

HST 201: US History F19 (Escobar)

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More Cartoons

by [Joe Escobar](#) - Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 8:48 PM

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.

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

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Cartoons Part 2

by [Taylor Hunter-Rogers](#) - Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 12:02 PM

Cartoon #11:

The 11th cartoon is supposed to be interpreted as a college beating the tar out of the freedom of speech with "tolerance" (obviously having none) with the idea that others are entitled an opinion. I do think that this is a good interpretation of what the cartoon is trying to portray, and I do agree with the facts of this cartoon, this is sadly how people are treated. People think that everyone should be entitled a opinion until its going against what they believe and then they just want them hushed again, this is a good representation of how people were and still are treated in all of history.

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Cartoon #8



by [Glorianna Whiteman-Reyes](#) - Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 2:43 PM

This cartoon is, of course, applicable to a number of events around the time period being studied. The Lowell Mill girls, for example, were turned out of their jobs because new immigrants would work for less money, intensifying anti-immigrant sentiments among the workers. While this benefited the business owners immensely, it was frowned upon by the general population.

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Offended by Your Own Rights: a conundrum

by [Curtis Nordquist](#) - Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 4:56 PM

Cartoon #11 (showing a college student (red sweater) with a "tolerance" sign beating someone bloody wearing a blue jacket that says "Free Speech," with blood on the sweater as well) is interesting; not only for relating to times these days, but also we just read about our rights/freedoms in Chapter 7 (p 202) with the Bill of Rights. I also wonder what the original founders would think of today's freedoms of speech; personally, given the times of our founding fathers and how important patriotism and religion was back then, I would say they might be dismayed. Our history book wrote something I hadn't thought of though, that the "First Amendment guaranteed the freedoms of speech, press, and religion against federal interference" (p202, 7-1b); I underlined the part I realized. Our rights to all this is simply to be rest assured that the *government* (not each other) wouldn't tell us how to live. So here's Cartoon 11, showing a liberal-ish college student beating a "blue" student over head with tolerance --something that the book made me realize was that we all have the freedom of speech to say what we want, then how can anyone tell anyone else to stuff their opinion because it hurts feelings? This has historically been a puzzle since the First Amendment was written and people started having something to say. How do we tell people to be "tolerant" but at the same time tell people they are justified in having their own opinions and the right to speak out on those opinions, which are just different (vice-versa on both political sides)? Sometimes people want to spew hate, but isn't that their Amendment right (not that I'd advocate for that)? That was something, from what I've learned about the founding fathers from class, the book and a few other sources, would also struggle with --seeing this new world of ours and having to accept it; I think they would struggle NOT to silence a number of social issues out there today; issues that this cartoon #11 clearly points to.

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Re: Offended by Your Own Rights: a conundrum

by [Logan Yetts](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 9:18 PM

I agree this cartoon pointed to some very important issues around free-speech that I imagine in some part have been issues since our founding fathers, but also have expanded into areas where our founding fathers never could have predicted. This cartoon made me think of two main things: the idea of "hate speech" and who defines what is hate speech, and also the issue of tolerance where sometimes in trying to be so tolerant and inclusive that you end up tolerating intolerance itself. I think our founding fathers held personal freedoms including free-speech to the highest regard and did everything they could try to protect those freedoms from being taken. The bill of rights limits the federal government from interfering with our free-speech so long as it doesn't directly incite violence, but I wonder if the founding fathers ever could have predicted a world like where we live today where there are other outlets such as social

media and news outlets that also have so much power that they have become able to silence individuals and direct public discourse a certain direction and suppress ideas that do not align with their agenda. The Constitution and Bill of Rights protects individuals from the federal government stepping on their free speech rights but I wonder if our founding fathers had predicted the situation we are in now if they would have extended those protections to include not just from the federal government but also from other individuals limiting the free speech of those around them.

