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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

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Cartoon 9

by Jonathan Whittington - Saturday, November 26, 2016, 11:57 AM

I thought all these cartoons were very interesting and I really enjoy that Joe uses these during class. I think its a good way to give us the point and help us learn while still getting a laugh at the same time. While saying that the cartoon that really stuck out to me was #9. I think that it sums up how a lot of Americans and minorities in particular may be feeling. Not just because of Trump but just because of how America has always been in a historical context. These were problems that were going on long before this years election. The fact is that "freedom" which is something we should all have, is just not the same for everyone. I definitely thing this is a accurate cartoon and I certainly agree with the message. Looking forward to having some great discussion about all of these cartoons.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Cartoon 9

by John Casares - Thursday, December 1, 2016, 1:52 PM

I wold definitely agree, as I was searching through the cartoons this one also caught my attention. I thought the drawing and designs of the characters were perfect examples, I knew exactly what the meaning of the cartoon was before I had even read the words. I think this cartoon is extremely relevant because of what we are talking about in class in the past week, these freedoms that are being discussed currently in class in the Old South did not exist and fro some people (like the character being hit in this cartoon) even today full freedom still does not exist.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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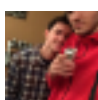
Re: Cartoon 9

by Jaclyn Bahn - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 7:02 PM

I also agree that this was a good example of our past history. The thing that comes to mind for me when I see this is that we as the United States have always tried to make improvements for the betterment of the people but always seem to leave minorities in a situation where they will still be discriminated against of treated lesser than when it comes to the improvements that were trying to be made for all.

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Cartoon 3

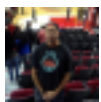
by Zachary Sielicky - Saturday, November 26, 2016, 5:48 PM

Just want to say this is going to be an amazing forum discussion!!!

When analyzing cartoon number 3, it brings up a very important and controversial topic, how should the constitution be interpreted, original intent or as a living document. With the guy who is dealing and saying, "but maybe we can tweak the...." when looking at the constitution. When looking at this controversial topic in its history we can see that it isn't just the far right who looks at the constitution as a living document, in fact they don't at all for the most part. We can look at Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, one of the smartest Justices to ever sit on the bench and one of the Supreme Court Justices most conservative justices to date. Conservative justices will interpret the Constitution as a living document when it best suits their interest, mostly when there is a majority of conservative thinking justices on the bench, this goes for liberal justices as well. When either side (of the Spectrum) have the ability to govern legislation by a majority ruling then they will do what they can in order to achieve their political agenda. Though there is the idea of the sanctity of the robe, justices are not supposed to have political agendas, they must only rule based on true constitutional means but their interpretation is clouded, because they are human. This is not to say that either the right or the left are wrong for doing this, and this cartoon was obviously drawn by a leftist thinker. Which is ironic because liberals tend to be the justices who interpret the constitution as a living document.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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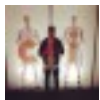
Re: Cartoon 3

by Jonathan Whittington - Monday, November 28, 2016, 10:44 AM

You are 100% correct. I definitely chuckled a little bit when I first saw this cartoon. I thought it was a great cartoon that represented loose and strict constructionism. This is completely spot on to what we are talking about in class. Obviously it was a liberal cartoon but we can't act like conservatives are the only ones that interpret it loose. I like your point about how today it seems to all be about political agenda and not what's right or wrong. This was a great cartoon.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Cartoon number ten

by Jeremy Goodwin - Saturday, November 26, 2016, 7:51 PM

Cartoon number ten does not accurately reflect historical events we've been studying in class, it differs from them. The cartoon however is ironic. According to Cartoon Number Ten, the gentlemen reciting the thanksgiving prayer says, "... And we're thankful for a small unobtrusive Government that doesn't try to run our lives." This is ironic because over the few past weeks we studied the American Revolution, and in form three I claimed to like the name The War for Independence more than the coined name American Revolution. The ironic part is how people of the Amish community technically have more independence than the average non-Amish American. Amish

members in fact pay less taxes than you and I. According to Amish studies, "They are exempt from paying Social Security taxes." They also remind me of the Puritans because like them, the Amish also advocate for the separation of church and state.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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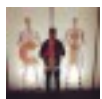
Re: Cartoon number ten

by Jonathan Whittington - Monday, November 28, 2016, 10:48 AM

I see your point but I read this cartoon in a different way. I got the sense that they were referring to the very first pilgrims that came in the 1600's. They were saying that back then there was obviously no one in America and they basically had the freedom to do as they please before the revolution even occurred. I think this was written by a conservative that was maybe trying to say things were better back then without a big government.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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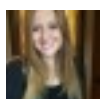
Re: Cartoon number ten

by Jeremy Goodwin - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 2:11 PM

I like where you're taking me with this. One thing i would like to mention is that you said, "They were saying that back then ^when^ there was obviously no one in America and they basically had the freedom to do as they please before the revolution even occurred." When the pilgrims got here there were natives already here but I am sure you knew that, you were just referring "No one" as Parliament. From your new insight though i can see what the cartoonist could've also meant by his cartoon, and that is the fact that the crown was not here on America to control every single man that took off to the new land. Early pilgrims didn't realize how nice they actually had it here with no big government. The cartoon is funny because the pilgrim is thankful for how nice he has it in comparison to modern times.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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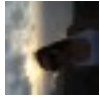
Re: Cartoon number ten

by Alex Costelow - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:45 PM

I saw this cartoon in that vision as well. I saw it as Americans being thankful for being alive during simpler times without a big controlling government. Yes, i would also agree that a conservative probably wrote this cartoon. The cartoon literally states that they're thankful for a "small unobtrusive government".

