

HST 201: ONLINE History of U.S. F18 (Escobar Meta 20748 22964)

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Cartoons - Part 1

by [Joe Escobar](#) - Saturday, November 24, 2018, 11:19 PM

To write your post, click on the reply link in this post. This forum topic is for the first set of cartoons for the week.

As usual, be sure to change the subject line of your post to the cartoon number and some descriptive text.

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The Jeffersonian Connection to Present Day

by [Ian Epperson](#) - Monday, November 26, 2018, 11:51 PM

I see a lot of similarities between cartoon number one and what is happening in this country today however tongue and cheek comics may be in delivery. Jefferson was definitively a man who principled himself on an idea that a solid government would provide its own housecleaning [financially] and would not step on the toes of its own citizens. In His words, "It is incumbent on every generation to pay its debt as it goes". We see this today now more than ever. If you visit <http://www.usdebtclock.org/> you will see that our country's debt is growing at a staggering rate. According to Kimberly Amado [from The Balance.com Updated November 07, 2018] our government has been borrowing at an

alarming rate since our two biggest financial upsets the Great Depression and World War II, these two examples were brought on by irresponsibly low interest rates, inflation due to excess government spending, and a large military undertaking in the preceding years. Today, Interest rates have been low for a record amount of time, Borrowing has increased, and a multi-fronted war once again sounds like the current economic concerns highlighted in this comic amongst others. Jefferson was afraid of our government becoming gluttonous and willfully ignorant to the wellbeing of the people, thus he states, "If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them, they must be happy".

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Re: The Jeffersonian Connection to Present Day

by [Nargis Safi](#) - Saturday, December 1, 2018, 3:51 AM

I totally agree with you, According to Tomas Jefferson "The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government." However, our government is not paying much attention to this saying and making life harder for it's middle and lower-class citizens. In todays America despite being a superpower, people still live in misery due to limited income and health issues. The National debt is raising dramatically due to involvement in useless wars such as Afghanistan and Iraq, financed by tax payer's money. What Jefferson was afraid off is happening today. The government is harming people under pretense of taking care of the them.

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Thomas Jefferson as we know him

by [Clifford Lyon](#) - Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 7:41 PM

I believe that cartoon #1 featuring a drawing of Thomas Jefferson is fairly accurate based on what we know about the man and his politics. The main focus of Thomas Jefferson once he took the office of the President was to shrink the national debt as well as the size of the Federal government. He was even so frugal as to significantly reduce the ceremony surrounding his initial trip into the capital (Murrin 255). This was a man who firmly believed that the Federal government should be small, nonintrusive, and kept in check by the people. As someone who had put his very life on the line by signing (not to mention drafting) the Declaration of Independence, he was well aware of the potential for government to grow too powerful and overstep it's bounds. This would become the main focus of this man's political life. He never forgot the struggle that created this country, and with that in mind, he always urged that the government should be kept in check by the people. Even as the head of the executive branch, he wanted to reduce the size of the army, and rely more on the local militia. (Murrin 256). Even though he decided to move forward with the Louisiana purchase (\$15M), he was still able to reduce the national debt

from \$80M to \$57M (Murrin 257). This was a man who was very much concerned with saving money wherever he could. He believed in the young nation, but he also realized that it ran the risk of spreading itself too thin.

I have read relatively little about Jefferson, but what I have read shows an interesting contrast between his personal and professional life. For all of his frugality, his worries about the size of government and the national debt, in his personal life he appears to have spent money freely, dying in debt. According to *John Adams* by David McCullough, Jefferson died "With debts exceeding \$100,000, more than the value of Monticello, its land, and all his possessions, including his slaves" (McCullough 648). I think this is an interesting twist in the life and death of Thomas Jefferson.

