

HST 201: US History F19 (Escobar)

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Cartoons - Part 1

by [Joe Escobar](#) - Thursday, November 28, 2019, 11:31 PM

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

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

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Cartoon #7

by [Emillia Carpenter](#) - Saturday, November 30, 2019, 9:47 AM

It is always interesting to me how when one party wins the election cycle the other claims the system is rigged. In this picture, it is during the 2016 election cycle and before, before the democrats are walking around with a sign saying the system is rigged, then once their party wins they throw away their sign, but for the republicans, their sign is in the trash before and once the election happens they get their sign and start to say that the system is rigged. I think that people have always been filled with so much anger towards people who do not agree with them, and that is why I think this cartoon could fit any election in history. I agree with the message of the cartoon, and I think that the founders originally intended it to just be for the current elections, however I think this can reflect all of the historical events in history because when one side gets their way they don't complain about how it all went down and the group that doesn't get what they want will claim that the system is rigged and that the system is unfair and that's why they didn't win. I believe that that's how most things go in our government today and for a while. There is something or someone else to

blame for things not going perfect, have it be fake news or people of opposing views, It is never themselves always someone else and I think that is something we as a whole need to work on, Ourselves and our country.

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Re: Cartoon #7

by [Eric Shoaf](#) - Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 10:56 PM

I'm inclined to disagree with the idea that this cartoon can fit any election in history. The founders definitely didn't think this way, they created the system to avoid it being rigged. They had human nature in mind, and were trying to avoid allowing politicians to have absolute power. The cartoon rather speaks about the shift away from what the founders were thinking when they wrote the constitution. The system has changed slowly but surely over the last 200 or so years, leading to the polarization we see today. Back then, the founders still had their different opinions, whether it was Hamilton and the strong government supporting Federalists, or Jefferson and the Anti-Federalists/Democrats, who pushed for less governmental power. However they still managed to somewhat get along, for example by writing the constitution together.

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Just shoot me

by [Trevor Mejia](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 11:06 AM

Cartoon Number 6

In this cartoon we can start by seeing a founding father discussing guns and further more showing off the dead animals the gun has killed. The next panel allows the NRA to rebuttal, in which we see that he is taking about an M16 and isn't Killing animals, but people. The comic strip ends with the founding further saying "Just shoot me." I feel this line is meant to be represented of If you have taken our words and twisted them so much, I don't even want to be here anymore. Of course our founding father's said it was ok to own a gun, But think of the times they were living in. They were living in what was known as the new frontier and had to deal with bears, cougars and other wild animals. Today if we see a bear we call animal control and its taken down calmly. But compared to back then you would go out and shoot the bear yourself. The times evolve and change the founding father never expected or anticipated for half of our technology or advancements in weapons and warfare would take us. That's what i believe this cartoon is playing off. We know that guns are bad and as of lately we have seen a lot of gun violence all over the world Such as Rose-burg, Stockton, Aurora New-town and Parkland. as the growing epidemic has been spreading and terrorizing more people. it hasten us back to the debate of weather or not gun control needs to be re looked. Personally I believe this comic strip dose wonders for its message and can hold up incredibly well over time if our gun control never changes.

Sum of ratings: [2 \(1\)](#) 2

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Re: Just shoot me

by [Melissa Kimp](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 10:08 PM

I have to disagree. In certain areas I can agree with your thinking. However, I grew up in northern Idaho. We had all sorts of issues with wild animals. When you call someone, it could take hours for anyone to show up. Our family friends ended up in a situation where they had to kill a grizzly bear. There were three bears that he saw in his yard while his young children were playing outside. He fired a shot in the air hoping to scare the bears but it didn't phase them. His family was in enough danger that he eventually had to kill one of the bears. His children might have been killed or seriously injured if it hadn't been for what he did. Animal control makes sense and is more humane but it is not an immediate solution. If there is immediate danger, animal control will not help.

