

HST 201: History of United States F18 (Escobar Meta 20749 22611)

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Cartoons - Part 2

by [Joe Escobar](#) - Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 11:16 AM

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

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Cartoon #1 - Hamilton's plan?

by [Owen McCoy](#) - Thursday, November 29, 2018, 10:37 AM

This cartoon is poking fun at “sanctuary cities.” The Indians are depicted as nonchalantly observing the settlers pour into America, saying “what’s the worst that can happen?” The point is that the Indians were gradually pushed off their land after many years of staggered conflict. The cartoon author is trying to draw a connection between these events and the sanctuary cities of today, but the cartoon doesn’t accurately represent what happened historically. However, there is a connection between the present-day issue of immigration and some of the events that shaped the early republic.

Joe has pointed out in class that a respectable country should be able to protect its borders. This is something that was included in Hamilton's vision for the country. From the very beginning of the country, Americans were concerned with determining and protecting their borders from the Indians. The extensive immigration enforcement we have today is run by taxpayer money. When Hamilton proposed his plan for the federal government to assume states' debts, it raised some objections because the southern states had already paid their debts and didn't want their tax dollars to go towards paying off the debts of the Northern states. Today, a taxpayer from New Mexico and a taxpayer from Wyoming both pay federal taxes, some of which go towards enforcing immigration law. However, illegal immigration is more of an issue in New Mexico than in Wyoming, given New Mexico's proximity to the US-Mexico border. This means that those tax dollars are being used in a way that benefits some states more than others.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

1

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Re: Cartoon #1 - Hamilton's plan?**by [Kyle Schmidt](#) - Saturday, December 1, 2018, 2:40 PM

While I agree with your point that this cartoon is not an entirely accurate representation of history I disagree that Native American borders have been protected. I think today our borders are highly guarded against immigration and that is what this cartoon is trying to make fun of. The settlers are the original immigrants in this country and Native Americans had no concept of borders in their culture. They had no reason to stop white people from invading their land because in their eyes they did not own it. However the europeans claimed that this land was theirs by law and this is where most of the conflicts between the two cultures arose from. Since imperialism the Native Americans were systematically pushed towards the west until manifest destiny had been completed and they no longer had any protected borders. Even reservations were regularly attacked and subject to much prejudice. This said the biggest killer of Native populations was not from muskets but disease it is speculated by historians that the black plague and measles among others was brought from Europe and is responsible for most of the Native American deaths. While this was not some form of chemical warfare it was still a direct repercussion of imperialism in the new world.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

1

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Cartoon #4 Analysis**by [Elias Brouse](#) - Thursday, November 29, 2018, 11:20 AM

Cartoon #4 shows a great example of one of Americas greatest issues, almost since the beginning, which is the national debt. It is depicted as a cancer growth, which is growing so large it may eventually consume the nation. The national debt began as early as the revolution, with war debts that after being paid off grew again with ever war that followed. A section on History.com states "By the time Andrew Jackson took office in 1828, the national debt was \$58 million, an obligation Jackson called the "national curse." By selling off federally owned land in the West, Jackson had paid off all of the national debt by

January 1835. Within a year, however, an economic recession led the government to start borrowing, and it would never again be debt-free."(<https://www.history.com/topics/us-government/national-debt>). Our nation's debt lingers heavily over the economics of our nation and I think it needs to be on the minds of politicians to look for a possible end to the growth of the cancer cell.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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The first immigrants

by [Kyle Schmidt](#) - Thursday, November 29, 2018, 12:03 PM

In this cartoon we see the depiction of explorers, conquistadors, pilgrims etc landing on the coast of America. We see the horrified looks of the Native Americans and a warrior who has hung his head in despair. The chief however says "what could possibly go wrong". The dark irony of this strip is obvious but there is more to it. The top corner has Sanctuary City written alluding to the modern practice in which certain cities try to reduce fear of deportation or family break up. While Native Americans do not believe in land ownership that extends to the idea of immigration being not recognized in their culture as well. However the idea is relatively the same, settlers who were immigrants by definition were given sanctuary and free passage for the most part. That being said I also have to point out the inaccuracy of this comic. Relations between settler and natives were never as good as depicted here. Jamestown was regularly attacked and Native Americans were persecuted for poaching because settlers claimed to own the forests and the animals within them. This idea was unheard of the natives and is hard for me to grasp because even in western beliefs the natives would have been the rightful owners of the land. Even the pilgrims who were on good terms with Natives still had tension and awkwardness between them. The idea that white people are immigrants in this country is often forgotten and is very controversial in our society today especially when America is called the original sanctuary city. There is undeniable truth to this comic as settlers were initially met without hostility.