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Cartoon 3

by Shelby Say - Monday, November 28, 2016, 1:51 PM

Loose and strict interpretations were represented in this political cartoon. Where in the cartoon, the constitution says “to be strictly interpreted word for sacred word” shows that they are trying to convey a more liberal constructive view. The reason this cartoon caught my eye was because they wrote “far right” on the mans back. This relates to the clicker spectrum that Joe presents to us in class and how peoples views differ on the Conservatives or Liberals sides of the spectrum (far right and far left). I am more of a conservative, therefore disagreeing with his drawing in the sense that people can’t expect to call themselves a liberal and want to only “tweak” or change certain parts of the constitution that they don't necessarily agree with, such as the issue of immigration as the cartoon depicted. This then brings up the issue surrounding Section 9 of the US Constitution; immigration laws. I don’t necessarily have a strong opinion— agreeing or disagreeing— on our immigration laws, but I always did think that it was strange that illegal immigrants can come into our country and have children that automatically become United States citizens. Illegal immigration definitely does impact our economy and our military resources, but I personally don’t think that their children should be punished for the actions of their parents. Therefore, logically, to me, it makes sense that their children can stay in the country while their parents get deported back to their mother country as a consequence for their own actions.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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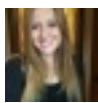
Cartoon #2

by Kyle Schneider - Monday, November 28, 2016, 6:34 PM

The obvious in this comic are the yuge time differences between the writing of the constitution and today’s more modern issues. Simply then in Sept 17, 1787 the very beginning of a nation with problems limited to their time, to a now 300+ million people living in the United States of a America with a very broad ethnic, social, cultural, language society. I agree very much so with this comic, the founding fathers could not fathom today’s time with flying machines, atom bombs and men walking on the moon. Hard times create strong men, strong men create good times. Good times create weak men, weak men create hard times. This comic is both correct as well as wrong. I agree with some of the signs as others I do not.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Cartoon #5

by Alex Costelow - Monday, November 28, 2016, 9:19 PM

In this cartoon it illustrates James Madison writing the 2nd Amendment in the U.S. Constitution. As he is, someone walks in with a gun from OUR day in age, and he's socked! The cartoon has Madison saying "woah!!" as his reaction to the automatic assault rifle standing feet from him.

I believe this cartoon is trying to illustrate that our 2nd amendment was written in a completely different time period, where the firearms where not as updated and entirely redesigned. A gun was nothing like it is now. "a well regulated militia" meant something completely different then compared to what it does now. It was all about the militia, and wasn't intended to be government controlled. -i believe

Here's one of the many websites i visited that explained why the 2nd amendment was written back then. I found this very interesting the more and more i researched.

".. Now at the same time, those militias are not the National Guard. Every adult man, and eventually every adult white man, was required to be in the militias and was required to own a gun, and to bring it from home. So it was an individual right to fulfill the duty to serve in the militias."

<http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2014/06/second-amendment-guns-michael-waldman>

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2nd Amendment

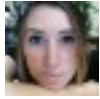
by Kyle Schneider - Friday, December 2, 2016, 4:11 PM

Did you know that Adolf Hitler for propaganda purposes started using the phrase "Sturmgewehr", translated into English means storm rifle or assault rifle. To me the rifle in cartoon #5 looks like an Armalite Rifle (AR-15. Unfortunately those styles of weapons don't have the elongated magazine that fits into the magazine well as the cartoon drawing suggests. These Armalite rifle shoulder fired weapons only fire one round per finger squeeze bought in stores around the United States of America, a public misconception about the legality of full auto weapons are that they are heavily regulated, but not illegal to own. I could go into detail more of the little "knickknacks" I find about the rifle that don't fit but that would take another six paragraphs. Could you imagine for a minute that instead of a futuristic rifle the soldier instead walks in with a future nuclear weapon (fission bomb)! This cartoon has nothing to do with what we have been learning in class however, I can't deny that the 2nd amendment was written long ago and could never foresee how much we as a nation would grow. The Second Amendment states that, "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to

keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” I believe that the 2nd Amendment still applies in today’s society. Until there is unified world peace, which I don’t see happening anytime soon, there will always be a need for a militia.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Cartoon #3 The Good and Bad

by Jaclyn Bahn - Monday, November 28, 2016, 10:00 PM

I see that although the topics and ideas may be different, that people have always been able to find qualms with the constitution. I do see accuracies in the cartoon. As I wrote before there have always been things that people will pick out of the constitution and see them in a negative light or as restrictions. In the cartoons example it shows a far right conservative asking to change the constitutional to support his wants, though it may not be what is right or helpful towards other people. In history these ideas occur often but I can not say that all qualms with the constitution were wrong and for the wrong reason. My example of that being the amendments regarding slaves that were applied after the civil war. So my final answer I’d say is that I agree in the sense that people have always found something to change in the constitution, but when it is an idea that disregards the betterness for all men it is wrong and I do understand that “betterness for all men” can be very based on opinion.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Quan Cheng - Monday, November 28, 2016, 10:27 PM