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Re: Cartoons - Part 1

by [Max Birch](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 3:48 PM

I chose to focus on cartoon #6 which shows a founding father from 1789 and someone from the NRA in 2013 arguing about gun rights and gun violence. It shows the man from 1789 explaining what guns are to be used for, which is hunting and killing animals. The man from the NRA explains how that isn't what guns are used for anymore and how they are used to kill people and perform mass shootings. The man from 1789 is in shock and asked the NRA guy to just shoot him. The artist of this cartoon correctly shows the issues of gun violence and how they have changed and escalated over time. I believe the message is as powerful as it will ever be with the issues involving gun violence happening so frequently all around us. It shows what the founders ideas of the second amendment was and it shows how it has changed so drastically over time, causing the founders to rather be dead than live in a world with that kind of violence. I agree with the overall message of the cartoon, I believe it brings up a hot topic and demonstrates a good comparison of views based on the time period.

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Re: Cartoons - Part 1

by [Emilia Carpenter](#) - Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 9:30 PM

I really like this cartoon since it shows how drastically our world has changed in a short period of time. If you are an NRA advocate or not I believe that both groups can agree that guns from back then are much different than guns now. War was much different too, it was fought so much more differently and now we live in a world where a lot of it is fought not even on a battlefield. I think this Cartoon shows how our founders saw guns and try to hit home and I like how you said they would rather be dead than live in a world where this amount of violence is present. I agree with cartoons and think that it is sad how many people in our world die from people with guns, like our founding fathers would be.