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Re: Good or Bad? Cartoon #3

by [Gurpritam Sandhar](#) - Thursday, November 29, 2018, 5:19 PM

Cartoon #3 is very interesting. On the left side there's a lady standing with her hands out in front of her saying that guns are bad, while on the right side there's a guy who replies to her in which looks like a calm way telling her that the misuse of guns is bad. Historically, if we look at the American Revolution and the Patriots who fought for the freedom we have today, it wouldn't have been possible without the use of guns. On page 198 of our book Murrin writes, "The Revolutionary War killed higher percentage of Americans who fought in it than any other American conflict except the Civil war." If there's one thing that's guaranteed in any war, it would be casualties. When someone is shooting at you, the only thing left to do is shoot back because if you don't you'll most likely die. I agree with both the lady and the guy in this cartoon. I say this because in my opinion I feel like when it

comes to guns outside of a warzone, it's not the guns fault for killing someone, it's the person's fault for pulling the trigger. Which in many cases makes the "gun" look bad. But, if we look at how the gun helped form and shape our country into what it is today we would respect the power it holds, rather than looking at it as some sort of nuclear bomb. I believe that guns were made for our protection from people who are dangerous. But, if we look at how guns are used today (school shootings), people would say that they are bad just like the lady did in the cartoon. A gun in the "right" hands is a blessing, but in the "wrong" hands it could be disastrous.

How do you guys feel about this?

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2



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Re: Good or Bad? Cartoon #3

by [Owen McCoy](#) - Friday, November 30, 2018, 5:14 PM

Guns have been a part of American history since the settlers first arrived on the continent. Guns have also changed over time, becoming more and more dangerous. When the settlers first landed at Jamestown, a musket was certainly no better than a bow and arrow. Even during the American Revolution, guns were still nowhere near as effective as they are today. The Bill of Rights proclaims that "the right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." This statement was written at a time when several things were different from how they are today. In class, Joe pointed out that at the time of the founding fathers, only 6% of the population of the United States lived in towns of population 2,500 or more. The remaining 94% lived in rural areas. This spread of the population would've made mass shootings less likely to happen. Another complication would've been that muskets took a long time to reload and were hard to aim. Today, civilians have access to semi-automatic assault rifles. Additionally, the second amendment was written at a time when settlers moving West faced the real threat of hostile Indians and the government needed to have soldiers on standby in case war came. Today, the United States spends more on its standing army than any other country in the world and its population is more present in urban areas with police forces.

I am more sympathetic to the lady on the left. I feel like guns do more harm than good for society. Having said that, while I disagree that guns were made for protection, I can see a legitimate claim to own guns for protection. And in a way, it depends on the type of gun too. I think that the cartoon author is trying to briefly summarize the arguments made by people in favor of gun control and those who support gun rights. I would have appreciated it had the author decided to elaborate a bit on those arguments, but I appreciate what they are trying to do.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2



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Cartoon #2: Checks & Balances