One of the first Cartoon shows, "Never spend your money before you have earned it." Back to history American people did that. "Jefferson's first order of business was to reduce the size and expense of government. The Federalists, despite their big-government dispositions, had left a surprisingly small federal establishment." (Textbook p256) "During Jefferson's administration, the national debt fell from \$80 million to \$57 million, and the government built up a treasury surplus, even after paying \$15 million in cash for the Louisiana Purchase (discussed later in this chapter)." (Textbook p257) And what we see today is people always provide a loan. And nation do too. That's not what founding father want people to do.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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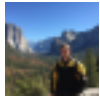
founding fathers

by Kyle Schneider - Friday, December 2, 2016, 4:22 PM

Could not agree more with you Quan, the founding fathers unfortunately could never predict how far our nation would accomplish in 229 years. With so many people now living inside the United States of America with so many dead end fields of study and market price gouging it is hard for individuals to better themselves without a loan. There are ways to stop that but I am afraid that we as a nation have traveled to far down the rabbit hole to escape now.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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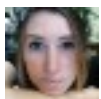
cartoon #5

by Mitchell Olive - Monday, November 28, 2016, 11:16 PM

This cartoon at first had an effect on me that James Madison would have possibly felt different about the second amendment if he saw what guns were available at this day in age. But then I thought about how the second amendment was partly to keep the government in check. In the cartoon, the words "a well regulated militia" are above James Madison's head showing that that was what he was thinking or writing. It seems that the cartoon is arguing for loose constructionism, but it seems to me that the things in the constitution still rain true today. The well regulated militia is partly to keep the government in check and that means having reasonable access to the same guns that the government has and that an intruder or intruding army might have. In other words, if you replace the weapon in the guys hand in the cartoon with a musket then that would be what it was like. If James Madison had a glimpse at the US today, I have a feeling that he would see our huge, manipulative government that has more and more people thinking socialism is a good idea and he would say that the people need to be able to defend and arm themselves properly. "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely"- John Dalberg-Acton. The founders knew this and they wanted the bill of rights to protect people from government.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: cartoon #5

by Jaclyn Bahn - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 7:50 PM

I really like the points that you made with this post. Although I do find myself questioning if the government would attack its own people unrightfully I have always believed that civilians should have equal rights to the potential items being used against us. Mostly I like the point you made of how guns have changed significantly but its not civilians that are making these improvements and vast "war weapons", if I'm not mistaken it would have been the military. Therefore civilians, in order to keep any level playing field when it came to a government or intruding army, would need to keep up with the weapons being produced.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Reality Distractions

by Miranda Marshall - Monday, November 28, 2016, 11:44 PM

This cartoon is a true reflection of our society today. It shows someone reading the newspaper saying our government is a threat to society, when his back is turned to what is actually happening in the world today. Injustices being done to innocent people by law enforcement has been a very popular topic of conversation by the masses and it shows a sense of obliviousness that is our society. We are so engulfed in what is being fed to us in the newspapers that we are being fed a distraction from the tragedies and events that are occurring right in front of our faces. With all the shootings happening lately and the inequality topics, we are more focused on the lines being printed in the paper than we are to the truth.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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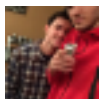
Re: Reality Distractions

by Jonathan Whittington - Tuesday, November 29, 2016, 10:24 PM

I completely agree. This cartoon is completely relatable to American history in whatever era or time period you look at. The man is seemingly upset that some right or something may be taken away, while he doesn't realize that just because of how he looks he automatically has more rights than some people and is treated in a different way. Just wish people would open their eyes and look at American history before saying that we are all equal and treated the same. Obviously things have gotten better but this cartoon really is accurate of how a lot of people I think view the world today.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Reality Distractions

by Zachary Sielicky - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 3:09 PM

I would also add that this has been a problem throughout the history of the United States not just today. People are distracted by "big important, breaking news" type issues and don't pay attention at all to what the real problems are. People in power will keep the general public distracted and keep their plans in secret, we can see this with the creation and ratification of the Constitution. Like Joe said in class and made a point to reiterate how the creation of the constitution was kept in secret, which honestly is a good thing in that case because the constitution was

a very controversial document and keeping it from public knowledge could have protected the country from chaos. So this tactic has been used for a long time and sometimes can be a good thing.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Number 5-Guns

by Benjamin McKenzie - Monday, November 28, 2016, 11:56 PM

I agree with the post that cartoon number 5 is making. When the laws about gun ownership were made, the reasons were much different from today's reasons gun owners make as to why the second amendment is important. Guns today are also much different weapons than they were back when the law was written. The cartoon is making the point that it's ridiculous to think that the second amendment applies to today's world where guns are much deadlier weapons than they were previously and can cause much more harm.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Number 5-Guns

