



Administration

Student Support

Navigation

HST 201: History of United States F16 (Escobar Meta 20938 23214)

Home ► Fall 2016 ► HST 201 F16 (Escobar Meta 20938 23214) ► Week 10 ► Forum 4 ► Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present



Search forums

Forum 4

Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

• [Subscribe](#)

◀ Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

Display replies in nested form

Move this discussion to ...

Move



Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Joe Escobar - Friday, November 25, 2016, 1:54 PM

This thread is for discussions on the Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present topic. To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use the cartoon NUMBER and an informative subject line for your post. Do NOT simply leave it RE: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

Sum of ratings: -

[Edit](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Cartoon #6 - Necessary and proper clause

by Emily Phan - Saturday, November 26, 2016, 11:48 AM

I think that Madison and Obama would probably argue over the “Necessary and proper clause,” if this cartoon continued. This is the part of the constitution in Article 1 Section 8 that says the government is to “To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution” (<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript>) This phrase has been used by people who have a loose interpretation of the Constitution to mean that the government can do anything it wants if enough people think it is necessary and proper.

Now Madison was first a Federalist and then a Democratic Republican. Earlier in his life Madison believed that the new republic needed a strong central government, especially to protect the new nation from countries in Europe. However this “strong government” was nothing like the huge bureaucracy we have now. Madison would never have wanted the national government to become giant controlling machine it has become. Madison himself stated in the Federalist Papers, **“The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite.” - James Madison, Federalist No. 45**

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/sites/default/files/inline-pdfs/Key%20to%20Founding%20Fathers%20Selected%20Quotations.pdf>

When Madison became a Democratic-Republican he championed the ideas of less federal government. He and other Democratic-Republicans feared that the government would take away peoples liberties, as the government did in the Alien and Sedition acts.

So my point is both the Federalists and the Democratic-Republicans would have disagreed with our current governments constant unconstitutional tampering in matters that belong to the states, all in the name of the necessary and proper clause; which they are using to give themselves powers that it was never intended to give.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoon #6 - Necessary and proper clause

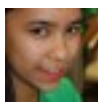
by Hope Kelley - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 1:15 PM

I really agree with what your saying here. The federal government has been using the "elastic" clause to give themselves power that was never their's to take. The 10th amendment states that any power not given to the federal government is given to the people, and that is not being upheld.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply

Cartoon #7 Presidential Powers

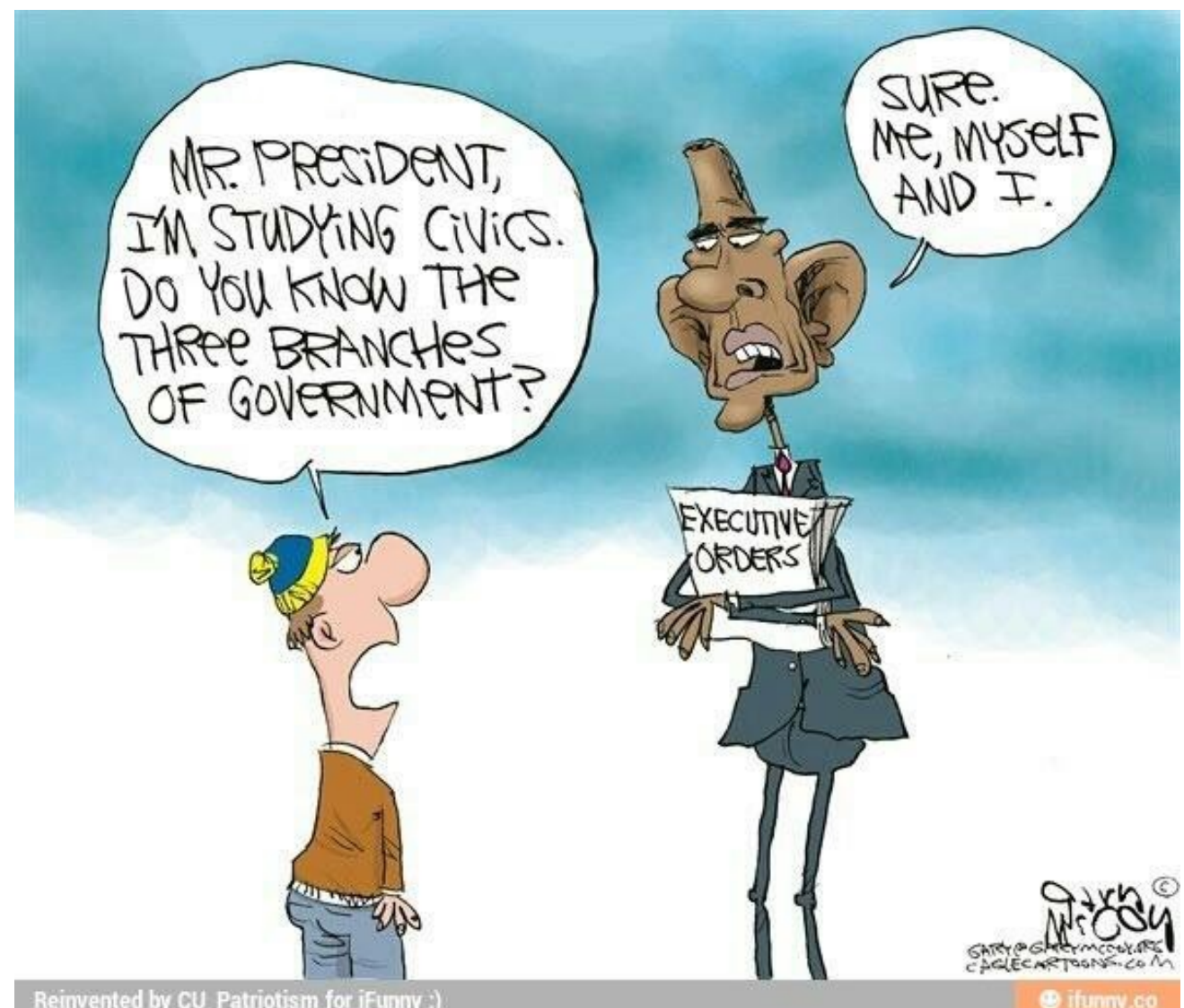


by Emily Phan - Saturday, November 26, 2016, 2:43 PM

This cartoon is showing how the President has been taking more and more power for himself. (For example executive orders.) This is what the constitution says the President can do. (this is a summary) The President shall preserve, protect and defend the Constitution, be Commander in Chief of the army, navy... , Make treaties, appoint Ambassadors, Judges of the Supreme Court, and Senators (in special circumstances), Report on the State of the Union, and convene both houses of congress if needed.

(<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript>)

(<http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/prespowers.html>) The President does not have dictatorial powers. If he has an idea of what he wants done he can suggest this wonderful idea to congress and they can try and make it into a law. Then if the law is unconstitutional the Judiciary branch can strike it down. This is one of the reasons why we must have justices in the Supreme Court that uphold the constitution and not change its meaning whenever they feel like it. Who will declare actions right or wrong based on the Constitution not on their feelings.



Reinvented by CU_Patriotism for iFunny :)

ifunny.co

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoon #7 Presidential Powers

by Justin Stewart - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 6:39 PM

This is the thing in this course that made me the most excited. I knew that the president's power was limited and I knew that the constitution was what limited their power, but prior to this course I didn't know any information outside of that. This is something I think that was partially forgotten with our society and most recently shown within the election via the riots that occurred. The president is a representation of the people but unlike a queen or king is not the ruler of the people. We are fortunate enough to have the three branches of the government to watch over this. The one thing I have yet to figure out even with the readings that we have done with Madison and Jefferson, for example, I still am not able to understand the Executive orders and how they are something warranted. President Obama is who comes to mind when I think of this and all of the orders in which he has passed in his 8 years in office. The most obvious being his health care plan. Referencing the most recent elections I think the Executive orders are what people are fearing and feeling like their rights will be removed if President elect Donald Trump passes Executive orders himself.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoon #7 Presidential Powers

by Jake Preciado - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:33 PM

I completely agree with this view point. It is true in the sense that the president holds too much power now a days. The framers would most likely be appalled if they saw the way America is run today. All political views aside the way we run our country today is far from how the framers intended. We learned that back when the governing documents were written that God still held a vital role in American politics, holding men to their word and a higher more "honorable" standard. The standard set forth by the Bible. Now with our government holding no religious view creates a lot of 'wiggle room' for the executive branch. Like you stated, executive orders, and the appointment of the justices. The cartoon you attached perfectly displays this idea. I also believe it is very biased. Either way you look at it, the executive branch is really stretching the bill on the powers it has.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Political Cartoon Discussion #2

by Kenzie Slocum - Monday, November 28, 2016, 10:30 AM

Cartoon number two certainly links our government's past to the present. It illustrates three of our founding fathers inspecting a map of the United States and noticing certain signs, the messages of which are being promoted today although they are against the founding fathers' original intent. The cartoon shows the founding fathers questioning whether they have the right map.

This cartoon accurately reflects what we have been studying in class because we have been comparing the original U.S. government to today's government happenings. Cartoon number two also addresses the controversy over strict versus loose constructionism. Certainly, this cartoon is emphasizing and implying how our founding fathers would be shocked at the way we are using a very loose interpretation of the Constitution which gives the national government more strength and utilizes the "elastic clause," also known as the necessary and proper clause (in the Constitution on page A-7 in the back of Liberty, Equality, Power). The founding fathers were intending for us to use a much stricter interpretation of the Constitution than we are using today, according to this cartoon. I, using my knowledge about our nation's history, think that this cartoonist correctly interprets our history through this drawing. Hopefully all three of these founding fathers were strict constructionists (the only one I recognize is Benjamin Franklin). If one of them is Alexander Hamilton, this cartoon would be less accurate since he was a federalist who loosely interpreted the Constitution. On the other hand, if one of them is Thomas Jefferson, who was a major advocate for strict constructionism (pg. 251 of our textbooks) this cartoon would truly be making its point. I agree that the founding fathers would be shocked to see where we, as a nation, have taken the "elastic clause" and how we have given the national government power over areas that were originally intended for the states. This is in addition to the fact that quite a few modern ideas and beliefs are in contradiction with their principles and theories. Cartoons like this are helpful in comparing today's controversies to those in the past and show in an entertaining way that the discussion of how strictly or loosely we should interpret the Constitution is still debated today.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



I'll have the #9 with extra r(f)a(s)cism

by Tyger Gruber - Monday, November 28, 2016, 4:50 PM

Cartoon #9 clearly depicts the militarization of the police force. Specifically in conjunction with the recent DAPL pipeline at Standing Rock North Dakota. Though this fascist approach toward the rights and freedoms of minorities and people without wealth is no new event in our countries history. In recent(ish) history, there was a government sanctioned shooting at Kent State during the Nixon administration to quiet protesters. Prior to this, slave owners would take on the responsibility of being militarized by whipping and even killing slaves to keep them docile. In my notes I recall writing about the Early Republic period of the U.S's relationship with militia groups as ver confusing. With the minute men, taking things into their own hands, to the British solider's retaining a few bases in US territory after the revolution. There has been and will (hopefully not) always be big government interaction with a military,

or militarized police force.



