, will have an impact on hospitals [4]. The concept of hospital resilience in disaster situations is defined as the ability to recover from the damage caused by huge disturbances quickly [2]. The resilience of hospitals to pandemic cases depends on the preparedness of the institutions, and not all hospitals have the same resilience. A lower resilience will affect the **sustainability of the health services**. This also affects healthcare providers such as doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals [5, 6]. Despite the impact on healthcare providers, excellent management of a pandemic depends on the level of **preparedness of healthcare providers, including nurses**. This means that if it was impossible to be ready before a crisis or disaster, responsible people will do all but the impossible to save lives.

#### New Pandemics are deadlier and faster are coming – COVID is just the beginning

Antonelli 20 Ashley Fuoco Antonelli 5-15-2020 <https://www.advisory.com/daily-briefing/2020/05/15/weekly-line> "Weekly line: Why deadly disease outbreaks could become more common—even after Covid-19" (Associate Editor — American Health Line)

While the new coronavirus pandemic suddenly took the world by storm, the truth is public health experts for years have warned that a virus similar to the new coronavirus would cause the next pandemic—and they say **deadly infectious disease outbreaks could become more common**. Infectious disease experts are always on the lookout for the next pandemic, and in a report published two years ago, researchers from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health **predicted that the pathogen most likely to cause the next pandemic would be a virus similar to the common cold**. Specifically, the researchers predicted that the pathogen at fault for the next pandemic would be: A microbe for which people have not yet **developed immunities**, meaning that a large portion of the human population would be susceptible to infection; Contagious during the so-called "incubation period"—the time when people are infected with a pathogen but are not yet showing symptoms of the infection or are showing only mild symptoms; and Resistant to any known prevention or treatment methods. The researchers also concluded that such a pathogen would have a "low but significant" fatality rate, meaning the pathogen wouldn't kill human hosts fast enough to inhibit its spread. As **Amesh Adalja**—a senior scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, who led the report—told Live Science's Rachael Rettner at the time, "**It just has to make a lot of people sick" to disrupt society**. The researchers said RNA viruses—which include the common cold, influenza, and severe acute respiratory syndrome (or SARS, which is caused by a type of coronavirus)—fit that bill. And even though we had a good bit of experience dealing with common RNA viruses like the flu, Adalja at the time told Rettner that there were "a whole host of viral families that get very little attention when it comes to pandemic preparedness." Not even two years later, the new coronavirus, which causes Covid-19, emerged and quickly spread throughout the world, reaching pandemic status in just a few months. To date, officials have reported more than 4.4 million cases of Covid-19 and 302,160 deaths tied to the new coronavirus globally. In the United States, the number of reported Covid-19 cases has reached more than 1.4 million and the number of reported deaths tied to the new coronavirus has risen to nearly 86,000 in just over three months. Although public health experts had warned about the likelihood of a respiratory-borne RNA virus causing the next global pandemic, many say the world was largely unprepared to handle this type of infectious disease outbreak. And as concerning as that revelation may be on its own, **perhaps even more worrisome is that public health experts predict life-threatening infectious disease outbreaks are likely to become more common—meaning we could be susceptible to another pandemic in the future**. Why experts think deadly infectious disease outbreaks could become more common As the Los Angeles Times's Joshua Emerson Smith notes, infectious disease experts for more than ten years now have noted that "[o]utbreaks of dangerous new diseases with the potential to become pandemics have been on the rise—from HIV to swine flu to SARS to Ebola." For instance, a report published in Nature in 2008 found that **the number of emerging infectious disease events that occurred in the 1990s was more than three times higher than it was in the 1940s**. Many experts believe the recent increase in infectious disease outbreaks is tied to human behaviors that disrupt the environment, "such as **deforestation and poaching**," which have led "to increased contact between highly mobile, urbanized human populations and wild animals," Emerson Smith writes. In the 2008 report, for example, researchers noted that about 60% of 355 emerging infectious disease events that occurred over a 50-year period could be largely linked to wild animals, livestock, and, to a lesser extent, pets. Now, researchers believe the new coronavirus first jumped to humans from animals at a wildlife market in Wuhan, China. Along those same lines, some experts have argued that global climate change has driven an increase in infectious diseases—and could continue to do so. A federally mandated report released by the U.S. Global Change Research Program in 2018 warned that warmer temperatures could expand the geographic range covered by disease-carrying insects and pests, which could result in more Americans being exposed to ticks carrying Lyme disease and mosquitos carrying the dengue, West Nile, and Zika viruses. And experts now say continued warming in global temperatures, deforestation, and other environmentally disruptive behaviors have broadened that risk by bringing more people into contact with disease-carrying animals. Further, experts note that infectious diseases today are able to spread much faster and farther than they could decades ago because of increasing globalization and travel. While some have suggested the Covid-19 pandemic could stifle that trend, others argue globalization is likely to continue—meaning so could infectious diseases' far spread.