Count of ratings: (1)

3



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Number 4

by [Sarah Mackenzie](#) - Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 9:01 PM

I thought cartoon four was hilarious and I do agree with the overall message. It is an obvious joke about how the intelligence community is monitoring us with satellite's and collecting all the information they can. This cartoon relates to our text this term because it is depicting the NSA watching us and by doing so, they are violating our Fourth Amendment. This all dates back to 1791 when the Fourth Amendment was written. "The fourth through the eighth amendments defined a citizen's rights in court and when under arrest—rights that had been central to the Revolution's list of grievances" (240). With the Fourth Amendment being in question for violation the Fourth Amendment is as follows: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized" (A-10).

The primary concerns of the generation that ratified the Fourth Amendment were nonspecific warrants and writs of assistance. In Britain, the Crown employed general warrants to go after political enemies. General warrants allowed the Crown's messengers to search without any cause to believe someone had committed a crime. In those case's the judges decided that those types of warrants violated English common law. In the colonies the Crown used the writs of assistance to search for goods on which taxes had not been paid. James Otis challenged the writs in a Boston court, but unfortunately, he lost. Now fast forward to 1952 when the National Security Administration was established.

The largest intelligence agency would be the Nation Security Administration. The agency, created in secret in 1952 with an executive order by the then President Truman. The agency went to work collecting information with sophisticated technology under the guise of National Security. At the time the president would have very limited power but because of McCarthyism, some were calling for the president to have more power for the safety to the nation. President Truman had already started an undeclared war in Korea with no constitutional violations yet, but he may have gone to far when he ordered the Secretary of Commerce to take control of the US steel industry. He did this to prevent a

threatened strike which could have been detrimental during a war time. The steel industry leaders took the issue to court, where ultimately three of the justices who had been nominated by Truman, had his side while the other six did not. Truman lost all of the judges and felt that the president should have more power when there is a more credible threat to national security. All these decisions have shaped how we live today from using fear to give the president more power under the guise of national security. We have lost many freedoms and are constantly spied on.

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[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Re: Number 4**by [Ian Epperson](#) - Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 10:29 PM

I do agree with your overall view on this comic and, I too, found it somewhat dark but humorous. I agree that the powers vested by the government to monitor us. However, it is a double edged sword that lends itself to interpretation in my opinion, much like many other laws passed. Take for instance the US Patriot Act. It's misinterpretation to monitor all citizens to root out terrorist cells can be overused and abused, however it does monitor legal transactions to prevent money laundering, cartel/terrorism funding, and other nefarious uses of our financial systems.

The reputation of an intelligence community is dependent on how it is perceived as we read in our textbook and videos. A couple of examples could be found on page 265 when Madison issued a declaration of war in 1812 due to the "British spying on United States", and the "American Revolution" video at the 35:00 minute mark when Washington used spies against the British to warn the French fleets of an impending attack. In agreement with your claims, I do believe the constitution did its best to outline the general idea of privacy, but as times change that outline can turn into legal and moral grey areas that can be perceived in different ways.

Count of ratings: (1)

3

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Cartoon #6- Militia's and Deadly Weapons**by [Evan Brewer](#) - Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 10:36 PM

In cartoon #6, the cartoon is illustrating the right for a militia and James Madison is surprised with what this amendment would soon employ. The cartoon does accurately reflect historical events because we studied the Bill of Rights and understood that the militia's would soon take on British forces. In our textbook, "Liberty, Equality, Power", Madison wrote the 2nd amendment saying, "guaranteed the continuation of a militia of