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Re: Cartoons - Part 1

by [Sidney Axtell](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 1:05 PM

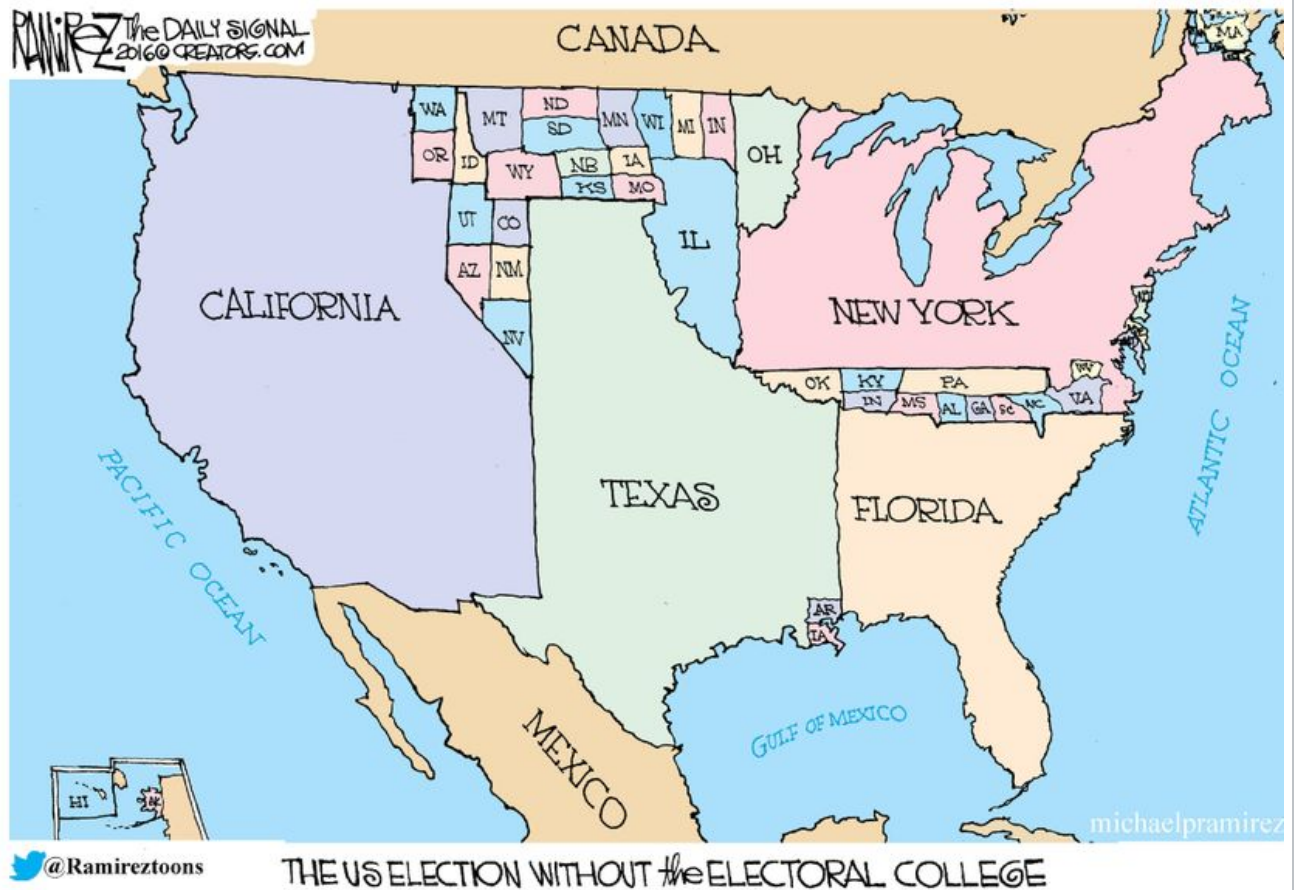
For cartoon #6

I completely agree with your statement, and found your explanation to be very spot on. This political cartoon represents how drastically our world has changed since 1789, and how disturbed the founding fathers would be to see the amount of gun violence happening each day. In our country today, we have a serious problem with gun violence, as well as with the proliferation of guns and ammunition. A very large debate is what would be the best way to address that problem. It's definitely interesting to imagine what our Founding Fathers would have done if this amount of gun violence was present during their time. Would they have removed the Second Amendment from the Constitution? Or possibly abandoning the idea of encouraging citizens to defend themselves because of a string of mass shootings? Like you stated, this discussion brings up good comparisons on views.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Differences in Use**by [Marcus Jackson](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 11:22 PM

You touch on some good points about how the founding father from 1789 would view the situation we are in right now. I think you make a good point on the escalation from the original idea of firearm ownership in America. With the idea being transformed from how it started out originally. I also think that you pointed out the difference in how guns are used now very well. One thing you could have potentially touched on is the vast difference in how effective modern rifles are compared to the muskets of 1789.

Sum of ratings: [0 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Cartoon #4**by [McKenna Wilson](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 7:03 PM



After looking at all the cartoons I chose #4 to write about for my first Forum Post this week. The Electoral College was created in 1787. The Electoral College was created to help differing states and federal interests give some sort of popular vote in the elections. It was written into the Constitution and gave each state a number of electors in the Senate. These electors are chosen by the state. In this cartoon it is showing what would happen if the Electoral College was no longer used/in place. Today the argument is being made that a President should become elected purely based on popular votes alone. In the cartoon it shows which states would then have complete control over the election based solely off the fact they are the most populated which means the same 4-6 states would decide the winner of every election leaving the smaller states with no voice. When the Electoral College was introduced there were not 50 states but they knew that no state should have that power because they had a heavier population. 200+ years later and I believe this cartoon is depicting exactly what the original creators of the Electoral College were wanting to avoid.

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Re: Cartoon #4

by [Brandon Gericke](#) - Thursday, December 5, 2019, 10:55 AM

I agree with your points, for the most part. I believe that you're leaving out a very important point. The Three Fifths Compromise was instituted so that southern, slave holding states could have more representation. Since slaves could not vote, why would they be included in a states population representation? To give southern states a disproportionate representation and influence on the Presidency, the Supreme Court, and Speakership of the House, prior to the civil war. This raises the question. Do we really want to use a system that was used as a mean to compromise with slave states? A system that gave slave states more power than they should have had?

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Cartoon #2

by [Carter Ranck](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 7:30 PM

The second cartoon displays the two political parties standing on each side of a taxpayer with their hands in the taxpayer's pockets. It's clearly showing that to find a compromise between the two political parties the taxpayers had to pay. It's blatant that it's showing that compromise can only be met at the expense of taxpayers. People in the United States have been paying taxes for a long time. Whether that's to pay a debt to another country or to raise funds for something. Taxes have been used to quell squabbles throughout the history of America. The United States paid Great Britain taxes for an assortment of things because the United States wasn't independent. The people in America also paid taxes to fund wars and were forced to shelter soldiers as well. Overall taxes are used to satiate someone or some goal. This is shown throughout American history and taxes are also abused in American history.

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Discussing the Meaning of Cartoon #4

by [Jordan Sage](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 7:32 PM

I believe Cartoon #4 has is the most relevant cartoon for discussing U.S History in both a modern context, as well as a founder's context.