## AT Aff

The right to strike does not help labor unions for 2 main reasons.

First, there are many alternate causes to union weakness that the right to strike doesn’t solve such as the fact that jobs subject to unionization like manufacturing are being replaced with jobs that make unionizing difficult like uber, meaning union strength plumets. There are also things like anti strike clauses in contracts that prohibit workers from striking, another issue the right to strike cannot solve. On top of these large corporation such as amazon, who is currently doing this, feed their workers anti-union propaganda to dissuade them from unionizing, something the right to strike doesn’t solve for.

Second, the right to strike would undermine unions. Strikes are still a controversial subject within unions, this is because they are extremely risky as their success is not assured and the workers have to go without pay for the entirety of the strike. Judge, view the right to strike similar to the right to file a lawsuit, even if you are able to that doesn’t mean you will win. Therefore, the topic of strikes are polarizing in unions and the affirmative only exacerbates, thus increasing the polarization and dividing unions making them weaker.

### 1NC- No UQ

#### STRIKES ARE HIGH NOW AND MORE ARE COMING- PROVES NO UNIQUENESS OR REASON WHY THE AFF IS KEY

Romero 10-21 Dani Romero (REPORTER, yahoo finance) 10/21/21, ‘Strikes are contagious’: Wave of labor unrest signals crisis in tight job market, <https://news.yahoo.com/strikes-are-contagious-wave-of-labor-unrest-signals-crisis-in-tight-jobs-market-135052770.html>

As employers of all sizes grapple with an acute worker shortage amid what’s being called the pandemic era’s Great Resignation, it’s become increasingly clear that people with jobs aren’t all that happy, either. At an ever-lengthening list of workplaces around the country, workers this year have been getting loud about the state of wages, working hours and conditions. From healthcare to entertainment, nearly 100,000 U.S. workers are either striking or preparing to strike in a bid to improve working conditions. New data signals that worker unrest is growing: a Cornell Labor Action Tracker shows that more than 180 strikes have been recorded this year, and over 24,000 workers have walked off the job this month. This all plays out against a backdrop of an economy bouncing back from an economic shutdown during the pandemic. More than 10,000 John Deere workers went on strike Thursday, the first major walkout at the agricultural machinery giant in more than three decades. “We have noticed a bit of an uptick in late September into early October, for example, we've already documented 39 strikes on the month of October,” Johnnie Kallas, a Ph.D. student at Cornell University’s School of Industrial and Labor Relations, or ILR, who tracks labor actions across the country, said in an interview. “Those numbers are already the largest of any month in 2021,” he added. The Bureau of Labor Statistics, which records only large work stoppages, has documented 12 strikes involving 1,000 or more workers. That represents a big jump from when the pandemic started over 19 months ago. “What will happen is you'll see more workers going on strike,” Kate Bronfenbrenner, director of labor education research and senior lecturer at Cornell school of industrial and labor relations, told Yahoo Finance. “Each time there's a ripple effect with each one of those, if the John Deere strike isn’t settled, you're going to see another big group go out,” she said. “If companies don't move, you're going to see this spread from one group to another. Strikes are contagious,” Bronfenbrenner added.

#### Every empiric flows neg.

Greenhouse 18 [Steven; Editor at NYT, author of a book about history of labor unions; "Making Teachers’ Strikes Illegal Won’t Stop Them,” The New York Times; 5/9/18; <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/09/opinion/teacher-strikes-illegal-arizona-carolina.html>] Justin

In the five states where teachers have gone on strike this year, teachers complain about many of the same things: low salaries, an education funding squeeze and teacher shortages. They have something else in common. In four of the five — Arizona, Kentucky, Oklahoma and West Virginia — these strikes are illegal under state law. (Colorado, the fifth state where teachers walked out, allows them.)