by Zachary Sielicky - Tuesday, November 29, 2016, 1:22 AM

I agree, I also think the gun they use in that specific cartoon is symbolic in the sense that, that machine guns are the guns that are always said to be used in mass shootings, so it hits on two points with the specific gun they use. Hey look at this James a machine gun, something with a massive clip that can shoot x amount of bullets on x amount of minutes, a perfect mass murdering weapon. And in the cartoon James Madison is sitting there looking at the gun with a nervous face. This cartoon makes me think about the relative ideology that Joe always says in class as well, the guns they had then were extremely dangerous for their times and were looked at as mass murdering weapons, along with canons, by today's standard their muskets are stone age weapons. Comical cartoon with a deep meaning.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Number 5-Guns

by Jonathan Whittington - Friday, December 2, 2016, 10:53 AM

I agree, remember that at this time the guns that they had then were already looked at as super dangerous weapons! So imagine what they would have thought about weapons today! It just blows my mind that strict constructionists refuse to admit that the second amendment is a right and a freedom that we should have,

but in todays world we definitely have to alter some part of this amendment. I realize the world today is way too big to be able to regulate it anyways but the fact is this is one of the amendments that changed over time because of new inventions and technology. This definitely is accurate and relates to today.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Re: Number 5-Guns

by Alex Costelow - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 8:19 PM

Ben, i agree with you. I also responded to cartoon number 5 and I couldn't have said it better, I thought the point was to make it seem *ridiculous* that the 2nd amendment would still apply to this day and age too. I believe that this cartoon did a good job portraying that message for it's readers, the gun animation helped, making it not fit in that time period- making it stand out.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Re: Number 5-Guns

by Paul Bixel - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 9:35 PM

I concur that the founding fathers had not envisioned automatic and semi automatic firearms, but oppose the view "It's ridiculous to think that the second amendment applies to today's guns...". I believe the founders wanted the people to have the option of owning guns for the security of the nation while being used within the militia. It also applies today because giving citizens the right to bear arms keeps a level playing field and deters the government from overstepping.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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America the confused

by John Casares - Monday, November 28, 2016, 11:56 PM

Cartoon #2 I believe is a pretty accurate representation of what we have been studying in class and also very tied in with what is going on in the world today. When we were establishing our country we had a very bumpy past finding out identity and some would argue they still have not figured it out. The founding fathers all had their unique ideals of what made America what it was and this cartoon illustrates the confusion of what it has become and also symbolizes in some way what they were also confused about when founding. I think this is a perfect example of confusion and finding identity in a country.

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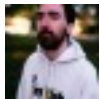
Identity Crisis

by Kyle Schneider - Friday, December 2, 2016, 4:46 PM

Our nation is an outsourced industrialization, which obviously has not been working hence our national debt in the trillions of dollars. Every great nation has had a 'bumpy past' as you put it and clearly our nation has been having an identity crisis for the last 200 plus years. The founding fathers heads would "explode" if they could see the types of freedoms we enjoy. Clean water, pharmaceuticals, "religion", and let us not forget the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances (standing rock). What is good for America is not necessarily good for America.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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An initial analysis of the provided cartoons.

by Dylan Mandoli - Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 10:09 PM

Cartoon #1

Cartoon 1 provides us with a smiling picture of Thomas Jefferson surrounded by quotes (presumably) by him. Above is a ribbon reading "Founding Father Advice." As framed, the quotes are offered as posthumous advice to modern people. The quotes speak of fiscal responsibility and conservatism in a government, with quotes like "never spend your money before you have earned it" and "it is incumbent upon every generation to pay its own debt as it goes" serving as scathing reviews of modern welfare programs and bloated deficits. The cartoon has a smug tone, with Jefferson's smile implying that his advice should be obvious.

Cartoon #2

Cartoon 2 depicts George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin puzzling over a map of the United States. Around them signs negatively depicting modern liberal movements appear. The point in essence is that modern agendas of the government (as viewed from a rather extreme bias) would be unrecognizable to the founding fathers as American ideals. There is very little constitutional basis for welfare programs, nothing on abortion, scant little on immigration, etc.

Cartoon #3

Cartoon 3 shows the US constitution enshrined before American flags, with the words "to be strictly interpreted word for sacred word." a strict constructivist view if ever there was one. Prostrating himself before the constitution is the "Far Right" asking if they could maybe tweak the bit about natural citizenship. I am unsure if the

comic is meant to show the Far Right as arrogantly tweaking with something that obviously should not be touched, or if the Far Right character's opinion is meant to be sensible, and the constitutions' enshrinement meant to be ironic.

Cartoon #4

Cartoon 4 depicts an elephant and a donkey, in suits, reaching into "the taxpayers'" pockets, and is subtitled "The Compromise." In very simple imagery this cartoon expresses the notion that both parties are not in fact each others' enemy, but the peoples'. Both sides agree to come together to rob the taxpayer blind.

Cartoon #5

Cartoon 5 depicts James Madison writing the second amendment, while an unknown man shows him a modified modern rifle. This cartoon satirizes the second amendment activism of gun enthusiasts. It points out through irony that the second amendment was not written so that you could have fun with a toy, but was in fact designed to allow states to defend their territory.