I believe the author of the cartoon is rather knowledgeable about history, as the cartoon is criticising the 2016 Post-election electoral college rhetoric. The founder's seem to impose that the election should combine all political view points of the United States and treat them respectively amongst themselves. And that a nation where a direct popular vote would seem to contradict the point of a federation. I also believe that the artist established a likely scenario where the electoral college would be non-existent, as the dense population centers would have dominant control over politics. The founder's could've also believed that this would be the case with out it, as the North would've had a majority in population comparison.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_U.S._states_and_territories_by_historical_population#1790-1860,_census_data)

To conclude, I agree with artist's cartoon as it illustrates a scenario that would happen if the electoral college were to be either removed, or never put into the constitution.

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**Historical Accuracy of Cartoon #4**by [Eric Shoaf](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 8:31 PM

I find that cartoon #4 is a good representation of what the founding fathers intended when they set up our government. They wanted the small states to not be overpowered by the bigger states. This can be seen in the way Congress is set up, the Senate has equal representation for each state, and the House of Representatives has representatives based on population. This cartoon is trying to convey the same idea, the electoral college serves to give smaller states a better voice in elections, while the popular vote better serves the bigger states.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Re: Cartoons - Part 1**by [Patryce Miller](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 9:33 PM

The cartoon is about President Obama and all the executive orders he did in office. Where those Executive orders step over bound into other branches. This makes me believe that this cartoon accuracy reflects what we study in class. When they are talking about the first three Articles in the constitution. Any "bills" that he wanted to pass but didn't. He used Executive order to pass it. But that steps into the legislative branch. Which is the point in the cartoon when the kid as the president of what the three branches were and the president answer Me, myself and I. The Executive order forces those bill to become laws where only Congress(make a new law) can remove it. The executive order itself is loose Construction on the president part because there is no direct definition in the constitution. This is also making me believe that the message of this cartoon is the same as the founders' original intention. The founders never wanted a president with a strong power (which the executive order gives to them). I found myself agree with the overall message of this cartoon.

Sum of ratings: [3 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**#7 "the system is rigged"**by [Emily Fosnight](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 10:21 PM

The cartoon accurately depicts the division of political parties which is evident in the post revolutionary time period with the split between the Federalists and the Jeffersonians. In a video from class, Washington warned about the division of the people with political parties. It was a problem then, and it's still a problem now. Although there was a point in time when America had only one political party, and when you think about it that's kind of scary. However, political parties divided Americans back then and still divide Americans today. The cartoonist seems to have accurately captured the history in the drawing. The message still stands as the founding fathers intended it to, the division of political parties will divide Americans and that's exactly what it's done, in history and even today. I agree with the overall message of the political cartoon. Depending on the year, one political party or the other is going to be unhappy because whoever they voted for is not in office. The sign says "the system is rigged!" and I'm sure most people have felt that way at some point or another, regardless of the time period.

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**Cartoon #7**by [Zach Trotter](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 10:52 PM

Although I don't know if people were complaining about elections being rigged since the birth of our country, I do know that dirty words and tactics were used since the start. I thought Cartoon #7 was funny and also interesting because it seems as of late, whenever one party's president is elected it seems the opposing party is quick to call about elections being unfair, rigged, or even talk about foreign interference. But yet on the next election when the opposing party wins, said party does not want talk about it anymore and are quick to throw out the topic and quickly disregard the conversation. The sign says "the system is rigged!" and it just seems to really relate to people of opposing parties wanting to raise awareness about that whenever their preferred presidential candidate does not win. That being said, I do think the artist accurately represents the actions of a lot of people from different parties during presidential elections.

Sum of ratings: [2 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Re: Cartoon #7**by [Brandon Gericke](#) - Thursday, December 5, 2019, 10:32 AM

I definitely agree! Whether it is the democrats or republicans who win the election. Whether its the Electoral College or the Popular Vote, that decides the election. The losing side will always find a reason to blame the system. The issue with the Electoral College, is with how you look at it. Should the most populated areas of the US be held hostage by rural areas? Or is the Electoral College necessary, because without it, the rural areas would not have fair representation? Is the Electoral College an outdated system that was implemented to work around slavery in the south? The Three Fifths Compromise, would make it seem that way.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Re: Cartoon #7**by [Jason Stratis](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 9:49 PM

I also agree with the cartoon and it's message. Sadly I feel like that's a thing that may never change. It's a part of human nature to blame other things to your advantage when not always winning. Human nature really is the only reason why we can never have a perfect system for anything these days. People are either to prideful, or Selfish to ever admit that the system works, or to make it perfect

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I agree with your points and really like this cartoon. I think it portrays the state of elections today very well. With this past election this issue was very apparent and I believe this will continue into future elections. The opposing party will always have something to throw the other party under the bus for. This has been going on since the start of elections. I dislike this aspect of elections because it takes away

from the actual political part of it and focuses more on the person and their previous flaws. This is not what an election should be, it should be two people trying to better America and they should be able to share their points freely without being criticized by the other party. I think this has really changed the aspect of elections today, and has almost made it into a reality TV show rather than an actual election. Overall I enjoy and agree with this cartoon and I believe it is relevant to any time in history, as this has always been an issue.