by [Karsten Brevik](#) - Thursday, November 29, 2018, 7:54 PM

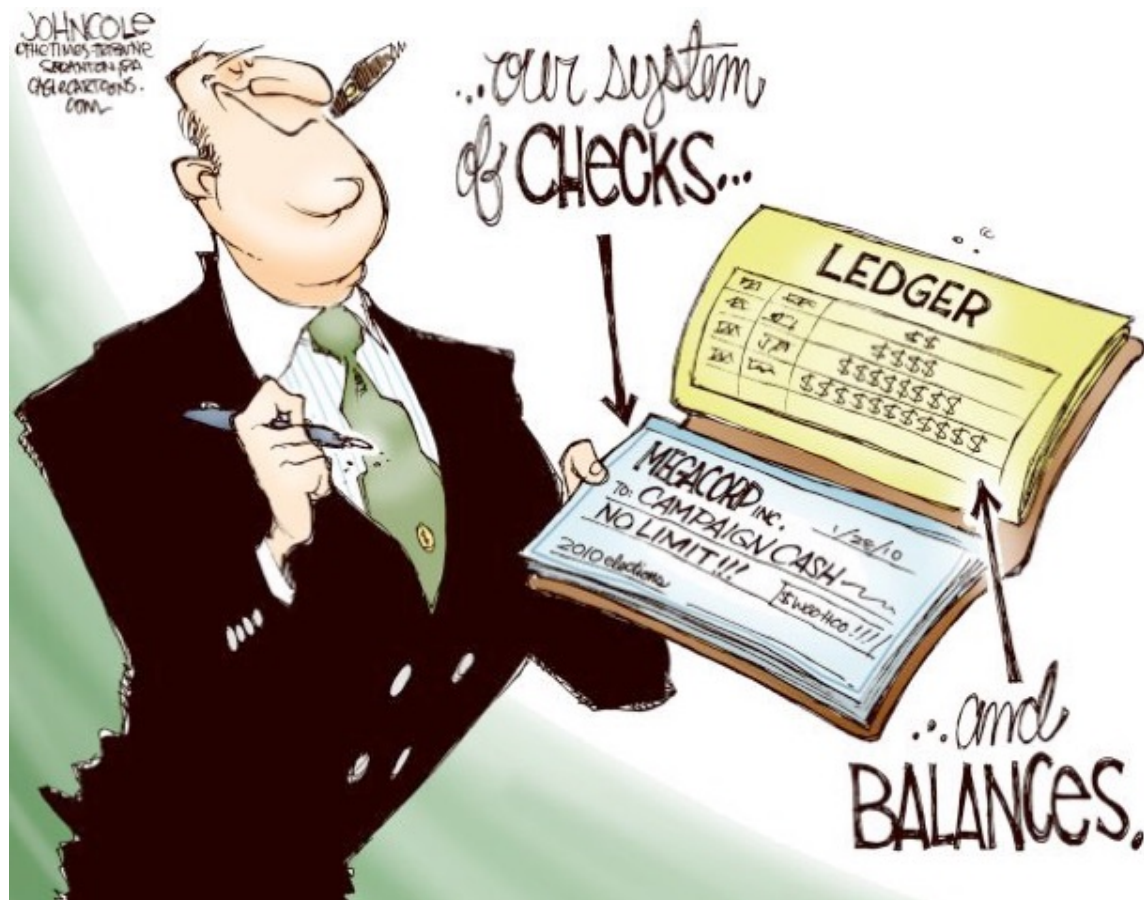
Cartoon #2

What is this cartoon's purpose and do you agree with its message?

In this cartoon we see a cigar puffing man in a black suit gleefully writing a "NO LIMIT" check to a campaign fund. In the same book as his checks he has a ledger full of dollar signs. Our artist has captioned them as "our system of checks... and balances." This is the artist's satirical take on how many elections today are determined how well funded a candidate is, and many corporations are willing to donate huge amounts of money to get people who will push their agenda in power. One thing that stood out to me most in this cartoon is that the check is labeled "2010 Election" meaning that this cartoon was more specifically targeting the midterm elections, which concerns congress. Congress' responsibility of drafting laws makes them a target for large corporations who want laws modified/created for their direct benefit, and for corporations with enough money it doesn't seem too difficult for them to get some members to start seeing things their way. Your first thought might be how much of a difference could this really be making? Well, in 2011 (the year after this cartoon was drawn) lobbyist from corporations whose job it is to influence legislators outnumbered our 535 members of congress 23 to 1. In that year the organization that spent the most on lobbying was the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, a "Not-for-Profit" group that shelled out over \$66 million. If you are wondering how many legislators are actually taking part in these exchanges, this year of those 535 members, only 5 have not taken money from lobbyist in the form of campaign contributions. I strongly agree with the artist and his interpretation of this issue. The constitution was drafted to create a nation where each person had the ability to get ahead without someone taking their property or the government disturbing them. So, when the corporation with the most money has the greatest power over determining who takes office and what decisions they make, not only does it make it increasingly difficult for businesses just starting out, it undermines the foundation of our democracy.