Cartoon #6

Cartoon 6 shows Barack Obama telling James Madison that there is a flaw in the constitution, that it does not allow for the redistribution of wealth. Madison replies that the omission is the point, not a flaw. The comic aims to point out that social welfare programs and the redistribution of wealth through taxes were things the constitution explicitly tried to prevent.

Cartoon #7

Cartoon 7 depicts a tree with three branches, Judicial, Executive, and Legislative. The Executive branch has sliced off the other two branches with a chainsaw. This imagery depicts the expansion of executive power in recent years, eliminating checks on its power from the Judicial and Legislative branches. The cartoon alludes to the patriot act as well as modern avoidances of war declarations, actions by the federal government which consolidate power in the Executive branch.

Cartoon #8

Cartoon #8 depicts a man with a checkbook, with the subtitle "our system of checks... ..and balances." Forming what I think is a rather clever joke, the comic juxtaposes the "checks and balances" of the US government with the corruption of bribes and lobbying, implying that the government is now run by money.

Cartoon #9

Cartoon 9 depicts a man screaming about his oppression by the government to a newspaper while, behind him, a black man is beaten by the police. The cartoon points out that the "oppression" expressed by right wing voters is nothing compared to the true oppression happening outside of their limited worldview. If the man would simply turn around, he'd see how foolish he's being.

Cartoon #10

Cartoon 10 depicts pilgrims at a thanksgiving meal. The father is praying, thankful for a small unobtrusive government. The cartoon harkens back to a simpler time when the government did not overstep itself. I think this one is particularly uninspired.

Cartoon #11

Cartoon 11 depicts a journalist with a dejected look on his face, having thrown away his Hillary clinton campaign poster. The cartoon I think depicts the active, biased role the media played in Hillary's campaign, as well as its bemused attitude when they didn't win.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: An initial analysis of the provided cartoons.

by Paul Bixel - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 10:52 PM

Cartoon six illustrates the beliefs held from during the creation of the Constitution, which is shown by James Madison, while one present day view is shown by president Obama. I think that the view held by Mr. Madison is to ensure the people of the nation are not taken advantage of by the government. I also recognize that the view held from Mr. Obama's perspective is to help better the nation.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Re: An initial analysis of the provided cartoons.

by John Casares - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:25 PM

I think the cartoon with the executive branch removing the other branches with a Chainsaw really rings true in today's America. There is so much power that the president has and executive orders scare people, especially when these crucial decisions are being made by someone that half of the American populous may disagree with or be flat out afraid of. I think this a common fear that a lot of Donald

Trump opposers have, that he will take control over all branches or make entire decisions without them. I think this fear is warranted but is also not completely true because these branches can not be cut off so easily.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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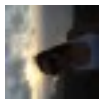
Exercising Power

by Miranda Marshall - Thursday, December 1, 2016, 8:03 PM

Cartoon #2 stood out to me because really speaks volumes to how the government takes control over our rights. They gave us all of this freedom and it was a very big deal when the constitution was drafted but they began to slowly take all of the freedoms that were promised. In the political cartoon it shows the sign "the government gives you rights" and right underneath it states "take from the rich! They have enough money!" To me this shows the government exercising all of its power to take what they can. The founding fathers who drafted this constitution are shown and they are confused as to what they are seeing. This is not the constitution that they drafted. In class we have talked about the freedom of speech but it not being acceptable to always voice that. It goes to show how much freedom the government gave us only to take it away with all of their power.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Exercising Power

by Shelby Say - Friday, December 2, 2016, 10:48 AM

I definitely agree with your interpretation of this cartoon. It is basically what we have discussed all term in class. The fact that the Constitution "guarantees" us a whole bunch of these rights that we aren't necessarily being able to practice. I've always seen that there are a lot of contradictions in what is officially written on paper and what, we the people, are actually being able to act upon. There are definitely restrictions and alternate interpretations of the Constitution that each individual see's it as. I liked this cartoon because the topics it presents are those that are currently related to heated topics in todays world such as abortion, equality, borders, and the LGBTQ community. I agree that it is not the written document that the Founding Fathers drafted initially and has, over the years, been twisted and tweaked into what it is now so, the fact that the Founding Fathers are lost is very accurate to me.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Exercising Power

by John Casares - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 10:57 AM



I completely agree. I feel like we are constantly told we have certain rights but then while practicing we are infringing on other people rights or just plain misconstruing which rights we have. It is like one big maze of confusion and I am often at odds in my mind about if we are anywhere close to what we were founded on and as this hilarious yet painfully true cartoon shows we are not.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Power

by Kyle Schneider - Friday, December 2, 2016, 4:34 PM

Cartoon #2 definitely demonstrates that what the founding fathers had in mind is now run by a unified body. I like the first sign that states, "The Government gives you your rights!" clearly saying this is not what the founding fathers had in mind. This cartoon accurately describes exactly the opposite of what we have been learning in class about the Constitution signees and there intentions. Not being able to voice freedom of speech is still a problem today. Seems to be a biased to non biased certain individuals with a higher level of power who can pull strings (the media).