While private-sector workers generally have a right to strike under federal law, state law governs whether teachers and other state and local government workers can strike. Three dozen states have laws prohibiting teachers from striking. Clearly, making teacher strikes illegal will not necessarily prevent them.

In the states where teachers walked out, many teachers felt they had to beg their state legislatures to approve raises and the funding to pay for them. But their pleas were largely ignored. Joseph McCartin, a labor historian at Georgetown University, says that when workers feel they are at a dead end in negotiating raises, militant outbursts — such as illegal walkouts — are inevitable. “When collective bargaining isn’t allowed or doesn’t work, that doesn’t mean collective action isn’t possible,” he said.

Labor’s most potent weapon is the strike, even when it’s illegal. Workers will often risk engaging in an illegal strike, even though it could mean getting fined, fired and conceivably jailed. In a legal strike, workers typically lose just a few days’ or weeks’ pay.

Explosions of worker militancy have been a recurring pattern throughout American history. West Virginia teachers, for example, said their walkout was inspired by their state’s coal miners, who were part of a historic miners’ strike during World War II.

Ten days after Pearl Harbor was attacked in 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt summoned labor and business leaders to a conference where unions pledged not to strike during the war. The National War Labor Board, which included labor representatives, dictated a nationwide formula that capped how large a raise unions could obtain in bargaining. But the raises often failed to keep up with inflation, angering millions of workers.

As a result, there were dozens of short wildcat strikes — strikes without union authorization — in defiance of Roosevelt and union leaders. The biggest confrontation came in 1943, when the United Mine Workers’ brilliant but bullheaded president, John L. Lewis, gave 500,000 coal miners a wink and a nod, tacit approval for a walkout.

Roosevelt implored the miners to return to work. “Every idle miner directly and individually is obstructing the war effort,” he said in a fireside chat. He had the federal government seize the mines and ordered miners back to work, but eager to restore labor peace, he figured out a way to meet most of their pay demands.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy issued an executive order giving most federal employees the right to bargain collectively over some working conditions, but not wages, and he barred them from striking. For years, postal workers seethed about low pay, and their frustration boiled over after members of Congress received a 41 percent raise in 1969.

On March 18, 1970, letter carriers walked out in New York City, and within days, more than 150,000 of the nation’s 600,000 postal workers had joined the illegal strike. One letter carrier boasted that the strikers were “standing 10 feet tall, instead of groveling in the dust.”

During the 1970 postal workers’ strike, military personnel sorted mail at New York City’s main post office.

President Richard M. Nixon denounced the strike, but he didn’t seek to fire or jail the strikers. He mobilized 24,000 military personnel to deliver the mail — not very successfully — and reached a deal that ended the strike after eight days. The postal workers won an initial 6 percent raise, and when Nixon signed the Postal Reorganization Act that summer, they received an additional 8 percent.

H. R. Haldeman, Nixon’s chief of staff, acknowledged a big obstacle to punishing these unlawful strikers. “The mailman is a family friend, so you can’t hurt him,” Haldeman said.

State officials unhappy about the recent strikes have realized the same thing: They can’t really punish or replace the teachers. They’re too popular, there are too many to replace, and if state officials try to jail a few ringleaders, that might spur new strikes.

Not every illegal walkout ends well for workers. When air traffic controllers went on strike in 1981, President Ronald Reagan fired 11,345 controllers and rallied the public against their union, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization, emphasizing that every controller had taken a no-strike pledge upon being hired. Reagan also lambasted the union for rejecting the 11 percent raise his administration was offering, about twice what other federal employees had received at the time.

With the end of the Arizona teachers’ walkout last Thursday, there are rumblings about which state might be next. In North Carolina, educators are angry that teacher salaries and per-pupil spending have not kept up with inflation. Even though teacher strikes are illegal in North Carolina, teachers there say they will walk out next Wednesday, the day that the state legislature opens. Lawmakers should take them seriously. Teachers have so far managed to win gains and skirt the law without any penalty because public opinion — and a lot of history — seems to be on their side.