As depicted in the prior

photo, this is not always a super intensive thing, but as seen here



things are getting more militarized and more "big

government" as the leaders are using terror as perfectly exemplified in a quote in George Orwells 1984 when he describes that

"The social atmosphere is that of a besieged city.. And at the same time the consciousness of being at war, and therefore in danger, makes the handing-over of all power to a small caste seem the natural, unavoidable condition of survival."

This is terrifying. We've seen it before in severe cases such as people giving power to Hitlers regime due to fear and poverty after WW1. This was also slightly the case during the Early Republic of America due to Slave owners having so much power over their slave "property"

Do you think we are heading toward another example of this with the recent president elect's regime of fear? controversially, the quote "first you take their guns, then you can take whatever you want" could exemplify how our second amendment prevents it from ever occurring again in large scale. Interested in your thoughts!

Sum of ratings:3 (1)



Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: I'll have the #9 with extra r(f)a(s)cism

by Joseph Hemrick - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 5:03 PM

Cartoon #9 kind of confused me. I do agree with you, saying it is a clear depiction of the militarization of police, but the text bubbles made me scratch my head.

I assumed the guy on the ground is implying that police are the problem, not big government. To me, I found it confusing and maybe misinformed. It is my understanding that it was big government that created our militarized police. I believe the program I was thinking about was "1033 program" where it allowed the defense agency to transfer excess military equipment to civilian law enforcement.

With that said, I'd think the guy reading the paper is looking at the bigger picture, while the guy on the ground is not.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1033_program

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: I'll have the #9 with extra r(f)a(s)cism

by Tyger Gruber - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 6:46 PM

A very insightful reply. I agree with your inference of the 1033 program. While I do believe big government is the one enabling the militarization of police. It is also the fact that when a police officer shoots an unarmed civilian. They are investigated by the same police force that committed the crime, so there is usually a light sentence. Both these factors play in to the enabling of militarization; and back in the early 1800's I'm sure they dealt with these same issues. But when a black kid is shot there were no "Black lives matter" movements, the nation simply did not care. Minorities together are starting to make up the majority and gain their own power. But back in the day there was a negligible amount of power and wealth to be found in minority status. To put a stop to this, should we have an out of agency group investigate police brutality? Repeal 1033? What about Standing Rock?

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: I'll have the #9 with extra r(f)a(s)cism

by Cameron McCord - Friday, December 2, 2016, 5:32 PM

I feel this cartoon is very much depicting the way the white Americans started treating African American slaves after the Nat Turner rebellion. As we saw during the video in class we saw that White Americans really cracked down on the speaking out of any slave even if they weren't part of the Turner rebellion. Looking

at the cartoon the top one is a cop smiling down on a young boy who seems to be homeless (considering his stick and bag on the ground). In the second we see a swat man very armed and ready looking down at a young African American boy. Therefore showing us the intensity of the White American cop against a certain person.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Fear and stereotyping on the side

by Tannon Rounsaville - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 5:36 PM

I agree: After the Nat Turner rebellion, white people were afraid and therefore it made them more violent, as was said in the video during class. And when white people know that 1 slave caused a rebellion which killed 57 whites, then they think that all of their slaves could do that as well. It stereotypes the rest of the race just like in todays society. If one person does something then it must mean that their entire race does it too. Right? Of course not. Like Mr. Escobar said, they were holding a wolf by the ears for dear life and I think they knew that.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: I'll have the #9 with extra r(f)a(s)cism

by Justin Stewart - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 1:07 PM

I didn't think about the pipeline when I saw this cartoon however after reading your post I can absolutely see the resemblance of this. Throughout our history, we have seen similar things to this the pipeline being the most recent. The one that I thought of when I saw this cartoon was the Boston massacre. Although we learned in class that this is not really a massacre If you were to look up a cartoon of the Boston massacre you would see I think similar images. Abuse of power by the government and how the media or artists reflect the abuse here is an example of what I mean.

THE BOSTON MASSACRE



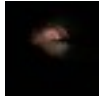
Huge fight that started off of insults and a snowball fight.

As you can see in the picture the Boston massacre is being portrayed as the government attacking civilians while they run away in fear. We learned in class however that this was not the case and in fact, quite the opposite that some would argue the troops were in fear of their own lives. I do not think the pipeline is the

same however I do wonder what influence the media plays in showing the situation in a way in which provides better ratings. Are they showing 100% truth or a mixture of both truth and fiction?

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: I'll have the #9 with extra r(f)a(s)cism

by Matt Oordt - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 8:31 PM

I agree with what you have to say about this comic representing the militarization of police. Furthermore I like how you referanced the DALP pipeline. What is going on in North Dakota is a excellent example of militarization of police. What I do not understand is who the author says the problem is. Did the police man militarize in defense because the boys skin color changed, or did the police man militarize because he had means to protect the boy regerdlless of skin color.

Sum of ratings: (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



This can go either way

by Eric Brackett - Monday, November 28, 2016, 5:04 PM



I found this cartoon very interesting, as to me it represents both sides of the 2nd Amendment issue. On the one side you have James Madison, presumably writing the constitution, in absolute shock over the modern firearm. This would lend to the argument that our founding fathers could not have foreseen the advancement of firearms to such an extent. However, conversely you have the patriot excited by the notion that he is holding a superior weapon to what he had previously owned, something that could ensure his liberty is never infringed upon.

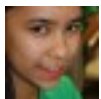
I think personally, this cartoon does a disservice to our fore fathers. It suggests that our ancestors would be slack jawed over the notion of something other than a musket. In fact during the age of enlightenment you saw great strides in arms manufacturing. During the revolution the idea of a multi shot weapon was already being thrown around. in 1779 the Girandoni air rifle was invented and remained one of the highest rate of fire weapons until the invention of the Gatling gun in the mid 19th century. Also lets keep in mind it was only 50 years from the time of the framing of the Constitution until the invention of the self contained bullet, and then only another 15 years until the invention of the repeating rifle, and then only another 20 years until the first semi automatic rifle was invented. So to me, this cartoon makes the characters look foolish.

However one thing I will say is that , possibly unbeknownst to the author, they do make an argument for the semi automatic rifle for the everyman. In the caption " A well regulated militia" does infer that here is this patriot, a common man, using the most advanced armament available to him, to ensure that his liberty is kept intact.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Girandoni_air_rifle

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: This can go either way

by Emily Phan - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:02 AM

I really, really like your points. And I would also add that during the time of the revolution private persons could own very large weapons. Ship's owned by private ship-owners often had **cannons**. A cannon is no small weapon, no smooth bore muzzleloading rifle. They could do some serious damage.

(https://www.nps.gov/revwar/about_the_revolution/privateers.html) The founding fathers had absolutely no objection to this state of things. They actually commissioned these private armed ships to harass the British during the war. I agree that it would be naïve to believe that the founding fathers would be shocked at the fact that we have had many advances in weaponry. Also I find it interesting that the cartoonist decided to state the part of the bill of rights where it talks about a well regulated militia. The part that states, "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed," (the bill of rights) I would find more applicable to this cartoon.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



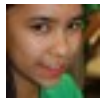
Re: This can go either way

by Cameron McCord - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 1:34 PM

I really like your points, and I never thought of it in a way that makes the fathers look foolish, but in fact they do look foolish considering in this day and age any one can easily purchase a weapon of that type in a matter of hours. Coming from a time when the musket was the only weapon saying anyone can own a guy isn't a very big statement, because muskets are dangerous yes but also very inaccurate as well as take 10 min to reload. So in conclusion if the founding fathers could see us now they would be in awe of the advancements in our weaponry. Also being in awe of our "well regulated militia" and maybe seeing that to be a problem as things can get out of hand very quick.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: This can go either way

by Emily Phan - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 2:44 PM

I decided to do some fact checking -

It did not take ten minutes to load a musket. "It takes two or three minutes to load a flintlock rifle, as opposed to, say, eight seconds for a musket."
(<http://www.learnnc.org/lp/multimedia/9919>)

"The flint lock musket could be loaded in 30 seconds" (<http://www.history-of-american-wars.com/revolutionary-war-weapons.html>)

"Rifles, while much more accurate than muskets, also were loaded much slower. It would take almost 30 seconds, and sometimes a minute or more, to reload a rifle." (<http://www.doublegv.com/ggv/battles/tactics.html>)

My brother has used a musket replica before and he said it took the instructor 30-40 seconds to load it.

Also they were not "very inaccurate"

"After 75 yards it was very hard for a soldier to deliberately hit a man sized target." (<http://www.doublegv.com/ggv/battles/tactics.html>) 75 yards is a long way! That means a musket was accurate up to approximately 3/4ths of a football field.

More importantly, "The rifle was a long gun made with grooves inside its barrel which made it more accurate than a musket. It was **very accurate up to 300 yards** and thus was a powerful weapon in the hands of scouts and skirmishers." (<http://ncpedia.org/history/usrevolution/soldiers>) So the rifle was way more accurate than a musket! In no way was this weapon "very inaccurate."

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



compared to todays firearms

by Tannon Rounsaville - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:46 PM

You have some good points but the difference in todays firearms vs muskets and long rifles is night and day. The average reload time and shot was 20 seconds but to hit something you had to be trained quite a bit. Especially at 300 yards. Today, somebody who is trained can shoot 30 shots with all of those shots being within a 5 inch grouping of each other at 300 yards in that same time. So yes back then they might've been considered accurate and effective but today they are indeed "very inaccurate".

I also agree with cameron when he says that things can get out of hand pretty quick. Like you said it takes 20 seconds to reload. If a public shooting happened the shooter would get 1 shot. In those 20 seconds to reload he would've been stopped. Today, reloading a 30 round magazine into an assault rifle takes 1-3 seconds.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: This can go either way

by Joseph Hemrick - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 3:10 PM

"but in fact they do look foolish considering in this day and age any one can easily purchase a weapon of that type in a matter of hours."

