### Vocabulary: Counterplan Theory Handout #1 (1/2)

**Agent Counterplans**- counterplans which change the agent who implement the plan.

**Conditional**- status of a counterplan that would allow the negative to kick the counterplan in whichever speech they would like.

**Debate theory**- debating over the limits of what constitutes an acceptable argument.

**Defensive arguments**- arguments that deny that there is an impact to your opponent’s argument or that your opponents argument cannot achieve its desired results.

**Dispositional**- status of a counterplan that would allow the negative to only kick the counterplan if the affirmative team has made defense arguments only (including but not limited to a permutation, solvency deficits, or theory arguments).

**Extending an argument-** Extending an argument simply means re-explaining an argument made previously, in a current speech to carry it through in the debate. This concept comes from flowing where the judge literally moves the argument from one spot on the flow to another as if extending it. Teams do this so as to keep their arguments fresh in the judge’s minds when they are making a decision and to respond to their opponent’s arguments.

**Fiat**- The idea that the plan or policy passes immediately. Fiat is a concept created so debaters can debate about the implications of their plan instead of whether or not the plan will run into roadblocks in congress. The question becomes whether the plan *should* happen over whether the plan *would* happen.

**Interpretation**- a vision for the debate – what one side believes is fair. Interpretations are intended to display to the judge what is acceptable in an attempt to prove the affirmative is not acceptable.

**Kicking an argument**- to kick an argument means to remove it from the debate by conceding a piece of your opponent’s defense. Doing this concedes the argument isn’t true and therefore disproves the whole argument. This is a strategic move so that the debate can focus on arguments that are more important. Both affirmative and negative teams can kick arguments. You can only kick an argument you brought up in the debate.

**Line by Line**- Attacking your opponent’s arguments going point by point in the order that they were presented.

**Offensive arguments**- are arguments that claim the opposite of your opponent’s argument is true. If your opponent claims the action is good, an offensive argument would claim its actually bad. It speaks to the benefit or harm of an action.

### Vocabulary: Counterplan Theory Handout #1 (2/2)

**Plan inclusive Counterplans-** (also known as PICs)- counterplans that do the whole plan except for one small part that the negative finds objectionable or reads a disadvantage to.

**Process Counterplans**- Counterplans which modify the process the affirmative takes to implement or enact the plan.

**States Counterplan**- Counterplans which have the state governments implement the plan instead of the federal government.

**Status/Disposition**- this refers to how the counterplan or critique is being run or when the negative can kick the counterplan or critique in a debate.

**Unconditional**- status of a counterplan/critique that means the negative will continue to extend the argument throughout the whole debate. The negative is unable to kick an unconditional argument.