### 1NC – Exclusion Turn

#### Unions are inaccessible to minorities – that leads to increasing inequality.

Ahlquist 17 [John; School of Global Policy and Strategy, University of California San Diego; “Labor Unions, Political Representation, and Economic Inequality,” 3/9/17; AnnualReviews; https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/pdf/10.1146/annurev-polisci-051215-023225] Justin

Immigration may exacerbate inequality to the extent that immigrants take jobs for lower wages than native workers do. Immigration may also put pressure on existing unions, since immigrants may be harder to organize owing to linguistic or cultural differences. For these reasons—along with simple prejudice—unions in immigrant-receiving countries, mainly Australia, Canada, and the United States, opposed immigration for several decades. Rosenfeld & Kleykamp (2009) use CPS data to look at the most recent wave of Hispanic immigration and find that Hispanics continue to join unions. They find that Hispanic unionization rates, unlike those for African Americans, can largely be explained by positional factors. Many American unions have recognized that organizing immigrants is crucial to their survival (Milkman 2006), but immigrants’ more precarious job status has made union gains harder to consolidate through the Great Recession (Catron 2013).

The situation for female workers is more complicated. The gendering of employment and the expectation that women would leave the labor force after marriage have long limited women’s access to unionized parts of the economy (Iversen & Rosenbluth 2011). In some countries union bargaining objectives, norms of fairness, and public policy were predicated on an assumed singleearner household. But standardized terms of employment and promotion along with an expanded public sector may attract more women into union jobs. The effect of unionization on wage inequality between men and women is therefore ambiguous. Union density in rich democracies shows no association with the gap between median male and female wages. However, in the United States and United Kingdom, the gender wage gap narrowed at the same time unionization fell.

### 1NC – Racism Turn

#### Strengthening unions is just bad --- they’ve gone to great efforts to institutionalize racism within ranks

Watson 6-14 [Travis Watson is the creator of ADOSConstruction.org and chair of the Boston Employment Commission (BEC). Appointed by former Boston mayor and current US Department of Labor Secretary Martin J. Walsh, the BEC oversees the Boston Residents Jobs Policy, which sets employment standards on city-assisted construction projects. “Union Construction’s Racial Equity and Inclusion Charade.” June 14, 2021. https://ssir.org/articles/entry/union\_constructions\_racial\_equity\_and\_inclusion\_charade]