I see it as partly comparable, then to today. The musket rifle -was- the 'assault rifle' of their day. They were the popular firearm of their day, just as the ar-15 is the popular rifle of today. However, there is a contrast from back then, they had no background checks, so anyone could just walk into a general store and purchase one no questions asked. You can't do that today. Mind you, it is still "relatively" easy to purchase a firearm today.. fill out a form, wait a period of time (depending on your state, longer or shorter) pay your bill and walk out with it. Arguably, back then was easier 😊

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply

Sum of ratings:2 (1)



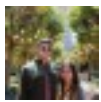
Re: This can go either way

by Riley Stromvig - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 5:47 PM

Those are some interesting points. I like both things that you said about how our rights have yet to be infringed upon and how that is so exciting to our founding fathers. On the other hand, you said that it shows their lack of belief that our country would be able to 'evolve' (for lack of better word) into what it is today. We have made great strides in so many different areas and it is something to recognize and be proud of.

Sum of ratings: (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



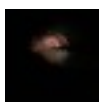
Re: This can go either way

by Jake Preciado - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:43 PM

You said " it represents both sides of the 2nd Amendment issue." and I couldn't agree more! I mean when the amendment was written they had no idea what kind of arms were going to be around in the future. I personally don't know my stance on the subject. During WWII the main reason why the Japanese didn't advance toward the California coast is because of a simple idea that they lost the element of surprise. It is said that the commander said "Behind every blade of grass there will be an american with a gun." This is what our founding fathers intended. They wanted to prove to the world that we could defend ourselves. Its a beautiful American Ideal. Although inspiring we can certainly see in today politics that gun laws are a major issue. With Sandy Hook, Riverside, and Orlando. So its powerful in the sense that we have evolved into something that the framers couldn't have played for.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Matt Oordt - Monday, November 28, 2016, 7:49 PM

After pondering over the cartoon's, cartoon #3 caught my eye the most. Mainly, because It was hard to agree and to disagree with the man labeled at the "far right". I consider myself to be and independent who favors the more conservative mindset, so its hard to disagree with this man. Illegal immigration is indeed a problem that i,m sure the founding fathers did not foresee for this nations future when creating the constitution. The 14th amendment states that all person born in the unites states are automatically citizens. This is fair but when someone illegally and unethically enters the country, putting there life and their child's life at risk shouldn't we consider

making small changes to a rule book that is over 200 years old. Maybe the constitution need some adjustment for the newer times. On the other hand you have to think why these mother are doing what they are doing and putting the child's life at risk. Its to give their children a chance at a better life in the Unites States than they would be given on Mexico. If I where in those mothers shoes I would do the exact same thing. That is what makes it so hard to agree with.



Sum of ratings:3 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Joseph Hemrick - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 3:33 PM

"I'm sure the founding fathers did not foresee for this nations future when creating the constitution."

I might argue that they 'should' have known enough prior to ratifying the 14th amendment in 1868. There were several examples given in class about immigrant labor having a noticeable effect on wages for the locals (Lowell's mill, Erie Canal.) I'd think that if the problems were severe enough then, they would have done more to curb the effect of immigrant labor (or other perceived immigrant problems.)

http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/recon/jb_recon_revised_1.html

<http://www.eriecanal.org/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Lowell,_Massachusetts

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Kenzie Slocum - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 4:46 PM



Although I do not claim to know the solution to illegal immigration, and I am not trying to take a stance on this issue, I also noticed the connection between immigration problems in both the past and the present. This political cartoon is yet a third example of the problems that come with immigration in our history, and this example is not always what we first think of when we hear the word “immigrant.” Besides this example, which we touched on during the first half of the term, the other two prime examples of this are the women at Lowell’s mill and the canal production workers getting replaced by Irish immigrants because the immigrants were willing to work for less. Unfortunately, our textbooks do not touch on this topic of strikebreakers in the Lowell instance, but they do claim on page 295 that the Erie Canal was “built by gangs of Irish immigrants.” Not only was this an issue in early U.S. history and in the 1900s, but is again a debated issue in our lives today.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Alec Ebert - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 5:58 PM

This a good post Matt, I do think that we need to make some changes to the Constituion in regards to immigration reform. Most of the time I feel myself leaning on the more side of liberal on the political spectrum, however on this paticular issue I find myself on the more conservative side of things. One of the issues that really bothers me with a lot of immigrants who are here illigally from Mexico is often all of the untaxed money that they make here in the U.S. often goes home to support the remainder of their families there instead of getting put back in to our economy to better improve it. As well as this, these illegal immigrants are not paying taxes either to help fund federal and state programs. I believe that if the founding fathers saw this today they would be frustrated by the lack of regulation of this issue, because it is harming the American people ever so slightly over time. In the beggining it was Americas duty to encourage free immigration to premote the ideals of liberty, equality, and justice for all. It was in many ways an oppurtiunity for people to come here and make a life for themselves that they couldn't elsewhere at the time. However since then we've seen two world wars, terrorist attacks on our own soil, the war on drugs with our neighbors to the south and economical crises that have nearly torn the country down. I found a lot of this information in an Encyclopedia.com article

<http://www.encyclopedia.com/social-sciences-and-law/sociology-and-social-reform/sociology-general-terms-and-concepts-3>. This article was written by Roger Daniels, a since retiered Ph D professor who taught history at University of Cinncinati, known for being a renound scholar on immigration history as well. His words really put into perspective how immigration policies have changed over time due to national crises and the rapid expansion of our nation. I believe if our founding fathers could see the current policies on immigration, I think they would find them justified but would want to rattify the system of legalization to make it more efficient.

For example I have a friend Eric who is from Sweden that I grew up with that has lived here since we were in the 4th grade. We are now both 21 years of age and he and his family have still have not been granted citizenship due to the emmense gridlock of our immigration system. Instead his dad continues to get his work visa renewed over and over again so he can stay and work for the American branch of Daimler-Benz auto group. Since I've known Eric, he's lost his accent, developed American eating habbits and celebrates American holidays. He's also from a country that poses no threat to the United States and has lived here so long he knows the Constitution and his rights in this country better than in Sweden. It's people like him in my opinion who truly should be able to gain their citizenship by now. Not the ones who come over illegally and have children so they can stay. I think if the founding fathers saw this sort of thing they would see it as an obstruction of earned liberty.

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply

Sum of ratings:3 (1)



Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Hope Kelley - Monday, November 28, 2016, 7:54 PM

I chose comic #3 because it is about loose and strict constructionism. The constitution, depicted in the comic, obviously represents strict constructionism and the man represents loose constructionism. We talked about this idea in class about how Thomas Jefferson was for strict and Alexander Hamilton was for loose. Jefferson wanted weaker national government and states rights. He believed in the 10th amendment which gives any power not given to the federal government is given to the people. Hamilton believes in the "elastic clause", also called the necessary clause, which gives congress Power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing Powers. I believe in strict constructionism because the constitution is there to make the government not able to completely control our lives.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Riley Stromvig - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 5:50 PM

I agree that a constructionism that is more on the stricter side would be better. I think this idea of strict vs. loose is very apparent in candidates and politicians today. Instead of changing the constitution to not allow people born here to be citizens, just don't let illegals in in the first place. Wouldn't that solve that problem?

Sum of ratings: (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Eric Brackett - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:48 PM

Considering only seven percent of the population today is from English decent, there is a high probability that had our forefathers shared your same attitude towards immigrants, you yourself would not be here. That isn't to say that concerns over illegal immigration do not have merit, but an intolerant view like that does nothing to further the ideas that make this country so desirable to come to in the first place. Let's not forget that in class we went over the racial bias that was presented to all immigrants, including those of Irish and Scandinavian decent, and with a last name of Stromvig you can rest assured that means there is a high probability that your ancestor who came to this country suffered from discrimination. The framers of the Constitution granted the Congress to pass laws that dealt with immigration, but even then they

believed in Jus Soli, or "rights of land", meaning if you are born here you are a citizen, versus Jus Sanguinis, or "rights of blood" meaning you have to be of native born blood. So if you are truly a believer in strict interpretation of the constitution then you have to accept it as is, not pick and choose.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Cartoon #4

by Cameron McCord - Monday, November 28, 2016, 8:14 PM

Cartoon number four is a very relevant picture in this day and age as it shows an elephant (republicans), and a donkey (democrats) with there hands in the pockets of a "tax payer". this is a big complaint that any working citizen has because the government is always taxing you on what you make.This is a good cartoon for what we are learning as we begin looking into the shaping of a government in America. I believe the artist did a great job depicting this cartoon, because although taxing needs to happen it always feels like the government is reaching into our pockets without asking and taking our money.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoon #4

by Kenzie Slocum - Thursday, December 1, 2016, 9:46 AM

Your summary of cartoon four and your connection between the past and the present was concise yet comprehensive. Good job!

I would also like to add an extension to this cartoon by saying that a great way this subject can be applied directly to what we are learning is in the example of the 1818 National Road. It is another instance in our history where, as you said, "the government is reaching into our pockets without asking and taking our money."

The federal government paid for the road although the Constitution explicitly states that, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution; nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people, " on page A-13, Amendment 10, in the back of our textbooks. In the National Road instance, however, the Constitution was loosely interpreted so that the federal government paid for the road.

Then, as was discussed in Tuesday's class, the portion of our taxes that fund the federal government are often unevenly distributed, as opposed to being evenly divided, to infrastructure in individual states. While we want new roads and infrastructure without the toll road fees, we do not always appreciate having to give up more money for taxes, especially if it is going to fund something we do not benefit from. This concept can be applied both to our past and the present.

Whether the federal government or the states and private parties paid for the National Road is not quite the same as political parties receiving our money, but the same idea of taxes being needed but looked down upon has remained.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Cartoon #2 first thoughts

by Tyra Potter - Monday, November 28, 2016, 8:28 PM

There is a lot going on in this cartoon, much like there is always a lot going on with government or creation of government. I find it interesting that we have what looks like Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and George Washington looking at a map and claiming they have the incorrect map. This cartoon stood out to be because it has very opinionated “bumper sticker” lines, as Joe calls them, acting as road signs. It has some signs covering other signs that are not as important to the general community as a whole. I was also drawn to this cartoon because I saw signs and symbols I see in my everyday life. There is a trend of laws being belittled or pushed aside because they were not immediate life or death situations such as LGBT rights. Being an LGBT community member and growing up seeing queer rights become more and more dominate in the media I have had nothing but false hope that all communities of oppressed people have been making the same strides alongside the community that directly impacts me. That is sadly not the case. There are still thousands of people who are turned away for healthcare because they are undocumented or their parents are undocumented. There are still thousands of people living on the streets because they do not pass who knows what test.