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Re: Cartoons - Part 1

by [Emily Fosnight](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 5:08 PM

I agree with your post; however, I think a major part of this cartoon also implies a division in political parties. In his farewell address, George Washington warns the American people about political parties and how they could divide the country. "Washington also warned against internal political divisions," (book p. 211). It seems like no matter what the topic is, Republicans and Democrats are in opposition. This divides the American people. I think this is being implied in the cartoon, with the "the system is rigged!" sign changing political parties when one or the other of them is unhappy with the product of the most recent election, regardless of the time period (but probably more so in recent years.)

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#6 - Differences Between Then and Now

by [Marcus Jackson](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 11:36 PM

Cartoon #6 is talking about the interpretation of the 2nd amendment, "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms". It shows the founding fathers' situation being muskets for hunting in contrast to the modern situation of rifles for killing people. With the founding fathers disapproving of the modern situation and the NRA that is supporting it.

One aspect in which the cartoon is not entirely accurate is the depiction of and implication that muskets were intended only for hunting, showing dead deer as opposed to people in the background. While it is true that the muskets were often used for hunting and wildlife the textbook itself says that the second amendment was "prompted by old fears of a standing army, guaranteed the continuation of a militia of armed citizens" (240). This shows that at least part of the intention of the amendment was the potential to kill and defend oneself. And so that any citizen could potentially fight on behalf of the nation. However the point about the difference between muskets and rifles is a valid one, which Professor Escobar acknowledged during lecture in class about whether or not the constitution should be rigid or change with the times so it is still applicable. Though there are differing opinions and arguments for both sides of the larger debate on the nature of the constitution.

I personally agree with the message of the comic largely. For various reasons including the one that it directly references in said comic. And while some parts of the comic are questionable I still feel that it makes a good point overall.

Sum of ratings: [3 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Re: #6 - Differences Between Then and Now**by [Trevor Mejia](#) - Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 10:29 AM

I really enjoyed your post and your use of both book & joe quote's However although the musket was used for the people's defense, I feel that the modern change is the difference between the weapons. A musket was one shot and took anywhere from 20 seconds to a minute to reload. Most people back then only owned the one. In today's standards, the US has the highest number of guns per capita. There were an estimated 89 to 100 guns for every 100 Americans in 2013. The average gun owner in the us today owns at least three guns. This is a pretty dramatic change to the original intention for the amendment. Also, our founding fathers never thought of the advancements in warfare and weapons that we have today. I'm intrigued to hear what parts of the comic you find questionable and why? Also, how do you think it hold up in time?

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The point you make about the differences between modern rifles and muskets is valid. I tried to point that out with Prof. Escobar's quote, though perhaps I was too subtle in the comparison and implied differences. Again the difference in situation and intention of the amendment is mentioned in my original post with Prof. Escobar's quote about the question of how rigid the constitution and its interpretation should or should not be. The part that I find questionable about the comic is the depiction of muskets only being intended for hunting which doesn't match the intention of the time according to both the wording of the amendment and the textbook.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Cartoon #3 : An Intrusive Government**by [Sara Montiel](#) - Monday, December 2, 2019, 11:52 PM

