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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FEB 23 2010

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

VERONICA NATALI VALENCIA-VASQUEZ,

Petitioner,

v.

ERIC H. HOLDER Jr., Attorney General,

Respondent.

No. 08-71775

Agency No. A098-936-543

MEMORANDUM*

On Petition for Review of an Order of the Board of Immigration Appeals

Submitted February 16, 2010**

Before: FERNANDEZ, GOULD, and M. SMITH, Circuit Judges.

Veronica Natali Valencia-Vasquez, a native and citizen of El Salvador, petitions for review of the Board of Immigration Appeals' ("BIA") order dismissing her appeal from an immigration judge's decision denying her

^{*} This disposition is not appropriate for publication and is not precedent except as provided by 9th Cir. R. 36-3.

The panel unanimously concludes this case is suitable for decision without oral argument. *See* Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2).

application for asylum, withholding of removal, and relief under the Convention Against Torture ("CAT"). We have jurisdiction under 8 U.S.C. § 1252. We review de novo questions of law, *Cerezo v. Mukasey*, 512 F.3d 1163, 1166 (9th Cir. 2008), except to the extent that deference is owed to the BIA's determination of the governing statutes and regulations, *Simeonov v. Ashcroft*, 371 F.3d 532, 535 (9th Cir. 2004). We review factual findings for substantial evidence. *Zehatye v. Gonzales*, 453 F.3d 1182, 1184-85 (9th Cir. 2006). We deny the petition for review.

We reject Valencia-Vasquez's claim that she is eligible for asylum and withholding of removal based upon an anti-gang political opinion or based upon her membership in a particular social group. *See Barrios v. Holder*, 581 F.3d 849, 854-56 (9th Cir. 2009); *Santos-Lemus v. Mukasey*, 542 F.3d 738, 745-46 (9th Cir. 2008). Accordingly, because Valencia-Vasquez failed to demonstrate that she was persecuted or fears future persecution on account of a protected ground, we deny the petition as to her asylum and withholding of removal claims. *See Barrios*, 581 F.3d at 856.

Substantial evidence supports the agency's denial of CAT relief because

Valencia-Vasquez failed to establish it was more likely than not that she would be

tortured by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official. *See Santos-Lemus*, 542 F.3d at 747-48.

Valencia-Vasquez's due process claim fails because, contrary to her contention, the BIA issued a reasoned decision and not a streamlined order pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 1003.1(e)(4).

PETITION FOR REVIEW DENIED.