On the opposite side of the picture we have a sign that talks about welfare and how it is just government handouts to lazy people. When has that ever been the majority theme? Government assistance has been to make sure that we do not have thousands more people living on the streets. Even the earliest troops who fought with George Washington had received government assistance for their wellbeing.

The sign that confuses me the most about this cartoon is that there is a large light up XXX sign above government assistance and abortion. I am not sure if the creator was trying to make a jab at the adult industry for being sinful and not in line with the idea that a majority of Americans are supposed to be religious. Or if the creator was trying to show that there is the freedom to practice or not practice any religion in America. Because you can still be a religious American and buy porn and sex toys. I know because it is sales associates like myself that will sell them to you.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

**Re: Cartoon #2 first thoughts**

by Hope Kelley - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 11:05 PM

First off, I'm going to out myself here. I too am part of the LGBT community, however I in no way took away from this cartoon what you did. For me this cartoon is extremely simple. It deals with the idea of strict and loose interpretation of the constitution, something we have gone over extensively in class. If anything this cartoon represents, what in my opinion, is one of the most important amendments in the constitution, the tenth amendment. It limits the federal government's power to force its own personal agenda on the people and instead grants the states and the people to enact their own will to govern themselves. This of course means that some states, as Mr. Escobar has said, will act badly, but as long as those laws are not unconstitutional, then there is no clear violation of rights. However, if those laws are unconstitutional, only then is it the federal government's duty to step in and ensure the people are not oppressed.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1) [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**#9**

by Tannon Rounsaville - Monday, November 28, 2016, 8:43 PM

In this cartoon a white man is being angered because the newspaper/media is discussing how more government will take away their rights, privacy, etc. But meanwhile in the background the black man is actually experiencing his rights being taken away. This relates to past history because black people were treated differently because of their skin color. (i.e. slavery, segregation, and not being treated equally because they were the "inferior race", and history is just repeating itself)

Sum of ratings: 1 (1) [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Re: #9**

by Hope Kelley - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 11:24 PM

I agree with your statement, but you can easily replace the black man in this comic with any minority that has historically been in this country, Asian, Native American, Irish, and women. Granted African Americans have only recently become "less" oppressed, but let's not forget that only 75 years ago we placed Japanese and German American citizens in internment camps to secure our own "safety". Unfortunately it does not appear that we have not learned our lesson from those mistakes, considering during this last election cycle certain people were calling for the internment for Muslim Americans.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1) [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

**Re: #9**

by Sonja Fritz - Friday, December 2, 2016, 3:51 PM

I agree completely with the original post. I love the point you make about how the white man is afraid of getting their rights taken away, while the black man is actually being stripped of those rights.. Sometimes it feels as if nothing has changed in our society from how it was back then. Of course we don't have segregation, but there is still a mistreatment of people of color to an extent. Back then, it was thought that people were seen less than human for being darker, and to this day it seems as if people still hold onto that ideology.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply

**Cartoon #5**

by Breana Kobold - Monday, November 28, 2016, 8:46 PM

I think cartoon #5 is very interesting. James Madison envisioned the militia to be disciplined and organized with the weapons that existed at the time for the protection of America and for citizens to lawfully own weapons for protection of their families/property. I can't imagine he would ever even consider an assault rifle to fall within this amendment. I think by the look on his face in the cartoon he seems alarmed, maybe frightened. American citizens argue that the constitution gives them the right to bear arms but in my opinion there is no reason that any civilian should possess an assault rifle. I think James Madison would agree.

Sum of ratings: (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply

**Re: Cartoon #5**

by Emily Phan - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:39 AM

I would find your argument more credible if you produced some facts or quotes to back up your statements. You might have some wonderful ideas but without any backup, the statement "I think" is just an opinion. Why wouldn't this "assault rifle" fall under the second amendment? "The right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed." (the bill of Rights, the second amendment.)

Secondly the weapon in the cartoon is not an assault rifle. "Assault rifles are battlefield rifles which can fire automatically." (<http://www.guncite.com/journals/rational.html#fn22>) (look under header 22) more information in the link at the bottom. That weapon in the picture is an AR15 which is semi automatic, **Not** fully automatic. Hence it is not a military level weapon. It is hardly more dangerous than a hunting rifle, it only has a larger magazine. The cartridges enter the chamber no faster than a hunting rifle and can be shot off at no faster speeds.

Here is a short article with more information.

(<http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2013/01/11/so-what-is-an-assault-rifle-really-we-look-at-the-definitions-and-how-the-term-is-demonized/>)

Also you might read some other posts in this form for at least two other people have made some long posts on this cartoon that contain some very good points. Their posts have the cartoon right in them so their easy to find.

Here's an interesting cartoon I found as well that seems applicable.



Sum of ratings:3 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoon #5

by Breana Kobold - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 7:44 PM

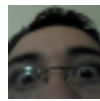
While this cartoon might not depict an **assault rifle** (I don't know much about guns) I think it is fair to consider what the founding fathers would have thought about the average American citizen owning various types of legal firing weapons. When they wrote the second amendment -as you know- the right to bear arms was necessary to keep the people free to defend themselves, their families, and their property. A rifle such as an AR-15 can be manipulated so that it can fire (as if it were an automatic rifle) at 25 rounds in 2.5 seconds and, depending on your location, its legal to own this gun.

(<https://www.quora.com/How-many-rounds-does-a-semi-automatic-rifle-fire-per-minute>). While still keeping a loose interpretation of the constitution it is

clear that the founding fathers did not foresee such weapons becoming available to the public because no such weapons existed at the time (they had muskets and pistols which could fire 2-3 times per minute). If a gun is needed for hunting/protection then owning something that can fire 12-15 times per minute should suffice. America has rapidly advanced, within all facets, since the birth of the constitution so interpreting this amendment loosely is almost reckless for the safety of American Citizens. I agree that people should be allowed to own guns as means for protection, hunting... etc but it has been shown especially within the last decade (increase in mass shootings) that too many dangerous people get their hands on weapons that can fire up to 300 rounds per minute. Why is it necessary to own a gun like that?

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoon #5

by Joseph Hemrick - Thursday, December 1, 2016, 12:13 PM

I think most people fail to remember that those rifles were cutting edge back then. To us, today.. they are relics, but then, it was rocket science (as Joe would say.) There were definitely other cutting edge firearms not yet mainstream back then too (the “puckle gun” for example.) With all due respect, to say the founding fathers could not foresee the advancement of firearms, is to say they were not very bright. In my humble opinion, they were extremely smart and were vague in their writing to allow for technological advancement, by saying ‘arms’ and not ‘muskets.’

“why is it necessary to own a gun like that” We should probably stay clear of subjective opinions and stick to facts 😊

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puckle_gun

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoon #5

by Emily Phan - Friday, December 2, 2016, 11:12 AM

“Why is it necessary to own a gun like that?” You **feel** that owning a gun like this is a bad idea?

Let’s look at a different topic. Say, for the sake of argument, that I **feel** that marijuana should be illegal. I could sight wonderful examples about how it is dangerous. I could tell about how I think it is a gateway drug. I could tell horrific stories about people being on it and getting into major car accidents. I could tell all these terrible stories about it. But guess what! I don’t know much about marijuana! So my **feelings** aren’t really the most reliable thing

out there. Just because I feel something is dangerous doesn't mean it should be illegal. It means I shouldn't buy it. It doesn't mean that I should ban it for everyone else. Now if a bunch of **experts** all agree that such and such an object is too dangerous then the question becomes more tricky. But if opinions of knowledgeable people are divided, my rights should not be taken away just because of feelings.

Also should a few peoples foolish decisions with a drug or gun force everyone to give up on owning a certain type of drug or gun? The Bill of Rights guarantees my right to keep and bear arms. It says nothing about marijuana. So I definitely have the right to own guns and just saying something is dangerous doesn't mean I can't have it. Cars are dangerous! Some chemicals are dangerous! Knives are dangerous. Should we ban large knives because some crazy began stabbing people with one? Just because someone says something is dangerous doesn't mean I can't own it. Taking weapons away from responsible people only helps the bad people. Now there are some things that are so dangerous that we just can't have them, like an atom bomb. But a semiautomatic rifle is not an atom bomb. This world is dangerous and we cannot remove all danger, we can only allow people the tools to fight it.

I have grown up in a family that hunts. I know guns. Some people may feel that such and such a gun is too dangerous. It is more dangerous to keep letting the government take away our rights because of fear.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoon #5

by Eric Brackett - Friday, December 2, 2016, 1:54 PM

The concept of owning a weapon that can cause massive damage, or even owning multiple types of weapons was not alien to our founding fathers. There is a huge misconception that in someway we can not own certain weapons in this country. A man down the road from me owns a fully functioning World War Two Panzer tank. He did not have to get special licensing to own it, again it is fully functional and he actually takes it out regularly to shoot at shows. Also right now you can order for 349 dollars from Midway USA a fully functioning cannon that fires a 5 lbs ball. If you are not aware of the damage a weapon like that can do I suggest you look in to what 5 lbs grape shot can do, trust me far more lethal than a full magazine from a AR 15 in 5.56.

My biggest complaint to this whole matter is that when someone looks to

strip away the rights of the people under the guise of "well that technology didnt exist when they framed the Constitution" they fail to understand that our forefathers absolutely knew technology would change. They absolutely knew that weapons would become more lethal. They lived in the age of enlightenment, the use of firearms had only been heavily used in military combat for 200 years prior to the American revolution. They were fully aware of the advancements that had been made prior to their war. They gave the second Amendment to us for the sole purpose of restoring our liberty and freedom should tyranny rise in this country. The argument made against the second amendment, or even the ownership of certain weapons is about as absurd as telling people they can not use a computer to express their opinions on the government because our forefathers did not have them. Technology changes, rights do not.

I would also suggest you look in to the weapons of the time, there were multi shot weapons, and one of the largest strides in technology was the research in to the self contained bullet for the sole purpose of being able to fire faster than a musket. I would also suggest that you please look in the national crime data base for the actual statistics on mass shootings and firearm crime in general. They are at a 25 year low. Which ironically means that during the 90's when the AR 15 was illegal to own, there were more firearms murders...with slower firing weapons.

