

Topic: (1) Should Guantanamo be Closed; and (2) Should the U.S. Continue to use “Enhanced Interrogation Techniques.”

Cosponsored event for

Speaker:

- Names:
 - David French, Esq., of the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ)
 - Charles Mink, Former Interrogator in the U.S. Army Human Intelligence Collection Training

Speaker Bios:

- **David French, Esq.:** Mr. French is a 1994 graduate of Harvard Law School. He has been a commercial litigation partner for a large law firm, taught at Cornell Law School, served as president of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), and currently serves as a Senior Counsel at the American Center for Law and Justice. He is also a Captain in the US Air Force Reserve.
- **Charles Mink:** Mr. Mink has over 5 years of experience as a former Interrogator and Specialist in Human Intelligence for the US Army. He did multiple tours in Iraq as a part of that position. He was also a Training Specialist in Human Intelligence at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona. He is currently a Masters candidate at the University of Arizona in Middle East Studies and Arabic Language.

Attendance Numbers

- 70 student roughly

Review of Topic:

The topic was not as well defined as the title indicated. Neither of the Speakers really addressed the first topic of whether Guantanamo should be closed. Both of the speakers spent the bulk of their time focused on “enhanced interrogation techniques”. The time slot that was allocated for each speaker was not sufficient for both topics. Both speakers went in depth into the definition of enhanced techniques, what situations they should be used in, if any, and addressing the reliability of information gained through enhanced techniques.

Review of Speakers:

Mr. Mink was the first to speak and he advocated that enhanced techniques should not be used because they result in unreliable information, they lower our international credibility, and the use of enhanced techniques only fuels the radical Islamic cause. He was very energetic and engaging through out his talk. He was really great at relating the topic to Law students. When arguing that enhanced interrogation techniques would make a detainee remember the details of a specific say or event, he compared it to asking us to remember specific details about the day

we took the LSAT. Mr. Mink pointed to specific instances where the Military was able to gain accurate information from high level insurgents in a very short amount of time without using enhanced interrogation techniques.

Mr. French followed Mr. Mink and argued that there should be a judicial type system in place to determine when the use of enhanced interrogation techniques is appropriate. His envisioned system would require officials to go through a process similar to getting a warrant with judicial review of the information they had available to them. He made a few rebuttal arguments to Mr. Mink's points saying that Al-Qaeda insurgents are trained to resist interrogation using the Army field manuals which are easily available over the internet.