armed citizens”(240). This allowed normal citizens to join militia’s and bear a firearm to protect local towns and cities. Today, many people don’t understand what the 2nd amendment really stands for and it wasn’t just the right to bear arms. I believe the cartoonist correctly interpreted the history of the 2nd amendment in the cartoon because when the militia was fighting the British, the militia was beating a better trained army. As you can see in the cartoon, the colonist is holding a very deadly and accurate gun (ex. AR-15). In the video, “American Revolution: Part 2,” the narrator explained that rebel weapons could shoot 250 yards and were a better than British muskets. The narrator of the video said that rebel weapons could shoot “2x the range of british muskets”(20:30). The weapons used by Americans did have an advantage over the British and I felt that the cartoonist added that little piece of evidence (AR-15) to try to better explain the technological advances of weapons in America at that time. I could be dramatising this cartoon but the futuristic gun does give a logical clue to what the views of American firearms were in the 18th century. Of course, the guns didn’t look like that back in the day but I do agree with the message of the cartoon. Madison sure didn’t expect the outcome of the 2nd amendment but it strengthened our militia and America was able to win its independence.

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Cartoon #6

by [Sarah Mackenzie](#) - Thursday, November 29, 2018, 5:11 PM

I took this cartoon as a comment that modern weapons have advanced farther than the founding fathers ever expected and that the artist was trying to make the point that some of the firearms that a civilian can own nowadays might be a little excessive. They obviously didn’t have weapons like we have now back in the day. Which brings up the topic many have argued over for years of what exactly a well-regulated militia means and that maybe the constitution needs to be amended to keep up with the advancement of modern weapons, but as you pointed out the second amendment protects the right for citizens to bear arms. The 2nd Amendment is: A well-regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed. (A-10)

What was the intended meaning of the Founding Fathers though? Did they mean that only those citizens who are organized into official militias by local or regional jurisdictions have the right to bear arms? Or that anyone can keep arms because they might eventually join a “well-regulated” militia? And what about the storage of the arms themselves? Can citizens keep them in their homes, or only in armories that supply the cited well-regulated militias? Further, even assuming that every law-abiding citizen can own firearms, does that right extend to locked-and-loaded open carry in public?

Count of ratings: (1) 2

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Re: Cartoon #6

by [Michelle White](#) - Sunday, December 2, 2018, 9:34 AM

You have asked some very good questions. I agree with you on your analysis of cartoon #6. I don't think the founding fathers expected that our modern day weapons would have evolved to the extreme as they have and that a civilian would be able to legally own such weapons. I don't necessarily think that the founding fathers meant that only those citizens who are organized into official militias by local or regional jurisdictions have the right to bear arms nor do I think that they meant citizens should keep their weapons in armories that supply the cited well-regulated militias. I do however, feel that the 2nd Amendment was put into effect so our citizens have the right to bear arms when needed as they did for the revolutionary war. Yes, times have changed and so has our weaponry, but the fact the citizens should have the right to bear arms has not and should not in my opinion. The AR-15 is a bit extreme and I don't think ordinary citizens should be able to legally obtain or house such extreme weaponry. Weapons like the AR-15 should be in an armory strictly for use of our trained militia. Remember the 2nd Amendment was put into place because of the "old fears of a standing army" which was made up of civilians. One never knows what the future holds, granite we have military now, but no one ever knows and citizens need to have the right to be prepared for whatever may lie ahead. "prompted by old fears of a standing army, guaranteed the continuation of the militia if armed citizens and stated the specific conditions under which soldiers could be quartered in citizens' households." ("Liberty, Equality, Power", pg240)

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Re: Cartoons #3

by [Nargis Safi](#) - Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 2:17 PM

Cartoon #3



[cartoon #3.pdf](#)

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Re: Cartoons #3

by [Nargis Safi](#) - Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 4:06 PM

I think this cartoon reflect nicely the time period of after American revolutionary war. when the americans were able to get their freedom from Great Britain, which was an obtrusive government. Parliament (England's Congress) had been passing laws placing taxes on the colonists in America. There had been the Sugar Act in 1764, the Stamp Act the following year, and a variety of other laws that were meant to get money from the colonists for Great Britain. The colonists did not like these laws and felt that government is entirely running their lives. They decided to get their freedom from great Britain and they were successful. I think this cartoon nicely interpret the thankfulness of people who were once not happy for being under control of British government, and once they were able to gain their independence despite not having a vey stable and

advanced government system they were still thankful. I agree with the point of view of this cartoon because it illustrates that how important it is to be in control of our own lives and not living under pressure all the time.