My biggest argument for the ownership of such firearms is this. Your fear does not outweigh my right to rise up against a tyrannical government. Reality is that we'll probably never see that happen in my lifetime, but should you restrict weapon ownership now, you tie the hands of future generations, and force them to live under the yoke of tyranny. I refuse to do that. When you strip away the rights of the people in anyway, you become the villain, just because you fear something or do not agree with it it does not mean that you have the right to restrict it. This is exactly what irritates me about the American people, instead of understanding that you do not have to participate in something, such as gun ownership, gay marriage or what have you, we instead try to force our own agendas and bias down other people's throats. Perhaps **We The People** should instead realize that we are a country of 310 million individuals, who do not see eye to eye, but can disagree in a civil manner, and yet come together to force our governments to enact the will of the people and actually follow the letter of the law as laid forth by the constitution. Why is this such a hard concept for people to understand.

Sum of ratings:3 (1) 

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Thinking out loud.

by Sonja Fritz - Monday, November 28, 2016, 10:41 PM

I chose to analyze cartoon #4.

This cartoon shows corporate interest. The tax payer is shown fueling the 2 parties, not by choice. Back in history sticking your hands into tax payer pockets wasn't a acceptable course of action. But the question today isn't if this is acceptable or not but rather a critique of who is worse.

"Democrats oppose personal freedom and economic rights, they are taking right out of your pocket"

"Republicans are money hungry and are robbing the poor"

These are just a few of many things I hear. Should we focus more on historical events showing the negative effects of taxes or focus on forming a bias on who is worse?

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Thinking out loud.

by Justin Stewart - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 3:10 PM

Your analyses of cartoon # 4 made me think and ponder the meaning of this cartoon since you and I saw this very different. When you look at this you are saying that you see the government's hands into the people's pockets but the way that I saw it was seeing the corruption of the government and how people's money influences the ways in which it works. The people's pockets that they reach into you are seeing as them taking money from the people but I am seeing it more as they are being paid off. Take the presidential election as an example of this. In order to run for president, it takes millions of dollar to the campaign. Most if not all of the people who run are funded for doing so by campaign contributions and it wouldn't be a far stretch to assume the people who donate to them would in return want something back for their donations. This might be a bill passed or to have something overlooked or really could be anything. This type of thing is what leads to the government politics having corruption though I think. when I see something like this I think of the strict versus loose construction of the government here. Would the people who accept these contributions be more likely to be a loose constructionist and spend the tax payers money reaching into their pockets like you spoke of? another question I have is if we looked back at the federalist vs democratic republican parties do you think they would differ from the republic democratic parties we have now in their approach to the contributions and spending of the people's money on a strict or loose construction basis.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Peter Iten - Monday, November 28, 2016, 11:41 PM

With the election earlier this month, and our nation in disagreement of our next leader. I found cartoon #7 to be the most interesting. I'm not sure if it's just driven by the media, but any person who had no knowledge of our government could've easily presumed we were voting for our next dictator. Talk about a "loose interpretation". The first three articles of the constitution separate the powers of the legislative, executive, and judicial as well as establish checks and balances. So why are the 535 members of congress and 9 justices of the Supreme Court overlooked so often?

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Cartoon #7

by Jake Preciado - Monday, November 28, 2016, 11:41 PM

I believe that this cartoon is a great representation of the current events in politics. Many view the current state of our government as a dominating executive branch. This cartoon shows that the executive branch has completely taken over the government. I can agree with this to an extent. I agree with it because currently the republican party holds each branch of office making it possible of the president to pass what ever he pleases. It is scary because this is exactly what the framers were trying to avoid.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoon #7

by Kenzie Slocum - Tuesday, November 29, 2016, 9:43 AM

Cartoon seven caught my attention as well because, as you said, people tend to emphasize how much power the President (executive branch) holds. I think this cartoonist did an excellent job on capturing this political dilemma in a concise picture. The tree branches easily symbolize the three branches of government, and the chainsaw clearly symbolizes the concentration of power.

Loose interpretation of the Constitution allows the executive branch to have more control and either take power from or use its power to limit the ability of the legislative and judicial branches. In some cases, such as you mentioned, the branches are even working together to promote the same agendas. In these instances, the legislative and judicial branches may want to increase the President's influence with a loose interpretation of the Constitution.

Nevertheless, our government was not created to give the executive branch complete control as even George Washington's presidency indicates by the precedents he set in place. (We read about these in Chapter 7 of our textbooks

and learned about them extensively in class.) Only running for two terms and not taking a very prestigious title for his position, George Washington demonstrated that he did not seek complete control. How much power the executive branch should have and wield over the other branches of government, however, is another issue in which people's opinions are widely diversified across the entire spectrum.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoons - Similarities of then and now Political Cartoon #6

by Alec Ebert - Monday, November 28, 2016, 11:43 PM

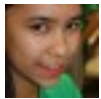
I think that if James Madison were alive today, and had been around for the Obama Administration they would have a lot to talk about. Obama Care is one subject that would spark a lot of intrigue among the two of them for example. I believe that a universal healthcare system that was federally run would be something that Madison would support. After all he was one of the biggest advocates for a Federalist America. "Madison challenged more than 2,000 years of received wisdom when he argued that a large republic would be more stable than a small one. Small republics were unstable, he insisted, because majority factions could easily gain power within them, crush the rights of minorities, and ignore the common good. But in a huge republic as diverse as the United States, factions would seldom be able to forge a majority. "Publius" hoped that the new government would draw the talents of the wisest and best educated citizens. To those who accused him of trying to erect an American aristocracy, he noted that the Constitution forbade titles and hereditary rule." *Liberty, Equality, Power- Chapter 6 "The Revolutionary Republic" Pg. 235*. This quote doesn't give all of the specifics of how Madison envisioned the country but he believed that if the federal government was in charge of the decision making then the possibility of instability would become less worrisome. However if he had listened to Obama's plan to tax wealthy self made individuals to meet the needs of the poorer majority (according to the cartoon) he most likely wouldn't have agreed with Obama's agenda.

The truly interesting thing here however is that if Madison could see the scale of corporate greed and corruption, he would most likely advocate for making adjustments to the Constitution to meet the needs of the people. That being said, the founding fathers did not consider many of the citizens we have today as credible enough to play a role in any kind of decision making in government, such as women or African Americans.... I think it's important for us to keep in mind that there is no feasible way that the founding fathers could have envisioned the growth, technological advancements, or cultural diversity of our great nation. In times of great change, the laws that we abide by as a society that defines us as a country need to be changed to meet the needs of many. Not of the few.

In the quote I used above it states that "Publius" hoped that that a new and reformed government would attract the brightest and most wise minds to government to help things along and I think Madison could see our current President as one of those individuals. To me this cartoon feels like it has some political relevance regarding the issues at hand during the 1770's versus now. However one could argue that Madison and President Obama would have some common ground on how to benefit the American people. Mostly by instituting federal wide programs that couldn't be approved or disapproved at the state level. Obama would just need to ensure Madison that his plan wouldn't come at the cost of those who have worked for the wealth that they have, and said programs could be modified from their original designs to meet the needs of all of the vastly different kinds of people in the United States.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoons - Similarities of then and now Political Cartoon #6

by Emily Phan - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 2:53 PM

"The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite." - James Madison, Federalist Paper No. 45

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/sites/default/files/inline-pdfs/Key%20to%20Founding%20Fathers%20Selected%20Quotations.pdf>

I can not think of a way that a national government run health care falls under the heading of "few" nor do I see this idea "defined" in anyway in the Constitution/Bill of Rights, unless you take a very, very broad approach to the elastic clause.

I have made a longer and more clear argument at the top of the forum.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Cartoon # 2 current and past does the government give us rights?

by Justin Stewart - Tuesday, November 29, 2016, 12:40 PM

I choose to do Cartoon # 2 because it represents something that I think our society can relate to. What I see from this cartoon is the sensitive subjects being presented and the political figures looking over it. I don't think that the exact issues being shown in the cartoon all fall under what they dealt with back then but I do see it as something that has been touched on throughout time.

The one that stands out to me that we touched on in class is the sign saying The GOVERNMENT gives you your rights. We spoke about this and said that the purpose of the constitution was not to give us rights but rather to regulate what rights and powers the government has. The other topics listed to me are subjects that this very thing has been addressed at over time. Like borders and abortions to gay rights and state-funded programs. If I am reading the cartoon properly and seeing the annoyance that the political people have in the lack of control here then I do agree with the cartoon, however like you stated it is difficult to fully understand the message without knowing a lot about the cartoon so I don't know if I am receiving the message intended.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoon # 2 current and past does the government give us rights?

by Riley Stromvig - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 4:43 PM

I definitely agree with you. Does it bother you how sensitive those subjects are in today's society?

Sum of ratings: (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

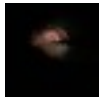


Re: Cartoon # 2 current and past does the government give us rights?

by Justin Stewart - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 1:44 PM

No, it doesn't bother me that people are sensitive on subjects, in general, I think that it shows passion for being affected by events in life or history. passion is what founded our country. if we would not have had people like George Washington for example who were passionate enough about of country to run our first structured military or to step up to run the country as the first president then we would not have the country we have today. I do think however that the people of our country have lost sight of the ability to disagree with one another without arguing. people sometimes feel that their way is the only way. take the current election that we just had people went to the streets to protest their disagreement with the outcome of the election which is fine but then they went another step further and choose to damage property and riot which is not a right. all in the means of proving a point without thinking about if they should do so. although they do not believe in the current president elect they choose to break the law without him even being in office for one day yet and giving them a reason to feel the way they do. this reminds me also of the Boston tea party. the people took it upon themselves to go against the taxes which were in all reality saving them money. but because there was a tax place they assumed it would be wrong to have one.

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoon # 2 current and past does the government give us rights?

by Matt Oordt - Friday, December 2, 2016, 3:50 PM

I couldn't agree with you more. I like what you have to say about political people and their annoyance with their lack of control. It seems that some politicians become politicians for that exact reason, control and power. It seems to me as though the three founding fathers in this photo are suprised by how their nation grew up. one of the signs states "the GOVERNMENT gives you your rights!" I think this cartoon is trying to demonstrate how over time we as a nation have stretched those rights in our favor.



Cartoon #5 The founders knew what they were doing when they wrote the second amendment.

by Joseph Hemrick - Tuesday, November 29, 2016, 11:36 PM



Cartoon number five stood out the most to me, probably because I'm a gun rights supporter! Too me, this cartoon has an anti-gun undertone to it. Showing an AR-15 rifle, the text in big capital letters in red, the quote "... a well regulated militia..." and

finally the look of shock on Madison's face. I think the cartoon implies that the founders could have never imagined the evolution of the rifle, and that they never intended the second amendment to go beyond muzzle loading rifles.