The Catch 22 | White union construction workers often stymie prospective Black workers’ attempts to join a union by trapping them in a Catch-22: requiring the worker to have a job prior to being admitted into a union, but also requiring union membership before getting a construction job. Former United Community Construction Workers activist Omar Cannon recalls Black workers being told by white union officers that they “had to be in the union to get a job.” However, the problem, Cannon explains, is that “you had to get a job to get in the union.” Former Army veteran and construction worker Gilbert Banks has told a similar story about treatment by foremen and unions: “They’d say, ‘Have you got a (union membership) book?’ I’d say, ‘No.’ ‘Well,’ they said, ‘Go get a book and we’ll give you a job.’ And I’d go to the union and ask them for a book. They’d say, ‘Listen, if you get the job, we’ll give you a book.’ There was no way of fighting it.” This no-win situation is not a coincidence. This Catch-22 is a form of structural racism intended to exclude people not already on the inside. Stonewalling | Another strategy white union members use to frustrate Black workers into giving up their effort to join a union is intentionally refusing communication, ignoring, and silencing them. Stonewalling effectively blocks Black workers from jobs and from unions, even when those workers have superlative skills, training, and experience. For example, former member of the Congress of Racial Equity (CORE) and construction activist Oliver Leeds recalls how his work as an Army engineer wasn’t enough to even get considered for work and union acceptance: “I was in the Corps of Engineers. And you know what we do? We worked to win the war. We built anything that could be built: bridges, tunnels, houses, officers’ quarters, Myers quarter, roads, and airstrips. We loaded and unloaded ships. We did anything in the way that involved work, construction work. You know, when I got back to the United States, after the war, I couldn’t get a job in construction, that there was no union that would let me in? And there was damn little that I couldn’t do in the way of construction work. They’ll take you and turn you into construction workers in the army, in a segregated army, and then when you get back into civilian life, you can’t get a construction job.” These first two strategies—the Catch 22 and stonewalling—cloak the structural racism operating within unions by displacing the consequence onto the Black person: that they gave up, or that they got frustrated, rather than seeing the mechanisms at work that produced this outcome. Biased Gatekeepers | Many construction unions place unemployed members “on the bench” while they wait to be sent to work by dispatchers, the union members who distribute the jobs. Dispatchers play a central role in access to jobs and, therefore, to union entry. However, by intentionally refusing to send Black workers to jobs, racially biased dispatchers play a pivotal role in keeping unions white. In Boston, former construction worker Earl Quick recalls receiving his union book but never being assigned work. “White guys would come in and go right into the business agent’s office and they’d get work and me and the rest of the Black guys would just sit there,” he explains. “I never did work in Boston.” According to the former Northwest American Friends Service Committee Director Arthur Dye, “Some [Black] workers appeared at the hiring hall day after day for several months and were never dispatched. If they began to ask questions why they were not dispatched they would be sent out to jobs … a hundred miles or so away, only to find out that when they arrived at their destination there wasn’t a job. Or they would be dispatched to a job where there was considerable possibility for physical intimidation.” Because this is a well-known practice, Black workers have often applied directly to employers, going around the union hiring halls. But in most cases, employers are required by union policy to hire only workers referred by union hiring hall dispatchers. And even when employers intentionally seek to diversify their employees and union contractors, dispatchers can thwart this effort. For example, when Robert Lucas, the president of the refrigeration contractor Lewis Refrigeration, who is a white man, called Local Union 32 and specifically asked for a Black plumber to be dispatched to his job, the dispatcher reportedly laughed and dismissed his request. Discriminatory Testing | Some construction unions require that applicants pass a test for admittance. To keep their membership as white as possible, some local unions went so far as to pass white applicants regardless of how they scored, while failing nearly every Black applicant. Journalist Gary McMillan reported in the Boston Globe, that “in 1980, a federal court in Boston found that the oral section of the exam given by the Ironworkers was so subjective and so open to abuse that it had almost no bearing on ability to do the job. For some reason, the court also found, whites almost always passed the test but Blacks almost always failed.” This blatant discriminatory testing enables the construction industry to remain an “old-boys club,” and barring entry to people of color keeps their ranks as white as possible going forward. Without equal access to unions, Black workers have been deprived of apprenticeship, mentorship, and other networking opportunities that are crucial to their professional advancement and success. Explicit Racism | Some white construction workers take a more overtly racist and aggressive approach to keeping Black membership as low as possible. This strategy has been tactically employed through the use of racist language and putting Black workers in dangerous situations. In Seattle, Donald Kelly, a white apprentice in Local 86 recalls hearing, “We have no Negro apprentices, and we will never have no Negro apprentices … No Black [expletives] will ever work out of this union as long as I am business agent.” In Boston, Earl Quick had union men drop bolts on him and call him the N-word. As McMillan enumerated, “almost every Black construction worker interviewed by the Boston Globe in 1983 … has had ‘accidents’ on the job: boards or bolts dropped from above, a steel beam swing very close to his head, live wires left at his feet as he walked by.” But these incidents of overt racism and aggression aren’t just relics of the past. Last year, places like Toronto, Las Vegas, and Portland, Oregon, have had incidents of nooses being left at construction sites. And this year, in Boston, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers International Vice President Mike Monahan referred to Black people as “colored.” And, in response to my critique about the lack of diversity in union construction, he emailed me with the following threatening message, which included a pointed reference to “sun down towns”: “Goodnight — what time does the sun set and rise in Falmouth? Make sure you lock the doors.” Voter Suppression | And lastly, some unions go to great lengths to exclude Black people from participating in their elections. In Boston, for example, union construction limits the number of Black members through voter suppression. Voter suppression is as American as the second amendment, a tool used to maintain white power and silence Black voices for decades. For most of us, voter suppression manifests itself through draconian policies—things like making it more difficult to vote by mail, voter ID laws, and restricting access to early voting. But while many of the elected officials behind such policies are Republican lawmakers, the Greater Boston building trades unions have been taking a page from their book; one of Boston’s most extensive and ingrained systems of voter suppression resides within their halls.