Count of ratings: (1)

1



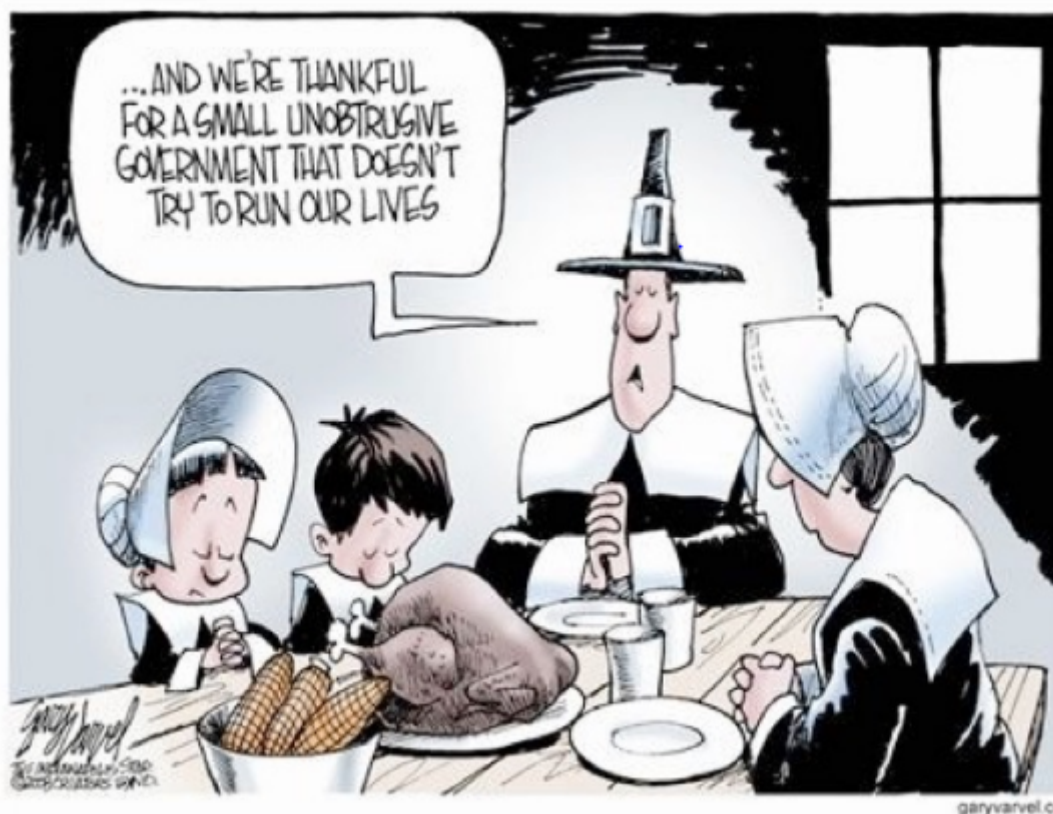
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Re: Cartoons #3

by [Nargis Safi](#) - Friday, November 30, 2018, 1:39 PM

Cartoon #3



Cartoon #4

Count of ratings: (1)

0



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Cartoon #5

by [Michelle White](#) - Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 3:44 PM

Cartoon #5 represents our judicial branches of government, which were put into place so no individual or group would have too much power. There is the legislative branch to make laws, executive branch to enforce laws, and judicial branch to evaluate laws. This illustration is depicting the executive branch cutting off the other two branches of government and taking all the power. The executive branch is made up of the president, vice president, Cabinet, and most federal agencies. Basically it doesn't matter what any of the other branches have to say the executive branch vetos them in this cartoon. I disagree with this cartoon. The judicial branches of government relate to our reading in "Liberty,

Equality, Power" pg. 225," John Adams affirmed, government should be divided into three branches-and executive armed with veto power, a legislative, and a judiciary independent of both.