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My own choice: Church and State

by [Clay Noteboom](#) - Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 9:25 PM

I would like to offer my own cartoon. I chose this since so much of what we learned about the colonization of America and the American revolution was grounded in religion. I never realized what a critical role religion played in of American history until this class. So here's a cartoon that reflects the clash of then and now:



This country was founded partly because we, or our forefathers, wanted religious freedom. It's something we are extremely proud of, our freedom. But in contemporary times, "our" freedom doesn't always include all Americans. This cartoon shows that many people suspect Muslims of being terrorists. This is because some Muslims were terrorists, and now some people apply that stereotype to all Muslims. I'd like to hear what the founding fathers would say about the freedom of religion being applied in this way.

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Re: More Cartoons

by [Logan Yetts](#) - Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 10:07 PM

In this cartoon, we are told that the number of illegal immigrants coming to America is declining and we are presented with three men who all appear angry about the decline of immigrants. Two of the men are angry because they are losing their cheap labor, while the third man, who appears to be a Rush Limbaugh-

like character from the "Fright Wing" party, is angry because he is losing his cheap, political scapegoat of immigrants to point at for all the country's problems. Although in this cartoon they are clearly referring to the immigrants from Mexico, with a few changed words I think this cartoon would fit right in with the time period we have been studying. As we have been studying in class, during the early 1800s there was a large number of Irish immigrants that came to America. They did mostly manual labor jobs and dropped the value of labor so many people resisted the immigration. At that time there was a lot of racism and discrimination towards them and they were treated and talked about in a very similar way to how Mexican immigrants are talked about now. If only we could have learned from our past and seen the issue is not really the immigrants but the underlying economic structure.

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Cartoon #8

by [Clay Noteboom](#) - Friday, December 6, 2019, 9:34 AM

I agree completely, Logan. There are so many ironies in this cartoon. Many rural Americans are conservative; many rely on immigrant labor; many vote in a way that discourages immigration and marginalizes those they already employ.

The Alien and Sedition Act (from our class lecture/notes) set up a precedent for limiting the number of immigrants who can become citizens, and it seems like we have been working to keep that up ever since then. It increased the length of residency from 5 years to 14 years and allowed the government to arrest and deport anyone it perceived to be an enemy, or even from an enemy nation. This is happening now with Trump's ban on folks from selected Muslim nations, based on his perception that, with Muslims come terrorists. It's eerily similar thinking to that behind the Alien and Sedition Act, even as the definition of terrorism has evolved to include US-bred mass shooters.

I'm from the Hood River Valley, full of pear, apple, and cherry orchards, where we rely heavily on immigrant labor. When there's a labor shortage, such as when ICE raids local orchards, the fruit stays on the trees and rots. There is no line of white people waiting to pick it. Even the orchard owners suffer.

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Cartoon 10

by [Benjamin Blythe](#) - Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 11:30 PM

Cartoon 10 shows a tumor named "19 trillion national debt" slowly spreading across the country. This negative view of our government's financial habits is shared by most Americans today. While the amount of debt (now around 23 trillion) has likely grown beyond what the founding fathers envisioned, a national debt wasn't always seen as a problem. In 1790, Alexander Hamilton detailed plans to make domestic debts into "a permanent, tax-supported fixture of government" (book pg 198). However, Hamilton believed all foreign debts should be paid immediately, and today we owe over 6 trillion to other governments. Arguments for and against the national debt have also changed. In the 1790's, these arguments centered on the constitution. Hamilton, being a federalist and loose constructionist, cited the "necessary and proper" clause to justify the debt system. Strict constructionists like James Madison believed the plan was unconstitutional, and

reluctantly agreed after a compromise. By now, the national debt has been around for so long that its constitutionality rarely comes into question. These days the common opinion is just that \$23 trillion in debt is "bad." The founding fathers would probably agree.