<http://www.facethefactsusa.org/facts/power-numbers-lobbyists-have-congress-covered/>

[https://www.opensecrets.org/industries/summary.php?
ind=K02&cycle=2018&recipdetail=A&sortorder=U](https://www.opensecrets.org/industries/summary.php?ind=K02&cycle=2018&recipdetail=A&sortorder=U)



Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3


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**Re: Cartoon #2: Checks & Balances**by [Kyle Schmidt](#) - Saturday, December 1, 2018, 2:57 PM

The statistics in your post that only five members of the house of representatives did not accept money from lobbyists was shocking. While I am not surprised it is still hard to hear that modern politics is so motivated by money. In the 2016 election Trump did not receive the popular vote. While I agree that the presence of large corporations in politics undermines smaller businesses which have been called the "backbone of our economy" I still want to point out that we do not live in a democracy. America was founded as a republic and yes it is a democratic republic but the free choice of the everyday citizen is becoming less and less relevant in politics. In our nation's history we have had exceedingly few presidents from humble beginnings. Only a few come to mind with Abraham Lincoln being one of them. It pains me that the presidency can not only be bought today but, it is also nearly impossible to have a serious run for presidency if one does not already have a considerable sum of money. In addition to this only two parties are actually seen as credible all of this goes against the founding fathers ideas of a free democracy and I agree with you that the rise of large corporations is in part a cause of this.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1


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**Cartoon #1 Sanctuary**by [Erik Westfall](#) - Friday, November 30, 2018, 9:35 AM

I saw this political cartoon and thought it was absolutely perfect with what we are studying now and what's going on with the caravan in today's world. The Indians saying "Let them all in. What could possibly go wrong?" If this doesn't relate to what the Democrats are saying today about the Caravans trying to seek asylum then I don't know what does. We came in and destroyed everything, but at the same time, not all Indians welcomed us with open arms. Most of them attacked us when we first landed. I just thought how accurate this cartoon relates to both time periods. It's also a little humorous that in today's world it's like we are the Indians by saying "Let them all in. What could possibly go wrong?" EVERYTHING could go wrong!

Sum of ratings: 1 (1) [Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**What could possibly go wrong? Cartoon #1**by [Ryan Monett](#) - Friday, November 30, 2018, 11:48 AM

This cartoon links both a historical and current view on immigration. "What could possibly go wrong?" from the Native Americans is a very interesting statement. For the Native Americans, a LOT went wrong. We tend to see those that are different than us in a better or worse than perspective. However, the plight of the Native Americans shows that when we welcome anyone with open arms a lot can go wrong. A major problem with society today is that we accept immigrants with no method of integration into our society. This causes numerous unintended consequences for society. We expect people of different cultures, faiths, and traditions to arrive in America and there not to be problems. Anytime throughout history when you place two peoples together with vastly differing views, there are collisions. Look at Israel and Palestine, for example.

"Israel is the world's only Jewish state, located just east of the Mediterranean Sea. Palestinians, the Arab population that hails from the land Israel now controls, refer to the territory as Palestine, and want to establish a state by that name on all or part of the same land. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is over who gets what land and how it's controlled." - Vox

This is truly about a conflict of beliefs and traditions, and when two opposing faiths (and groups) converge on one land there are problems. We all want America to be ours, I totally understand that. However, to mix many groups together with no plan and expect us all to get along is foolish at best. Immigration in and of itself is not a bad thing. However, how it is done can prove deadly or victorious.

The settlers to America did not understand the Native Americans, and therefore, there was conflict. There were no classes to understand why each group did and believed the way they did. Even if there was, beliefs are so deeply fundamental in what we perceive as good and/or bad in society. Our world is one of us vs. them, and it is not because of immigration itself, but how it is implemented. Sometimes two very different groups of people will always have a hard time with each other.

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Sources:

Escobar, J. Lane Community College. (2018)

Beauchamp, Zack. "What Are Israel and Palestine? Why Are They Fighting?" *Vox.com*, Vox Media, 14 May 2018, www.vox.com/2018/11/20/18080002/israel-palestine-conflict-basics.

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**Re: What could possibly go wrong? Cartoon #1**by [Gurpritam Sandhar](#) - Saturday, December 1, 2018, 10:56 AM

Ryan, you have made some very interesting and valid points in your post which I agree with. Although, I feel like another very major thing that has to do with immigration today and during the settlers time was education (or the lack of it). In my opinion, even though the natives of this land may have not been "book smart", they knew any and everything when it came to nature and being self sufficient. For some Natives to welcome new comers into their land such as Columbus and his men, it shows how they were willing to put the "what ifs" aside and actually help people that were aliens to them. If we look at it from the other side, Columbus was an educated man who knew how to read and write and if we look at his personal diary like we did in the first half of class, his intentions were no good. He writes in his diary how, "it would be so easy to turn these people into slaves(podcast)." This relates to what you wrote in your third paragraph, "This is truly about a conflict of beliefs and traditions, and when two opposing faiths (and groups) converge on one land there are problems." His beliefs and the Natives beliefs were very different and I feel like this has a lot to do with the education one has. I feel like if we had a chance to ask a native from that time period today if they should have let foreign people in on their land, most likely they would say no. Why? Because they know what aliens could do to a land that they hold so dear to their hearts. If we compare this to today, it's the same thing. The same aliens that took over this land from the native back then, won't allow immigration in to their country legal or not because "they" know what could happen.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1) 2