Count of ratings: (1) 1

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#2

by [Emily Barber](#) - Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 5:16 PM

After reviewing all the cartoons, the one that was most historically accurate at least to me, is cartoon #2. I don't believe it differs from what we are learn, I believe it to be accurate. Both political parties seem to be wanting more money or tax dollars from people to cover costs from the government. I don't think its as direct as the picture, but it defiantly relates to what the government is doing and where both political parties are putting our money to.

Count of ratings: (1) 1

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Re: #2

by [Jessica Eckley](#) - Sunday, December 2, 2018, 10:00 PM

I agree that this picture represents today's government and the most recent government. However, I think this picture also represents the government back during the Revolution era.

I think it links to the past as well as the present because when Hamilton thought up his plan for the first bank of America and in his plan, he did state "A permeant debt would encourage wealthy financiers to invest in government securities, thus allying the with the national state" (*Liberty, Equality, Power* Ch. 7 page 242). The present-day America is in trillions amount of debt, according to Wikipedia "As of October 28, 2018, debt held by the public was \$15.8 trillion and intragovernmental holdings were \$5.8 trillion, for a total or "National Debt" of \$21.6 trillion." (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_debt_of_the_United_States) and they rely on the taxpayers to pay some of those debt. Taxpayers and the amount that they pay the government a year has been a debate in politics since the beginning but is especially important in the last few years. The Democrats tend to lean more towards having the wealthier peoples of America pay more than the less fortunate. Which I think as part of Hamilton's plan back in the Revolution era. But currently most wealthy people don't pay more in taxes.

Count of ratings: (1) 1

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Re: #2

by [Emily Barber](#) - Sunday, December 2, 2018, 10:19 PM

I agree with what you are saying. Cartoon #2 does relate to the past as well. I'm intrigued by your last sentence, that wealthy people don't pay more in taxes. Part of me believes they should pay more in taxes and contribute more to that because they

have more to give but the other part of me is glad that we all relatively pay the same amount based off our income. If more money was contributed to taxes to the ones who could afford it, the national debt may be a little less. I think the less fortunate are doing what they can by paying what they can of taxes, but people with more should try and pay more.

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Cartoon #1

by [Jessica Eckley](#) - Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 9:12 PM

I chose to discuss the first cartoon, that of Thomas Jefferson. This one stood out to me the most because of the deliberate jabs at the current government compared to what the founding fathers wanted it to be. One of the quotes in the cartoon is "Never spend your money before you earn it" (Cartoon #1). This quote instantly made me laugh because of the immense amount of debt this country is in right now. Back when the founding fathers were deliberating and deciding about the country's future, Hamilton came up with a plan to handle the debt for the country "He agreed that the foreign debt should be paid promptly, a move that would announce to the international community that the government of the United States would pay its bills" (***Liberty, Equality, Power*** Ch. 7 page 242). According to Wikipedia "As of October 28, 2018, debt held by the public was \$15.8 trillion and intragovernmental holdings were \$5.8 trillion, for a total or "National Debt" of \$21.6 trillion." (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_debt_of_the_United_States)

It makes me wonder where everything really went wrong. In Hamilton's plan, he did state "A permanent debt would encourage wealthy financiers to invest in government securities, thus allying the with the national state" (***Liberty, Equality, Power*** Ch. 7 page 242). However, I really don't think debt into the trillions is what Hamilton was thinking. It's going to take years upon years to even make a dent into that debt. So, my question is, where did it all go so wrong? Where in history did the American people start swaying away from the plan of a founding father that was "... the most single-minded nationalist in the new government. He was a brilliant economic thinker, an admirer of the British system of centralized government and financiers, and a supremely arrogant and ambitious man" (***Liberty, Equality, Power*** Ch. 7 page 241). I know that the government evolved with the changing of new inventions and overall economic growth but, trillions of dollars of debt is un-canning to me.