In my humble opinion, I think that is the furthest from the truth. When the bill of rights was added to the Constitution, Americans were basically still recovering from the revolutionary war (roughly 8 years' prior.) The founders were the ones breaking off from "big government," are we really supposed to think they would short hand themselves right from the start? Also, there would be no way they could "sell" the Constitution and the Bill of Rights to the rest of the states if they worded the second amendment with the intention of restricting more advanced weapons.

Another reason I do not think the founders ever intended to limit the scope of the second amendment was brought to light while watching the miniseries John Adams (HBO Films on Amazon Prime Video.) In 1774 there was an incident known as the "Powder Alarm" where it was thought that British soldiers under the command of General Thomas Gage ordered the confiscation of gunpower in Massachusetts. Wikipedia goes on to mention, that it later it turned out to be a false alarm. However, upon further reading, it does seem the seizure of powder did happen, why it calls it a 'false alarm' is unclear to me. Whatever the case, it was clear from the actions that followed (thousands of militiamen amassed,) any confiscation would most likely lead to a war.

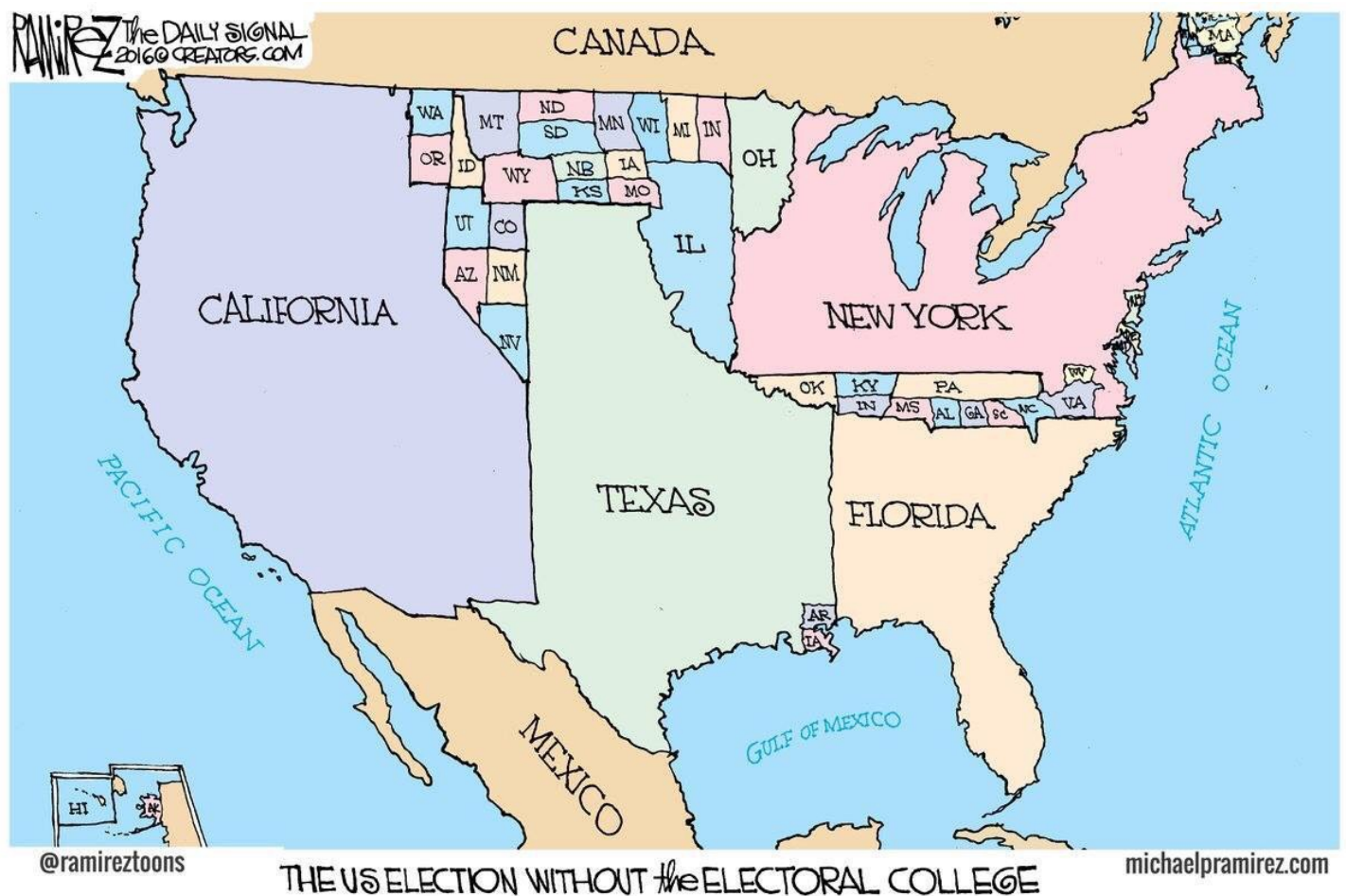
Sum of ratings:3 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Electoral College

by Emily Phan - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:49 AM



I don't know if this is really the sort of cartoon that we are to post but it does explain why the Electoral College is important. Yes the sizing might not be perfect but it does get the point across quite well. It is showing how the states would look if their size was determined by population. You can see that the four most populated states would make the decisions for the entire country. Talk about an opportunity to oppress minorities or an opportunity for a small area to dictate what a large area should do.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

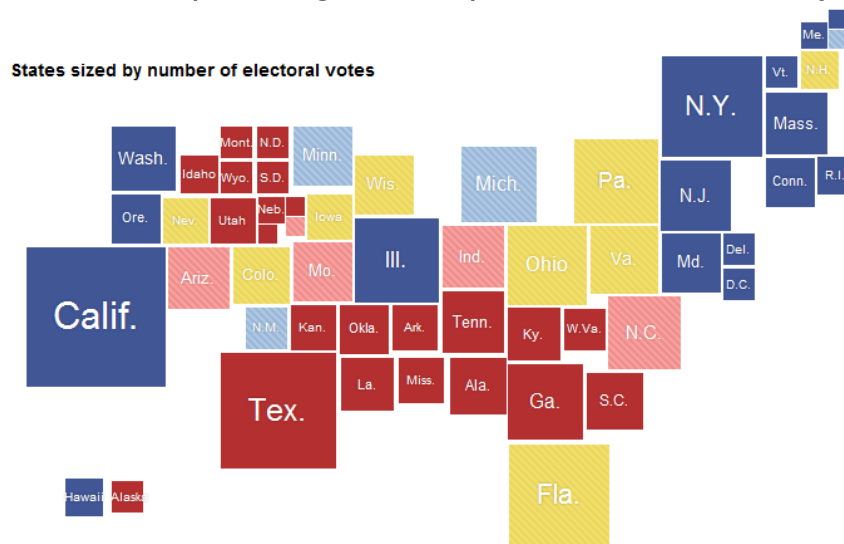
[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Electoral College

by Tyger Gruber - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 6:51 PM

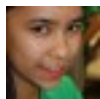
This is a super insightful map, the one I had always seen was the following.



And though it still shows Ca, Fl, Texas, and NY as the 4 largest. I believe this map to be more "proportionally" correct than the one you put. This one is Electoral College votes though, not population. So it shows a better view of which states have how much power. I could not find a map of the original colonies and their electoral votes but It would be interesting to see. I'm sure NY would be the largest, followed by MA, and PA.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Electoral College

by Emily Phan - Friday, December 2, 2016, 9:45 AM

Yes, that's what I meant. Mine is of the popular vote and yours is the electoral college.

Sum of ratings: (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Electoral College

by Jake Preciado - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:49 PM

I couldn't agree more! Obviously when the electoral college was created it was created with the idea of fairness. Today I believe that is no longer the case. For instance we as Oregonians live in a blue state. So do the red votes really count? The answer is no. I feel as if the electoral college is being phased out. I believe soon it will no longer be apart of the American system. Popular vote is the way to go.

Sum of ratings: (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Cartoon #2 Is Way Too Accurate

by Riley Stromvig - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 4:11 PM

The second cartoon is a very accurate depiction of many people's attitudes in America today. All of the social and economic issues that come up in political debates today are referred to in this cartoon. The sad part about this cartoon is how true it really is. It upsets me as to how much our country is changing in certain areas. Letting people use the restroom that they want just because they may "feel" a certain way is completely outrageous to me. How open our borders are and the fact that some people want them to be even more open is an utter joke.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



#9

by Sonja Fritz - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 9:43 PM

I also am choosing to elaborate on comic #9. As we learned in class, directly after the revolution not everyone was truly created equal. I believe this comic shows exactly that, that even today there are people who feel they are not truly represented by their government, while those that are, feel as though they are oppressed by it. Both may be equally correct.

Sum of ratings: (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: #9

by Eric Brackett - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:10 PM

I agree with your view of this comic. I think it shows that 241 years later there is still great inequality in our country. And much like then no one is in agreement as to who the real victim or culprit is. The white male in the comic is very similar to the men who were angered by a tyrannical English government, claiming their inalienable rights were being infringed upon, but took a blind eye to the rights of men who were "beneath" them.