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**Speaking of Cancers . . . Cartoon #4**by [Ryan Monett](#) - Saturday, December 1, 2018, 5:19 PM

The debt is something that truly is a cancer upon this nation. My biggest concern is we are literally passing this problem onto the future generations. This is something we as a society have created, both at the governmental level and private. This seems to be the opposite of what Thomas Jefferson's ideal were, namely to pay our debts. How far we have gone away from what Jefferson stood for in so many areas. Credit cards have been a plight on our nation, where we "pay someday" instead of earn money, then spend it. The

government has been no help in setting an example for society in general. I'm certain a lot of spending is certainly necessary (specifically to keep our nation safe), but my goodness what kind of example are we setting for our future generations?

Jefferson stood for paying back our debts - both foreign and domestic. It was an example that is rooted in the principal of responsibility and honor. Now, not only do we have a massive problem (as characterized by cancer in this cartoon), but remember even if you remove the cancer (let's say the debt got erased by some miracle tomorrow), how would we ensure the poor habits that we've espoused thus far that got us into this mess won't be repeated, again and again? This is a moral issue, it is wholly unfair to "credit" our way to our wants and then "pass the buck" off to our children and grandchildren. Why should they have to pay off and be responsible for our lack of prudence and accountability?

This is about ideals, and Thomas Jefferson was a man of ideals of virtue and integrity. These ideals seem lost in today's tax and spend, swipe and pay someday society.

“And to preserve their independence, we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt. We must make our election between economy and liberty, or profusion and servitude. If we run into such debts, as that we must be taxed in our meat and in our drink, in our necessities and our comforts, in our labors and our amusements, for our callings and our creeds, as the people of England are, our people, like them, must come to labor sixteen hours in the twenty-four, give the earnings of fifteen of these to the government for their debts and daily expenses; and the sixteenth being insufficient to afford us bread, we must live, as they now do, on oatmeal and potatoes; have no time to think, no means of calling the mismanagers to account; but be glad to obtain subsistence by hiring ourselves to rivet their chains on the necks of our fellow-sufferers.”

~ Thomas Jefferson

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Sources:

Escobar, J. Lane Community College. (2018) Lecture notes.

[National Debt \(Wikipedia\)](#)

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Cartoon #2 Checks and Balances

by [Daniel Oas](#) - Saturday, December 1, 2018, 11:24 PM

For the second part of our political cartoon discussions, i chose cartoon two which mocks the system of checks in balances in the Unites States governemnt. By creating three branches of government, executive, judicial, and legislative, this seperates the powers of the government into the hands of multible servants of the country and not just one or a few powerful individuals. These three branches of government can keep the others in check and that is why this system is referred to as checks and balances. The cartoon depicts a wealthy individual smoking a cigar and writing a no limit check to the campaign fund of an unnamed individual. What I find to be the most meaningful detail in this cartoon is that the check comes from a corporation simply listed as "Megacorp". In our modern capitalist society big corporations have more political control than ever. In a recent episode of a great political comedy show called 'Last Week Tonight with John Olver', there was a quote shown from the director of the consumer financial protection bureau in which he states, "If you are a lobbyists who has never given us money we won't talk to you, if you are a lobbyist who has given us money we might talk to you. This really puts in perspective the influence money has on legislators and high ranking government officials and it really is shocking. We live in a society where those chosen to represent the people and run our government will only listen to the problems of the people if you write them a massive check. This is why cartoon two really stands out to me as accurately depicting our societies because as it is only big corporations have the funds to pay lobbyists and politicians to get what they want. And as far as the system of checks and balances goes the judicial system is the only of the three branches of government I see keeping the executive branch in check. On numerous occasions judges around the contry have blocked executive orders written by Trump in hopes of keeping th executive branch in check. But at the end of the day, it all comes down to who has the money to bribe our politicians into supporting the buyers agenda.

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