I believe this political cartoon is not only talking about the pilgrims' time period, but must be more directed to our time period. In the 1600's, although it wasn't named "government" they were still ruled over by the Church of England. They fled to have freedom & to no longer be ruled & told what to do and how to do it. The pilgrims fled "to America, they insisted, to worship as God commanded, not as the Church of England required" (pg 59, Textbook). They later began what many historians claim to have been the beginning of a democracy, the Mayflower Compact. "They passengers agreed to the Mayflower Compact..." (pg 60, Textbook), which was a form of government to the pilgrims, except it was a form of government that they ALL agreed upon. They fled from a "government" that tried to control their lives to one that was fair to all during their time. The other side of this cartoon is explaining our time period. This cartoon was published November of 2019 which means it is comparing the government the pilgrims had, to the one we have today. The comparison it is making is that the government during this time period is a big and intrusive government which overly controls our lives and does so successfully to a certain degree. The government is taking control of so much of our lives, for example, the kind of healthcare we can receive along with how and from where we will be receiving it & the money we make not allowing for upward mobility as it once did. I think the artist behind this cartoon was accurate on the message he was trying to convey. It shows us how less controlling the government was back then compared to now. Additionally, I don't believe the founders originally intended for the government to be overly powerful and intrusive. The founders wrote the constitution to bring order within the people but they gave us more freedom than what is established in today's government. For example, Professor Escobar stated in class that nowhere in the constitution does it say anything about marijuana whether it should be legal or not. So with that being said the government has taken our right to the use of marijuana. The government has put laws on and has restricted things that the founders never intended to have power or restriction over. Therefore, I wholeheartedly agree with the message behind this cartoon. The government has gone beyond its rightful reach and has taken over a very large part of our daily lives.

Sum of ratings: [3 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Re: Cartoon #3 : An Intrusive Government**by [Emilia Carpenter](#) - Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 9:18 PM

I agree with your statement, I think that when you have a group like the pilgrims who were on the mayflower, and they all agree to it, they all know what to expect. and they all are not mad or disagree since everyone is on board. They all felt like the government that is now in place was exactly what they wanted, so it was a little ironic for the pilgrims to be saying that, since for them it was true however for us it is not. Our government controls so much in our every day lives it is insane, it controls what we see and how we learn. It forms us as humans, and I'm not sure if it is for good.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Re: Cartoon #3 : An Intrusive Government**by [Jason Stratis](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 6:53 PM

Regarding to not being sure if it is good I feel like having government being more Involved in most things was originally used to make sure selfish people don't take advantage of the system. It's human nature to be selfish however, so to have government officials be just as human as us sort of defeats

the purpose. Being that I'm sure most people can agree, there's at least a few corrupt politicians out there without our own interest in mind.

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Re: Cartoons - Part 1

by [Melissa Kimp](#) - Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 9:32 AM

After the last presidential election, quite a few people became upset with the electoral college. Hillary Clinton won the popular vote, however, Donald Trump had won the election due to the electoral college. This has happened four other times in United States history (<https://history.house.gov/Institution/Electoral-College/Electoral-College/>). The first time this happened was in 1824 with Andrew Jackson and John Quincy Adams. In this case, John Quincy Adams won even though he didn't have the popular vote or the electoral votes. Jackson was 32 electoral votes shy of what the constitution demanded so the decision went to the house of representatives (311).

Throughout history, there have been many times where people have been unhappy with the electoral college. At the Hartford convention it was proposed that "... the Electoral College stricken from the Constitution". They wanted to make things more difficult for new states. When the leaders took their proposals to Washington, they were branded as traders (224). Without the electoral college, states would not be represented equally. The cartoon accurately depicts which states would have control. The message is largely the same. Back then, new states would not properly be represented without the electoral college.

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The Compromise

by [Max Birch](#) - Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 2:23 PM

Cartoon #2

In cartoon #2 the two political parties are portrayed as they're respective animals and it shows both of them reaching into a normal, tax paying, US citizens pockets and taking money from them. It is labeled the compromise and is attempting to get across the point that as US citizens we are told that a change is going to come and that the president will do good things, but many times that isn't the case. The presidents tax us heavily and without anything being done in return it seems like we elect these people just so they can take our money and not do anything productive with it. This is relevant to the section of history we are learning about because during that time there was a struggle regarding taxation and what was fair. This has been an issue throughout history and will always be one. It is very hard to get everyone to agree on what fair taxation is which causes both sides to constantly feel like they are being cheated.

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The second amendment changing

by [Emily Fosnight](#) - Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 8:45 PM

The first picture of the cartoon depicts a founding father, showing the intent of the original meaning of the second amendment being to bear arms for hunting. While this is incorrect because the second amendment says, “a well regulated *militia*, necessary to the **security** of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.” The intent of the second amendment was for safety and security, to create, maintain, and be a part of a militia, mainly to be able to rise up and fight against a government which gained too much power.