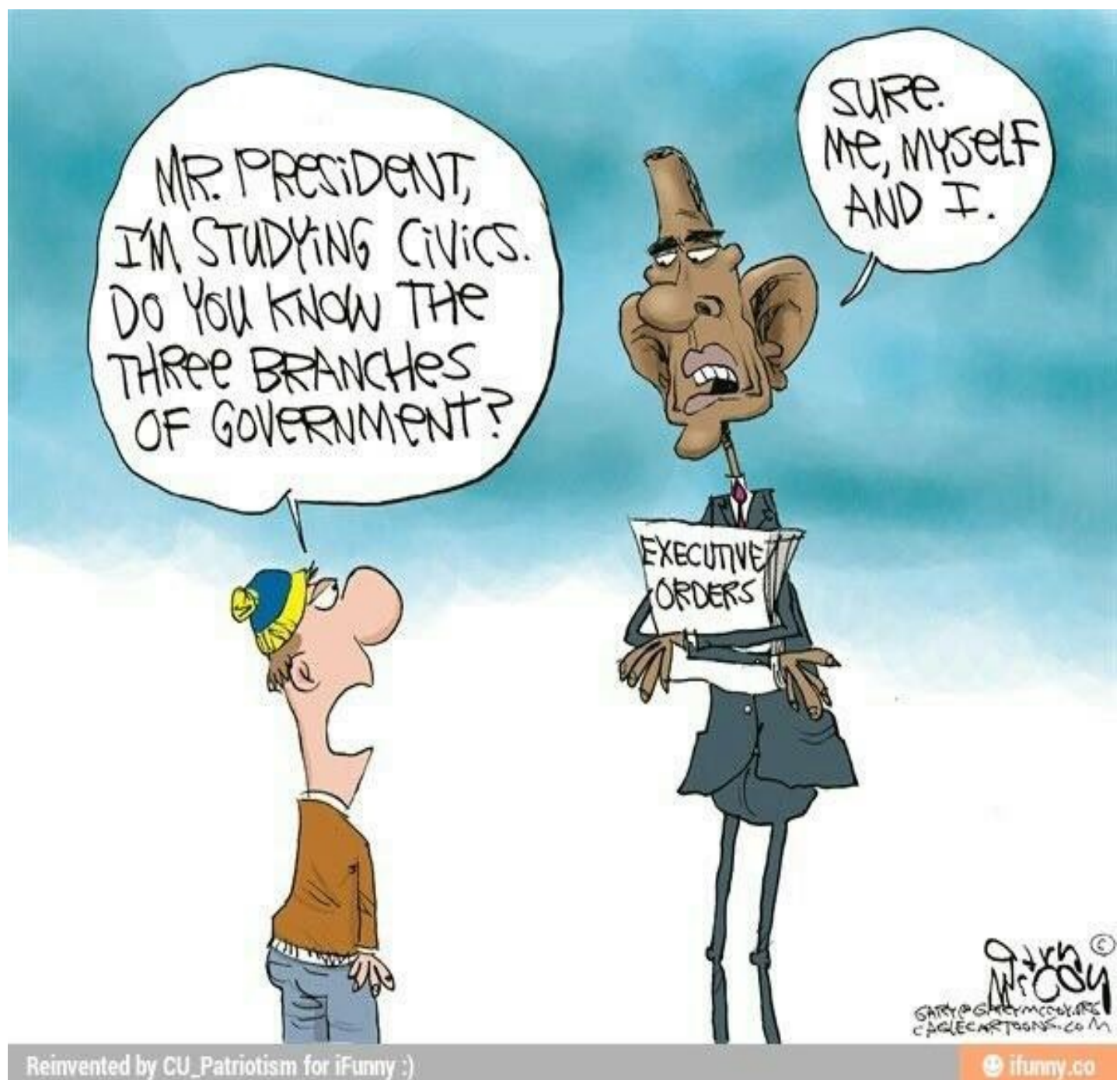
Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Executive Overreach

by Eric Brackett - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:00 PM



I believe this cartoon says it all, but not just about President Obama, but about every President. With every executive order since Washington himself, the executive branch has trimmed away the power of the other two branches. The irony here for me is that President Obama has taught Constitutional law, and yet has no issue with side stepping the law of the land and use executive order, to which I think he has greatly confused Executive privilege with Executive power. An interesting website to look at would

be https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_States_federal_executive_orders. This lays out the number of executive orders every president has issued while in office. President Obama is no where near the top of the list, but it still does not excuse the fact. I would say our forefathers would roll over in their graves if they could see what this government has become, but the truth is in many ways they were no better than their predecessors.

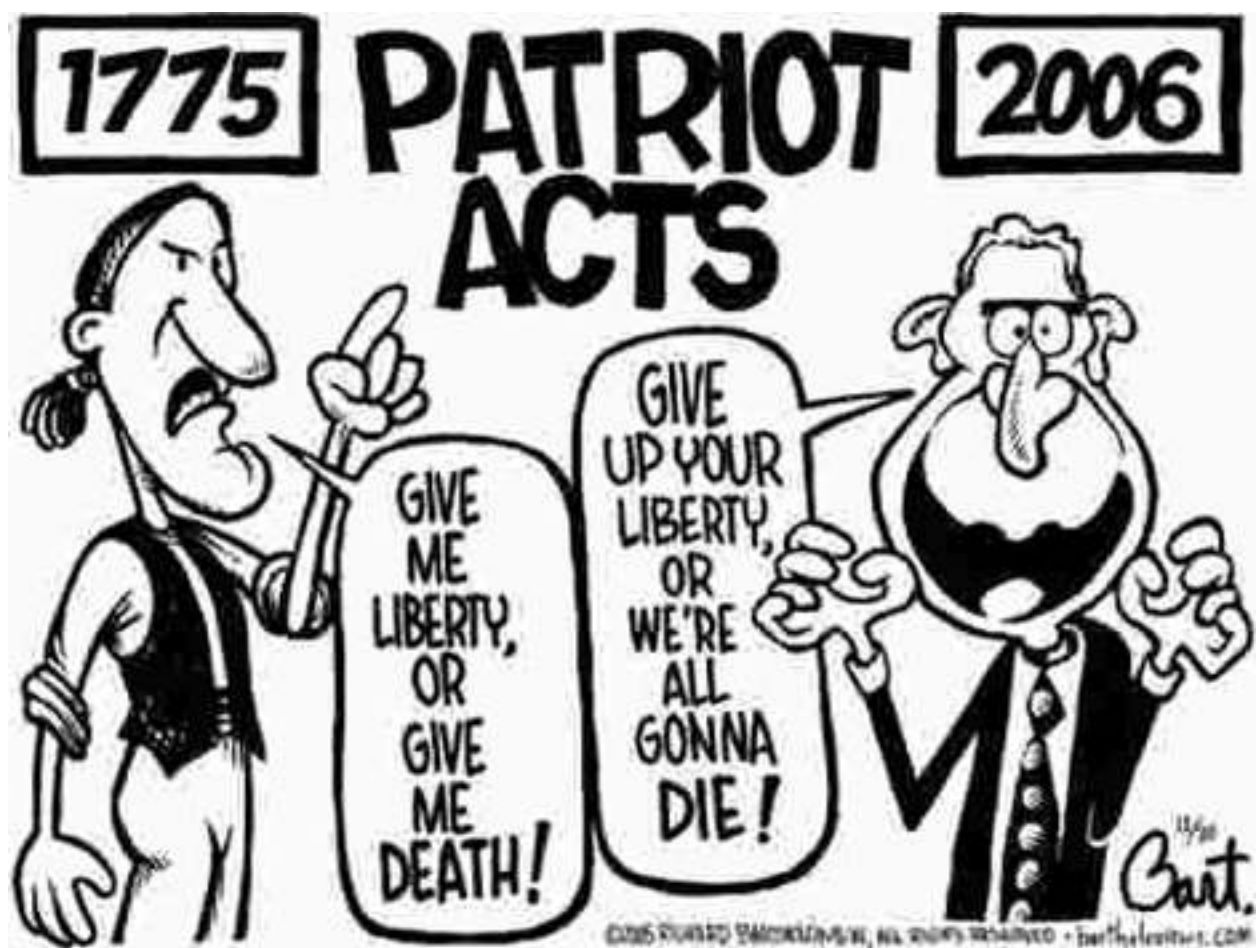
Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply

A bit late but fitting



by Eric Brackett - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:18 PM



granted this cartoon is ten years old, but I feel it still has meaning today. I wonder how Patrick Henry would feel about the Patriot act. I have a feeling that he would be enraged. I definitely think Thomas Jefferson would have issue with it all, seen as how he was a staunch supporter of limited government power (we'll just ignore the whole Louisiana Purchase issue) As for someone like Benjamin Franklin, well I think he said it best when he stated " Those who would give up essential liberty, to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety".

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: A bit late but fitting

by Sonja Fritz - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:27 PM

I have to agree. James Madison would be very upset as well, since he was the framer of the constitution. The 4th amendment clearly states:

“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.”

After all isn't this one of the main reasons we had a revolution in the first place?

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Well if this doesn't say it all

by Eric Brackett - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 11:29 PM



"Pay 3% taxes or die"

1776: Screw You



"Pay 35% taxes or die"

Today: This is perfectly fine

While I did have to edit the language of this a bit, I do feel that this is pretty spot on. I saw this and all I could think of was the conversations we were having in class this past week on taxation. What American today would not kill to have only 3% taxation, think of all the tea you could buy. Conversely can you imagine how enraged our forefathers would be at the concept that the American people are paying such an astronomical amount of their earnings in taxation. Why one could argue that it might even lead to open rebellion.

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

Sum of ratings:1 (1)



Re: Well if this does'nt say it all

by Tannon Rounsaville - Friday, December 2, 2016, 2:18 PM

I do agree but you also have to recognize that we have different tax accounts in todays society, social security, sales tax, medicare tax, SUTA and FUTA tax. They didn't have those back then. I'm not saying I agree with all these but it is something that has developed over time.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Well if this does'nt say it all

by Eric Brackett - Friday, December 2, 2016, 3:41 PM

Trust me I absolutely do recognize that we have such taxation, however one must also realize, that just because we pay said taxes in no way suggest that taxation of the citizenry is in anyway lawful. An excellent argument for this can be found in *Porth v. Brodrick, United States Collector of Internal Revenue for the State of Kansas*. Also the case can be made via *Stanton v. Baltic Mining co. That Income tax is unconstitutional due to it being a "Direct Tax"*. There is also the case of *Trohimovich v. Commissioner* in which the argument against taxation is put forth citing the seventeenth amendment. Despite the fact that no court has ruled in favor of such protest in no way discredits the notions provided in the arguments. However I believe we have gone extremely outside of the scope of the intent of the cartoon. It is really just an attempt to show how apathetic we as a society have grown since the revolution. Whether or not we willing pay our taxes, or believe that taxation is theft, we do not rise up and take action against it.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Well if this does'nt say it all

by Alec Ebert - Friday, December 2, 2016, 9:00 PM

It is truly remarkable that we as Americans give away that much of our earnings in taxes and do not have free higher education or healthcare. We are the only country out of the 33 other developed countries in the world that doesn't have a universal healthcare system. Read the following quote from the Physicians for National Healthcares wbesite. It expalins how a single payer healthcare system works and how it benefits the countries already using it.

"Single-payer national health insurance, also known as "Medicare for all," is a system in which a single public or quasi-public agency organizes health care financing, but the delivery of care remains largely in private hands. Under a single-payer system, all residents of the U.S. would be covered for all medically necessary services, including doctor, hospital, preventive, long-term care, mental health, reproductive health care, dental, vision, prescription drug and medical supply costs.