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Cartoon 4 All too relevant today

by [Asa Tellschow](#) - Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 11:37 PM

I found cartoon #4 to be especially relevant to modern events. It seems that Trump is more concerned with loyalty than with the proper functioning of the US government. This can be seen, for instance by his firing of Jeff Sessions who it seems was not loyal enough to him. This echos the concerns of Thomas Jefferson that the Federalists would "attempt to consolidate power, militarize the government, and jail their enemies" (Murrin p 250). I

find this comic both hopeful and tragic because it acknowledges that the executive branch that attacks the legislative and judicial branches both weakens itself (hopeful) and damages the entire tree (tragic).

Count of ratings: (1)

2



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Second Amendment

by [Clifford Lyon](#) - Thursday, November 29, 2018, 2:16 PM

Cartoon #6 depicts James Madison sitting at his desk drafting the Bill of Rights. He is in the process of writing the second amendment, "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Another person walks in holding what today would be identified in the media as an "assault rifle" (AR actually stands for Armalite Rifle). The second party is saying "James, check out this baby!!" to which Madison replies "Whoa!!" with a look of disbelief on his face. I think that this cartoon was intended to demonstrate that when the Founding Fathers agreed to this amendment, they did not intend for every person in America to have a weapon with the capabilities of the AR-15. While I agree that no early American could have foreseen the advancements that firearms technology would make hundreds of years later, I do not agree that they would have condoned the rights of responsible citizens to be infringed upon. The world has changed a lot since those words were written and ratified. What has not changed (yet) is the right of law-abiding citizens in America to keep and bear arms. Having just won independence, thanks in part to armed Militias, the Founding Fathers saw the importance of this issue and decided to write it into the Bill of Rights.

The second amendment does not specify which type of arms are to be included or excluded from this right, and this has caused a lot of debate in modern America as gun violence and mass shootings have become more prevalent in our consciousness. Some people believe that a ban on this type of weapon would reduce or eliminate these problems, others think that it would simply keep these weapons out of the hands of law-abiding citizens while the criminals would still be willing to access these weapons illegally. This has become a very sensitive issue for a lot of people. I think that it is a good thing that there was not an end all list included in the second amendment, and maybe the reason for that is because the Founding Fathers understood that technology would advance and that they were making a document for all time. Possibly though, it is because they did not think that there should be any restrictions on the type of arms a law-abiding citizen should be allowed to possess. Another thought is that the "Well regulated" portion of this sentence would in fact cover regulating the type of arms the Militia would be allowed to carry. Again, I do not think that any one of the Founding Fathers could have predicted the advances that would be made in this area, so it is hard to determine how their intent contrasts with the current state of

affairs in this country. It is a question that has caused a lot of debate and will continue to do so. I agree that James Madison would be surprised by the weapons available to everyday citizens today. What I am unsure of is if and how this information would have affected the words that he wrote so long ago.

Count of ratings: (1)

3

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I chose to examine cartoon 7. This cartoon depicts the media showing one thing (we're with her) but having a Hilary campaign sign in the garbage can. This reflects the historical events we have been studying because it feels as though some of the accounts, we are reading can be a little flip-floppy for lack of a better term. "...enacted slave does that defined slaves as persons without rights" (Ch 9 par 4) this is a great connection to the political cartoon because the states that enacted this were saying 'slaves are people BUT not really' showing that they just wanted to look like they were doing the right thing but weren't actually following through on their statements. I have mixed feelings about if this cartoon accurately depicted the time it was created for. I remember many media outlets were pro Clinton during the election, but she didn't win so they didn't really make that big of an impact by being as full force as it felt they were. Now that Hilary didn't win I feel as though the media isn't saying things about how they wish Clinton was president but how they wish Trump isn't which makes me feel as though they were putting up a fake display of support.

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