The next picture depicts the realities of the present interpretation of the second amendment. The NRA of 2013 and what the second amendment has been turned into, which is the right to bear automatic rifles, as well as pistols, and shotguns, and as many as you want, which then can sometimes land in the wrong hands causing mass casualties of people who look to be wearing civilian clothing, supported by the NRA. The message intended by the founding fathers definitely differs today, over 200 years later. The original meaning was for us to be able to defend ourselves and not be victims of a government which has taken too much power.

Today automatic and semi-automatic weapons are all over the place, and getting into the wrong hands and harming innocent people. The cartoonist definitely captured that the meaning of the second amendment has drastically changed over the years in the final picture, which has the founding father saying, “just shoot me.” This implies that today’s views are NOT the original intention created by the founding fathers. “[The Bill of Rights] reflected fears that were raised by a generation of struggle with centralized power” (book, p. 202). This is evidence of the original intent.

I agree with the overall message of the cartoon. I have a concealed carry license and I believe in the right to defend myself and other innocent people; however, I don’t think the founding fathers meant that everyone in the general public should have an automatic rifle. When writing the amendments, the guns used were muskets, not automatic weapons. Muskets were a weapon of defense, not one to be used for assault. I’m sure Madison couldn’t imagine how technology would evolve when he wrote the amendments (nor the people when ratified by the states) and that we would have so many automated weapons available.

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Re: The second amendment changing

by [McKenna Wilson](#) - Thursday, December 5, 2019, 12:44 PM

I agree with the points you made here! I think it is important to understand the Second Amendment and what James Madison intended for it to mean when he wrote it. I think it is also important to understand just how different times are today and that in the late 1700's the guns and weapons they had are nothing like what is being manufactured and produced today. There needs to be more of an understanding that the Second Amendment was not intended to protect weapons used for hunting but weapons that are used for safety which I feel this comic may have made a little confusing in the first panel of the comic with the animals.

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Re: Cartoons - Part 1

by [Karlie Ranck](#) - Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 1:42 PM

The second picture is about the government taking the money of the citizens through taxes. there have been taxes on just about everything, almost since the beginning of the americas. There has been taxes in the past on items such as sugar, food, drink, lodging as well as many other items. Today we still have taxes; taxes that come out of our paychecks, sales tax on clothes and other store bought items, sales tax at restaurants, and

in almost every state there is also a state tax. As Oregonians we are possibly the only state that does not have state tax. We are lucky to not have a small percent tax on just about everything we buy whether it is clothing, food, drinks, gas, toll roads etc. however tax is still evident in Oregon through our wages.

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Cartoon 4

by [Brandon Gericke](#) - Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 3:41 PM

I found cartoon 4 particularly interesting. The picture depicts how unfair the US election would be without the Electoral College. This is currently a hot topic of discussion because the current president lost the popular vote, yet still won the election. This brings up the question as to why is the Electoral College necessary? Well for starters the Founders didnt think the average voter was smart enough or educated enough to be able to vote for their best interests. So maybe that proves that the electoral college was necessary? However, a huge issue as that in order to represent the states fairly, the 3/5ths compromise was implemented. This was supposed to level the field between slave-holding and non-slave-holding states. It gave slaves the representation to be counted as three fifths of a person. Therefore you would think that the Electoral College was a way to work around the persistence of slavery in america. I personally do ot believe that the Electoral College is necessary anymore.

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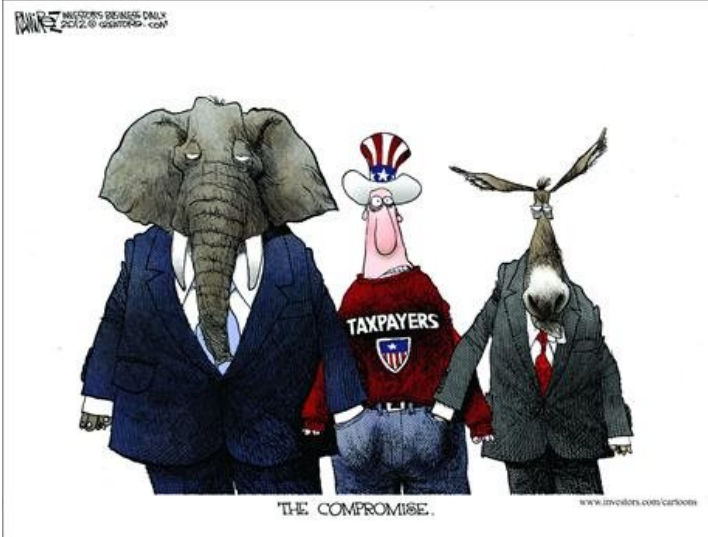
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Re: Cartoons - the compromise

by [Sidney Axtell](#) - Thursday, December 5, 2019, 7:39 PM

The cartoon that stood out to me the most was cartoon #2 "The Compromise".