The program would be funded by the savings obtained from replacing today's inefficient, profit-oriented, multiple insurance payers with a single streamlined, nonprofit, public payer, and by modest new taxes based on ability to pay. Premiums would disappear; 95 percent of all households would save money. Patients would no longer face financial barriers to care such as co-pays and deductibles, and would regain free choice of doctor and hospital. Doctors would regain autonomy over patient care."<http://www.pnhp.org/facts/what-is-single-payer>.

We would still have to pay taxes with this system but as they say it would be muc more modest. To me this seems like one of the ideas that the founding fathers would have hoped came from a bright-minded individual that they had hoped to attract to help run the country. This a perfect example of taxation WITH representation. With a modest medicare tax to fund a program like this, great strides in strenghtening the health of the American people would be made and expenses on healthcare would be reduced. Sure, there are lots of other taxes that people are up in arms about that could probably be reduced but wouldn't this help depreciate that 35 percent?

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Media bias

by Sonja Fritz - Friday, December 2, 2016, 3:35 PM

HORRID MASSACRE IN VIRGINIA.



Cartoon #11 shows a man who represents the media with a huge Hillary Clinton pin on his shirt. It shows that the media definitely has bias. Bias in media isn't just a modern idea. In history we see this as well. For example the newspapers and the affect it had. In class Thursday, we were shown this part of a newspaper which paints a picture of the Nat Turner rebellion.

It shows white people being murdered, which only shows one side of the story. It invokes a sympathetic feel toward these white people who were killed, and ignores the humanity of African Americans.

These African American people who were apart of the Nat Turner rebellion weren't just savages who went out and invoked violence without a cause. These were people who believed they had been done wrong and did something about it. We still have the newspaper who will paint the people involved as people who didn't have a reason for their actions and lashed out without a cause.

This sort of bias invoke fear, and when you're fearful of what other people are going to do, you either distance yourself or retaliate in violence, which contributes to racism and many other violent outbreaks. Media and bias should be separate from each other. How can you just trust the media when they are colluding with politicians?

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Media bias

by Kenzie Slocum - Friday, December 2, 2016, 5:38 PM

You made a very insightful tie from the Nat Turner rebellion to cartoon #11 and the media's bias. I certainly agree with you. It is interesting to note that the Nat Turner scene shows slaves killing whites, and not the other way around although about the same amount of slaves as whites were killed. The third scene which does have a white man fighting back has the caption, "Mr. Barrow, who bravely defended himself once his wife escaped." This is certainly an example of bias.

What you said brought to mind a sentence in our textbooks, on page 257 about the second Presidential election. "According to the gentlemanly custom of the day, the candidates did not campaign in person, but friends of the candidates, the newspaper editors who enjoyed their patronage, and even European governments, ensured that the election would be hotly contested." When we first learned about this, I thought it was a strange way of campaigning which is now outdated. Of course, election candidates, even for positions besides the President, boost their own popularity by campaigning for themselves today.

After this discussion, however, I am seeing how most of today's media is quite similar to the newspaper editors in 1796 because they bias their publishings and news to support their position. Today's elections are more like the first elections than I realized. It is important to recognize bias, as it is almost impossible to avoid, and to make informed decisions and opinions by looking at all the information instead of believing the first perspective you hear.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Media bias

by Tyger Gruber - Friday, December 2, 2016, 10:03 PM

I strongly agree with your stance that Media and "individual biases" should be separated. It went both ways though. Facebook and google made it clear that Hillary was going to win the recent election. But as Ye said on his tour rant "I ain't here to massage you, tell you Hillary gon' win. Then when you wake up you still can't believe it! Google Lied to you! Mark Zuckerberg lied to you!"

<https://youtu.be/bkUr99epJh8?t=12m48s>

(I know this isn't a cartoon, but Kanye is pretty much a character in life's comic strip; so I feel like it works.)

So a bias in either direction can be misleading, and I definitely agree that the Media swayed the nations votes with fear of immigrants, taxes, ISIS, and the statement that Hillary is an actual criminal.

On the other end, we were lied to by the media to sooth us and allow Trump to win. A Capitalist nation led by money will always have their media bought out though. What do you think would be a solution?

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Media bias

by Tannon Rounsaville - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:11 PM

I don't understand the "we were lied to by the media to sooth us and allow Trump to win." Many would argue that statement by saying that the media made Trump look worse by calling him a sexist and rapist. And were you also implying that Trump will/did buy out the media just because he has money? I don't think it really works like that. Especially with CNN, I have no doubt that they will make Trump look as bad as possible even if he tries to "buy out the media".

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Alec Ebert - Friday, December 2, 2016, 4:16 PM

Cartoon number 9 seems to be an interpretaion of an issue that is a really hot one right now. Discrimination.it seems to me that the stout white old guy with the "don't tread on me" shirt is frustrated with Obamas policies on big government decisions and policies that effect all Americans on a federal level. He has his back turned to the individual of color who is being harrassed by the police in flack jackets. The first point I'll make is that this seems to be a metaphor to highlight the ingnorance of many white right winged citizens of this country that are unaware of the oppresion of African Amricans, Latinos, and other races of color in the United States. Either they just don't want to hear about it or don't care. Either way its an issue that has plagued our country since the beginnings of our creation. Discrimination has gotten better over time since the abolishment of slavery in 1865 or since segregation was abolished in 1954 at the state level with the Civil Rights Act. However the slow pace of the acceptance of people of color in America is dauntingly embarrassing. We are a nation of immigrants. Slavery, the conqusitions, things of this nature have made

America into the country we have become. This cartoon highlights the fact that today many many white Americans can't seem to understand that their ancestors were the "people of color" to the natives who were here first. There is a level of entitlement that is unparralleled by anything else. This relates back to history because the idea that whites are supurior to other races has never gone away but often shadowed by time and progress. In chapter six of the textbook we saw that many Indian tribes such as the Iroquois and Shawnees were siding with the British because of the way the colonists were treating them. They were pushing them out of their sacred land and murdering them in the process. As the minority they needed to have faith in the British Empire to keep their rights and freedoms protected. Today, we see minorities relying on big government once again to protect their interests, people who have not been benefited by the "system" if you will. President Obamas policies on Immigration reform and universal healthcare that benefit minority, and often impoverished Americans can be compared to the way the Native Americans needed the British to insure their interests during the revolution. Both of them needed big government to help contain the oppressive nature of entitled white Americans.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Cartoon #6

by Hope Kelley - Friday, December 2, 2016, 7:12 PM

I am looking at cartoon number 6 because it has to do with interpretation of the constitution. The man on the left is Obama and he is saying that the constitution doesn't say that he can take away people's money and and redistribute it to others. The man on the right is James Madison and in the comic he is saying that it isn't a flaw you shouldn't be able to do that. Obama likes a loose interpretation of the constitution so he can do what he wants. He wants stranger federal government. Madison wants weaker federal government, "It is to be the assent and ratification of the several States, derived from the supreme authority in each State -- the authority of the people themselves. The act, therefore, establishing the Constitution will not be a national but a federal act."

<http://americancreation.blogspot.com/2009/09/jefferson-and-madison-on-constitutional.html>

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Cartoon #6

by Justin Stewart - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 7:45 PM

The constitution was put into place for this exact reason. People would make up

their own set of rules if allowed was the thought. This is exactly the idea of strict vs loose construction should the government be allowed to make up their own set of rules or should they be only allowed to do certain ones. Both sides of the spectrum can not only be argued but also understood. We currently operate on somewhere in between I do believe. The government is not allowed to just do what they want to do but also, they should make laws to adjust with the times and taxes to go along with that. Both the making of laws as well as taxes are voted on though so for people to have issues with them they also need to invoke the privilege of voting that they have and use it to both pass the laws they want as well as veto the ones they don't

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Cartoon #10

by Hope Kelley - Friday, December 2, 2016, 9:54 PM

Cartoon number ten is also about strict interpretation or constructionism. The Colonials are saying grace over their dinner and the father says "And we're thankful for a small unobtrusive Government that doesn't try to run our lives." This is a comment about how the British government wanted to control their lives, after the revolution when the constitution was written, they made sure to not give all the power to the government so they can't control their lives.

Sum of ratings: (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Cartoon 8: How big business pushes political agendas

by Alec Ebert - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 3:51 PM

I think that is interesting that I'm not seeing a lot of talk about cartoon 8. I think this cartoon depicts perfectly who the people are that are influencing government based on a money powergrab and I also think it's an issue that goes beyond the campaign trail. Lobbyists are people who push members of government to push legislations that will benefit the agenda of the entity who hired them. The ability to do this is protected under the first amendment of the constitution however it often can get in the way of progress. Big corporations have the money and tools to be able to push these agendas through congress. Often times political leaders are very intelligent and passionate people about specific issues, however their knowledge is often limited in some areas. Big corporations use Lobbyists to navigate and understand the political maze that is our government, to often influence politicians to make legislations that benefit them. The cartoon is exemplifying that the budget to get these things done is often unlimited to get something through government. The check in the cartoon is the money being spent on this, and the ledger is the "balance" that the corporations are using to keep track of their political investments. I think that once again our founding fathers could not foresee the impending economical superpower that America would

become based on a capitalistic approach. This is one of those issues that cannot be highlighted by one example, there's hundreds of examples of this throughout our history. I don't want to be biased however and say that all lobbying is bad and doesn't benefit the country, sometimes good legislation comes of it. However often times these corporations that have all their money tied up in something that really needs to change in society will stop at nothing to persuade government to keep it going.

Big oil is a good example of this. In their time our founding fathers could not have predicted the harmful effects that fossil fuels have on our planet's environment. They also could have never predicted how oil interests would influence our foreign policy decision making as well. There are lots of new alternate fuel sources available that we can take advantage of but we aren't because big oil corporations are wielding their power to make sure we continue to use fossil fuels to benefit their wallets. These are the people in power and have been in this position for sometime. If our founding fathers could see this they would see a major error they had made in the constitution in regards to the first amendment. Even though one branch of government can't take control forever, nothing is preventing private superpowers from pushing their political agendas behind the scenes, through administration after administration.

This cartoon relates to the history we've been discussing because it highlights one of the changes our country has made from where it was in 1776 to now. Things are not the same, and I'd like to think our founding fathers would institute changes to the regulation of big business through government if they could see the effects it's having on the American people.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

◀ [Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present](#)

 [Moodle Docs for this page](#)

[Accessibility at Lane](#)

You are logged in as Joe Escobar ([Log out](#))

HST 201 F16 (Escobar Meta 20938 23214)