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re.-Exercising Power

by Benjamin McKenzie - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 6:43 PM

What immediately stood out and got the biggest reaction out of me about cartoon 2 because of how insanely biased it was. It is, in my opinion, in your face far right conservative propaganda that is misrepresenting and ignoring the facts. First off, when I see or hear someone say that they know what the founding fathers would say about America today I am immediately skeptical of them. it's bizarre to me that people think that what would surprise the founding fathers the most in 2016, is how government js run... The world s an entirely different place than when the Constitution was written and to say that the United States should not evolve with the world around them and instead stay stuck with some people wrote down 1787 seems like a pretty unproductive method to me.I am totally on the other end of the political spectrum from whoever made the cartoon and every point that they try to make seems to me to be uninformed, contradicting or simply wrong. The cartoon js implying that there was more freedom when the founding fathers were around than today, and on the other side of the

I am totally on the other end of the political spectrum from whoever made the cartoon and every point that they try to make seems to me to be uninformed, contradicting or simply wrong. The cartoon js implying that there was more

freedom when the founding fathers were around than today, and on the other side of the cartoon there is a sign intended to criticize abortion. Abortion used to be illegal and is now a right that women have in the United States so that should be seen as an expansion of freedom. The person that made the cartoon apparently loves freedom until it encroaches on their set of beliefs and then it's a problem. The abortion sign was also a gross misrepresentation of what abortion is showing just how biased the cartoon is. Another thing that caught my attention was the "XXX" sign and the LGBT flag. Since the other signs were all commentary on what's wrong with the united states I'm assuming that they're criticizing LGBT community and that we're free to watch an x-rated movie? The LGBT community has more freedom today than they ever have. So again the cartoon is criticizing people's freedom, something that it claims doesn't exist in U.S. The cartoon also claims the U.S. grants amnesty to all. Assuming that the cartoon was made during Obama's presidency, there were more illegal migrants deported under Obama than any other president. The fact the cartoon says the exact opposite shows you just how biased and uninformed it is.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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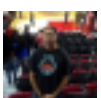
Cartoon 7

by Shelby Say - Friday, December 2, 2016, 10:39 AM

I found this political cartoon to be very interesting and one that can be strongly related to our current day political situation. In the 2016 election, the general public's thoughts seemed to be that the President-elect will execute what he plans and proposes during his campaign, which isn't necessarily true. I think people forgot that there still is the Legislative and Judicial branches that are part of the law making process. It is not solely up to the Executive branch to make decisions, as the Constitution states in Article I-III. There are also the checks and balances system to create a separation of power to make sure that no one party has sole power over the others. Each branch has a duty to protect and monitor the others. For example, the Legislative overlooks the Executive branch by being able to override Presidential vetoes, the Executive branch can appoint judges in the Judicial branch, and the Judicial branch can check the Legislative branch by judicial review (http://www.usconstitution.net/consttop_cnb.html). I think that this cartoon is an accurate depiction of what most of Americans see the Executive branch and the President as; that they have all control, when in actuality they don't.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Cartoon 7

by Jonathan Whittington - Friday, December 2, 2016, 11:01 AM

I agree and I'm glad you brought this up. I would defiantly consider myself a liberal but even I was a little disappointed in the rioting and things that took place after the election. Of course I believe that protesting is a right and it wasn't the actual protesting I was confused about it was what they were rioting about. Donald Trump can not just come in and start doing what he wants with no one to stop him. I've always said that one of the smartest things the founding fathers did was implement the three branches. it blows my mind that they were able to think of this at that time. This cartoon relates to today and throughout history and I'm really glad you reminded us all that this is how it works

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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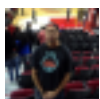
Re: Cartoon 7

by Jaclyn Bahn - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 8:35 PM

I agree that people misunderstand and that in this last election people believed trump will be making all these terrible changes that he cannot, but I don't believe their fear and accusations are wrong. Trump now runs with a republican house and senate (Legislative branch). Which means that a bill that is being proposed to the legislative branch that is, for example, a heavy restriction on immigration. The bill would be passed through the legislative branch (used in this example due to it being a conservative stance), then sent to the executive branch. Which again would be passed due to another conservative branch then being created into a law. The only way for equality of political views would be for a democrat or liberal to oppose it in the judicial branch, which due to the fact the the new president is to appoint his choice of a supreme court justice. That again would most likely be conservative and would not show a fairness of political parties views.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Cartoon 7

by Jonathan Whittington - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 10:25 AM

I found cartoon #7 to be very interesting. It seems to show that the executive branch has more power and control then the other two branches of government. While I'm not sure I completely agree it does bring up a interesting discussion when you think of executive orders and things like that. This relates because the founding fathers wanted a system of checks and balances, but today the branch that seemingly gets the most attention is the executive. Would like to know if anyone else things or agrees that the executive branch has too much power?