This cartoon shows both the Democratic side, and Republican side taking money out of the pockets of American taxpayers. It is very clear that the man in the middle, (the American tax-payer) is not happy. I believe that this cartoonist correctly captured the historical truth perfectly. This political cartoon is a good example of the history of taxation in the United States. We learned a lot in class about the colonial protest against British taxation policy, which lead us to the American Revolution. Boycotts forced Britain to repeal the stamp tax, while convincing many British leaders it was essential to tax the colonists on something in order to demonstrate the sovereignty of Parliament" (History of taxation in the United States Wikipedia). This political cartoon still holds truth to this day. And I must say I agree 100% with this cartoon. Americans today, including myself, continue to pay our taxes each year. Not because we want to; because we have too.

Sum of ratings: [2 \(1\)](#) 2[Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Re: Cartoons - the compromise**by [Sara Montiel](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 3:43 PM

I certainly do agree with you and your explanation. I think that this cartoon certainly does show what is happening today and even to what happened in the past. For so many years tax has been a form of the government taking from us. For example the tax on whiskey the tax placed on tea during the Boston tea party. The only difference now is that we are forced to pay it rather than back then, the people payed the tax when they purchased the items. Now on pay day, every pay stub shows us all the money that is taken from us due to tax and there isn't really anything we can do.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#) 1[Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Thankful for a small government - #3**by [Emily Fosnight](#) - Thursday, December 5, 2019, 10:17 PM

The picture of this cartoon dates back to the colonial and pilgrim days of the 1600's, when they did have a rather large and obtrusive monarchy ruling over them. However, the cartoon represents the ideas of Thomas Jefferson and a smaller, very limited government, which was the original intention created by Jefferson and some of the other founding fathers. "Jefferson went on to outline the kind of government a republic should have. A "wise and frugal" government would respect the powers of the states and preserve the liberties ensured by the Bill of Rights. It would be small..." (book, pg. 214). The government seemed to get bigger in the time when Washington and Adams were in charge, and then it declined quite drastically with Jefferson. "Jefferson's first order of business was to reduce the size and expense of government," (book, pg. 214). With the Jeffersonian party and their strict constructionist view of the Declaration of Independence, it gave the states more power, which in turn gave the people more power. The cartoonist captured that part of history wonderfully; however, I can't help but think of the irony in which today's government is quite the opposite (and similar to a controlling, obtrusive monarchy of the pilgrim days). I can see the cartoon in a very sarcastic light in regards to today's government and the loose constructionism, which gives the federal government more power and gives the people less power. The intended message is the same after 200+

years, although the government is not. Today our federal government has a much more loose constructionist approach. The people should have the power regarding everything that is not in the constitution. The intention was to limit what the federal government could do, and that has definitely changed over the years and is much the opposite today. As Joe mentioned in class, there is nothing in the constitution regulating marijuana use or the restriction of plastic bags, and present day government is deciding for us whether or not both things are allowed. I agree with the overall message of the cartoon. I can relate it back to the original meaning that Jefferson had, and I can also see the relation (with heavy sarcasm) to today's quite large and intrusive government.

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Cartoon #5

by [Jason Stratis](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 10:31 AM

Cartoon # represents the sad truth that recently Presidents have been taking to much advantage of the executive order system. The original intention of the branch system was so powers would be spread out amongst various different groups of people that Have different intentions, ambitions, and morals to hopefully get a more diverse say in the running of the country. Executive orders throw that system out and presidents these day's abuse this power more often than they should. The first executive order was issued by George Washington in 1789 addressee to the heads of the federal departments "to impress me with a full, precise, and distinct general idea of the affairs of the United States". This and the "emancipation proclamation" seem to be very different than executive orders from today's time where there seems to be an endless amount of orders

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