#### New report proves --- statistical analysis finds systemic racism in unions

Ihejirika 20 [Maudlyne Iherjirika, reporter, Chicago Sun Times. “As nation fights systemic racism, report finds pattern of exclusion in Illinois trade unions.” Sep. 7, 2020. https://chicago.suntimes.com/2020/9/7/21426285/nation-fights-systemic-racism-report-finds-pattern-exclusion-illinois-trade-unions]

Activists called it a “No Labor Day” event, gathering with unemployed Black men and women Monday as they unveiled appalling diversity statistics in a new report that turns a spotlight on systemic racism within trade unions, specifically, those operating in Illinois. “These statistics are shocking,” said U.S. Rep. Danny K. Davis, D-Ill., at the news conference with Chicago Black United Communities, the stalwart South Side organization founded by the legendary Lu Palmer. CBUC brought the issue into prominence as far back as the 1970s by shutting down construction sites. Based on U.S. Department of Labor statistics from 1999-2018, the CBUC report finds apprenticeship programs of 62 Illinois trade unions remain mostly white — five of them completely segregated; 15 with less than 20% persons of color; and 13 with 20 to 30% persons of color. “I couldn’t believe that in the year 2020, after all the marching, all the demonstrations, there are still unions that have frozen out African Americans. I had to get a magnifying glass to make sure I was seeing these numbers right,” said Davis, who called for federal and state hearings, reaching out to the Department of Labor and Office of Civil Rights. “We’re going to have to do something about it. Don’t tell us there is no room at the inn, because if there’s no room, then we just have to kick the door down and come on in anyway. I’m tired of seeing young men on my block standing around with nothing to do, because they can’t get into these trade unions.” Davis, who turned 79 on Sunday, has long battled the issue since his days as an alderman, alongside Palmer, current CBUC Chairman Eddie Read and Soft Sheen founder Ed Gardner. Such efforts advanced under former Mayor Harold Washington in the 1980s, then fell off. Eddie Read, Chairman of Chicago Black United Communities (l), with unemployed trades workers at a Labor Day press conference, where Read unveiled a report finding appalling diversity statistics in apprenticeship programs run by Illinois trades unions. U.S. Rep. Danny Davis called for federal and state hearings on the data that underscores a historic complaint of exclusion of people of color by those unions. Eddie Read, Chairman of Chicago Black United Communities (l), with unemployed trades workers at a Labor Day press conference, where Read unveiled a report finding appalling diversity statistics in apprenticeship programs run by Illinois trades unions. U.S. Rep. Danny Davis called for federal and state hearings on the data that underscores a historic complaint of exclusion of people of color by those unions. Taniya Scott for CBUC Apprenticeship programs in Illinois for asphalt paving machine operator, rough carpenter, gas utility worker, stained-glass glazier, industrial coating painter, sign painter and sprinkling fitter are glaringly all-white, the report said. Trades like boilermaker, electric meter installer, electrician, elevator constructor, glazier, heating and air-conditioning installer, HVAC, line installer, maintenance mechanic, millwright, operating engineer, pipe fitter, plumber, sheet metal worker, structural steel worker and welder include less than 20% persons of color. Some of the unemployed at Monday’s event are certified in skill trades but hit brick walls in seeking union work. Others were unable to apply for the apprenticeships that lead to living-wage careers. “I’m just disgusted, angered that we’re still fighting for something we were fighting for in the ’90s, when my mother was alive,” said Guana Stamps, 55, of Humboldt Park, whose three sons are seeking pathways to becoming electricians or plumbers. Stamps is daughter of the late legendary activist Marion Stamps, who fought for public housing residents during the 1980s and 1990s, and in July, she testified before the City Council, saying that eradicating racism in unions would create jobs and help solve Chicago violence. “A gun won’t fit in a hand that’s got a hammer in it,” Read said Monday. Read hopes the post-George Floyd spotlight on racism will finally force the unions to change. To help that along, CBUC is currently compiling testimony from workers denied jobs, for a potential class-action lawsuit. “An ordinance passed under Mayor Washington stipulated workers on public works jobs must be 50% city residents. We don’t believe that’s enforced,” Read said. “All the Black children who graduated from trade programs at high schools like Dunbar, CVS and Simeon between 1999 and 2018 believed they could enter the trades. These numbers clearly show they could not. So we believe they too have standing in a class-action lawsuit.”