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**Re: Cartoon 7**

by Paul Bixel - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 10:18 PM

The three branches of government were created to keep each other in check while serving the nation, which is stated on the government website "The constitution of the United States divides the federal government into three branches to ensure a central government in which no individual or group gains too much control" (USA.gov). I have the same opinion that the executive branch has more power than the other two branches, an example of this is Executive privilege. Liberty Law Site explains "Executive Privilege is the constitutional principle that permits the president and high-level executive branch officers to withhold information from Congress, the courts, and ultimately the public." I understand that the main reason this principle is implemented to protect national security, but it can be abused and used to hide or lie to the nation.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present**

by Quan Cheng - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:24 AM

Cartoon#2 give us lots information about the problem now. And three founding father hold map with thinking they are holding the wrong map. Back to history, they didn't face the problem today, like racist. As we know, they also own slaves. "Welfare, Free phone! Free food stamp! Free housing". Would founding father think about letting rich people give free stuff to people? That's way too far. On page 231 our textbook, "Most Virginia and Pennsylvania delegates, who arrive early, formed a nationalist bloc. With Washington presiding, Governor Edmund Randolph proposed the Virginia Plan (also known as the 'large state' plan). Drafted by Madison, it proposed a bicameral legislature, with representation in both houses apportioned according to population. The legislature would choose the executive and the judiciary. It would possess all power 'to legislate in all cases to which the separate States are incompetent'". During that time of America, the government was small. As government was getting bigger and bigger, it not only takes away the money from rich people, but also takes away freedom and rights from all American people. Combine with cartoon#7, see how did executive cut off judicial and legislative.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Re: Cartoons 11 C**

by Quan Cheng - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:44 AM

As we can see cartoon #11 is talking about media. Connect to the election this year, one compere said media should introspect why they would have the investigation ridiculously wrong. Media should tell people the trues but not whatever journalists

want to say. Back to history, the trial of John Peter Zenger, printed the article which was not good for government, then he was put in the jail. What about this election? Almost all the medias choose side to set with Hilary. They shouldn't do that. If they want to choose a side to set, they should choose American people. They should fight for American's right and freedom. But not Democratic or Republican.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Cartoons 11 C

by Alex Costelow - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 10:38 PM

I also liked how current this cartoon was and how it connected to this years election. Media has been undeniably on Hillary's side, and I agree with you 100%, they shouldn't do that- they should be true to the people. I guess journalist wouldn't be journalist at that point, because only the good stories pay, and whatever those vultures hear they print before researching if it's credible or not, because on the chance that it is, they want to print the story before any other competitors. Media has the power to do/ say whatever they want- they can give "an image" to something that it isn't. It would be nice to be given the direct answer, instead of having to file through pages of pages of articles to find something credible. Media should stick with the people, actually inform America, not side with politics- or the \$\$ in it.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re:All Cartoons

by Quan Cheng - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:57 AM

I agree with the overall message and point of view of all the cartoons. It shows the problems America get now. Like cartoon#4, are the two biggest party take away money for American people's money? Yes, they do. Like the video we watched during class, professor said, "The future we've drifted, the more powerful the national government has grown, less free.. " The take away the money from taxes payer, would they ask American citizens before they use? No they don't. If they would ask, there may weren't have Iraq War and Syria War. And the American government would use more money on American people.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Commentary on a few modern political cartoons.

by Dylan Mandoli - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 1:15 PM

Political cartoons are alive and well on the internet today, although they are more commonly memes rather than comics. Memes are simple images which can be edited to express different ideas or jokes using the same general framework. For example, a picture of a famous person holding up a piece of paper can be edited to make that paper say funny things.

This image, for example, is originally a template of the interface from youtube. The title of the imagined video reads "10 pranks that went way too far," a common clickbait title on Youtube. A clever artist inserted into this template a picture of news coverage of former UK prime minister David Cameron announcing the infamous Brexit decision. This clever use of the template thus implies that Brexit was so enormously ridiculous that it could conceivably be framed as a prank.



10 Pranks That Went Way Too Far

3,677,806 views



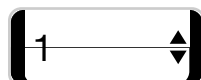
24K



3K



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Re: Commentary on a few modern political cartoons.

by Dylan Mandoli - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 1:25 PM

This second political meme is a commonly used template. It depicts a man choosing between two buttons, where the functions of those buttons are edited to make the character face a humorously difficult decision. In this case, the picture

depicts the difficulty of the modern media in maintaining a consistent narrative. It shows a negative Huffington Post article about American Pilgrims, as well as a positive parallel article about Syrian refugees, and the disparity between the two is pointed out using the button joke. The implication being that there is cognitive dissonance between framing the pilgrims as religious refugees, and also framing them as genocidal maniacs. Additionally, there is a disconnect between the way the American "refugees" are viewed vs how the Syrian refugees are viewed.





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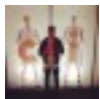
Re: Commentary on a few modern political cartoons.

by John Casares - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:45 PM

I feel like this is a common format for political cartoons are two options or situations that seem to contradict each other or prove a police by that was obvious but clouded by lack of knowledge or ignorance. I like this because it has so much to draw from and speak on with little use of being too wordy or illustrating too much to the point of over exposition.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Cartoon umber One

by Jeremy Goodwin - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 1:44 PM

Cartoon Number One does in fact accurately reflect what we have learned in class about Thomas Jefferson. His advice should still be taken very seriously for they are extremely relevant to modern times. From my novice level of understanding of our nations history, i think the cartoonist correctly interpreted accurate history in their drawing. I would say the overall message of the cartoon is, "Pay off your debts." One of the quotes from Thomas Jefferson says, "It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes." According to class lecture, during Jefferson's inaugural address he spoke about how it was important for the government to, "Pay its bill and not incur new ones, thus ending the need for taxation." One essential aspect that makes me respect Thomas Jefferson for the man he was, is the fact that the man practiced what he preached. According to the textbook, "During Jefferson's administration, the national debt fell from \$80 million to \$57 million..." (Pg 257). If only all politicians emphasized the importance of paying off debts, maybe, just maybe, our country wouldn't be in the trillions of debt it is in, and maybe still just be in the millions.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Hilarious Thomas Jefferson cartoon i found

by Jeremy Goodwin - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 3:12 PM



At first glimpse i was not sure if this image was appropriate for this forum but after considering the fact that i have seen women's breasts in several videos from class i decided to share. We are all mature enough. The cartoon accurately reflects the Jefferson and Sally Hemings sex scandal controversy we touched on in class briefly, and also his position on slavery. From my novice level of understanding of our nations history, and from the point of the cartoon, i would say the cartoonist accurately interpreted that piece of history involving Jefferson and Hemings, as well as his position on slavery in their drawing. According to the textbook, "Thomas Jefferson, for instance, owned 175 slaves when he penned the phrase that "all men are created equal." He lived off their labor, sold them to pay his debts, gave them away as gifts, sold them away from their families as punishment, and kept one of them, a women named Sally Hemings, as a mistress and fathered several children by her." (Pg. 309). Thomas Jefferson preached that paying off debts was important, and also surprisingly insisted that slavery was wrong. Its messed up that he payed off his personal debts by selling slaves, and Its even more messed up that he believed slavery was wrong but yet did all those things as aforementioned. I admire Jefferson for somethings, but despise him for other things as well. The overall message is that Jefferson had a naughty side as depicted in the picture. I agree with the cartoonist. Even though he insisted that slavery was wrong and that sleeping with one was wrong, he still did it anyways for satisfaction.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Hilarious Thomas Jefferson cartoon i found

by John Casares - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 4:30 PM

I think this a perfect example of our identity of Early Americans being confused and misconstrued. We had all these documents and phrases being coined, such as "All Men are created equal" and "life liberty and the pursuit of happiness" while humans were being enslaved and used in every way from personal gain to paying off debts. The Early Americans did not really know what they wanted, everyone is free except for these people that we do not want to be. This was a very crucial time in our history and is setting all the foundations for the upcoming civil war and this cartoon is a great example of one of the many frustrations that would lead to the eventual war.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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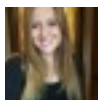
Re: Cartoon #10 - How we view the past.

by Paul Bixel - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 7:27 PM

The cartoon is kind of funny and definitely ironic because it depicts a Pilgrim family praying about a small and unobtrusive government before they are about to eat dinner, which looks like a Thanksgiving feast. The dinner automatically brings Native Americans to my mind and how the Pilgrims would end up trying to control and dictate how the Native Americans lived. I believe the cartoonist does an excellent job of illustrating how the Pilgrims wanted freedom that they had not enjoyed before; however, they would begin taking away the freedom and way of life that the Native Americans had and I agree with the viewpoint of the cartoonist.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Cartoon #2

by Alex Costelow - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 8:47 PM

After looking over the cartoons more and more, cartoon #2 keeps catching my attention. There is a lot going on in this image. It's clearly trying to send the message that if the founding fathers came to America today, they would not recognize it at all due to everything thats current in our society right now- and I would be lying if i said I didn't agree a little. The cartoon is showing that this isn't what the founding fathers had in mind for us, and it did a good job displaying that.

There are a few things on there though that I am confused by- obviously times have changed, and different things are accepted now than they used to be, but if this si supposed to be the OPPOSITE of what America is "supposed" to be, I don't entirely

agree. I don't like that (i think) there's a gay rights flag hidden back there, along with the abortion sign. I personally wouldn't ever get an abortion, but I do believe that a women should have the choice.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Cartoons - Linking the Past to the Present

by Alex Costelow - Saturday, December 3, 2016, 11:28 PM

When researching for a cartoon of my own I came across many many that were gun violence related. Gun violence is a hot topic in our country right now and has been due to the many recent shootings. This specific cartoon I found shows a man strapped with about 5 different guns, and another guy standing infront of him (with a sign behind him that says "Gun Free Zone") asking the armed man if he could read. To me, this cartoon is trying to get the message across that *anybody can buy a gun these days*- apparently you don't even need to be able to read! I believe gun laws should be more strict, keeping it a right to an American to bare arms, but just more regulated. This cartoon relates to cartoon number 5 I believe it was; remembering how gun laws were back in the 1800's, but more specifically the gun itself, and how different it has changed to this day.

The weapon has been changed and modified, I believe the 2nd amendment should be handled the same way- it needs to be modified.



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