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Re: Cartoon 10

by [Curtis Nordquist](#) - Friday, December 6, 2019, 3:43 PM

Yes, the founding fathers might be upset at the sheer numbers, compared to back then (p203, 7-1c): \$11 million to foreign countries, \$25 million owed nationally and by the states to its citizens. So high numbers in the national debt wasn't really a strange concept; our founding fathers might do the math of rising costs of living and simply shrug, cost of doing business. I found it interesting that Congress was suggesting so quickly to pay off the foreign debt, but the citizens had to wait for the "troublesome questions" to be answered (p203). Some states had paid their people back, but some hadn't; does the national assume state debt or what? Then there was all that Revolutionary War debt (p204, par1); I just don't think the people who ran things back then would even blink at the debt level now, considering the population change, the size of our country now to back then... yes, they'd do the math and understand, maybe not so much on higher debt years, but who knows.

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Re: Cartoon 10

by [Benjamin Blythe](#) - Friday, December 6, 2019, 11:48 PM

Back then, the debt was around 30 percent of the GDP (Congressional Budget Office) and mostly due to the war. Today the debt is over 100 percent of the GDP and continues to grow. Even though the government offers more services today, the numbers still sound high relative to 1800. However, the biggest difference is in how the debt was/is managed. Leaders like Jefferson made reducing the debt a priority and it almost reached zero by 1830. I think the scope and growth of the debt would come as a surprise to most of the founders, besides maybe Hamilton who imagined it as an important part of government.

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The Balance of The Power In Society.

by [Tuyen Thanh Diep](#) - Thursday, December 5, 2019, 4:54 PM

Cartoon #8 The striking image is the group of people standing on a board, creating a vector towards a man standing at the other end. The symbolic podium, microphone and suit signify that he is a politician.

The composition of this cartoon emphasizes the politician's vulnerability by placing him on the right side of the image, emphasizing his isolation, while those are grouped on the left side. The board they stand is a visual symbol of the balance of power in society. The politician can only survive if he receives the majority of the support from the people. If not, the board will lose its balance which means the politician will fall.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Re: The Balance of The Power In Society.**by [Natalie Haffner](#) - Friday, December 6, 2019, 11:24 PM

This cartoon is very powerful. some people say "I don't vote because my vote doesn't matter," but this cartoon shows otherwise. the people as a group do hold power and can make a difference with their votes. this cartoon also resonates with the past because the founding fathers didn't want the government to have too much power, they wanted the people to vote for the changes they wanted to see. yes, the government has gotten more power, as it grew bigger, over the years, but the people still have the power to make a difference.

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This time around cartoon number 12 really stood out to me because of the way that this cartoon has relevance to both past and present. I don't think the distribution of wealth was as big of an issue back then as it is now and not as many people were concerned with the issue but it was still a fact that the wealthy majority still had a large sum of the countries wealth. In this cartoon it shows who I assume to be Obama holding the Constitution and pointing out to James Madison that he had found a flaw, the flaw being that nowhere in the constitution does it say the government is allowed to confiscate wealth for redistribution to this Madison replies it isn't a flaw that's the point. Madison was raised into a rather wealthy family and inherited a good amount of that fortune so I could see how it would be within his better interest to not include something like this in the constitution. Im not saying this would have really been the best thing to include in the constitution but I can understand the point the the artist his trying to make here. I also do agree with this cartoon and its message saying that the wealth of America is divided extremely unequally and unfairly.

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Carson #15 is portraying the government as an oligarchy type club, and nobody else is invited to join. I did not understand this until I looked up the word Oligarchy. Oligarchy is defined as a small group of people having control of a country, organization, or institution.

The Founding Fathers of America put the government in place as an entity that would not, and could not assume all power from the people. That is why I think this cartoon is mistaken. The government was made so people would have a voice, and a choice on what was going on in this country. We still have that democratic system but it can feel like many choices are made for us by the government.

One thing this cartoon almost got right was the part where it said nobody was invited to join them. A qualified person can rise up in ranks in the government, but typically a person with money is the one with power. George Washington, our first president, married a rich widow making him a wealthy man. Alexander Hamilton, who was in charge of our

nation's treasury, preferred rich and upper class people. Our more current presidents are rich as well. Donald Trump is the richest president so far. The majority of our leaders have money, so yes it is difficult to join their "club", but our government is not an oligarchy.

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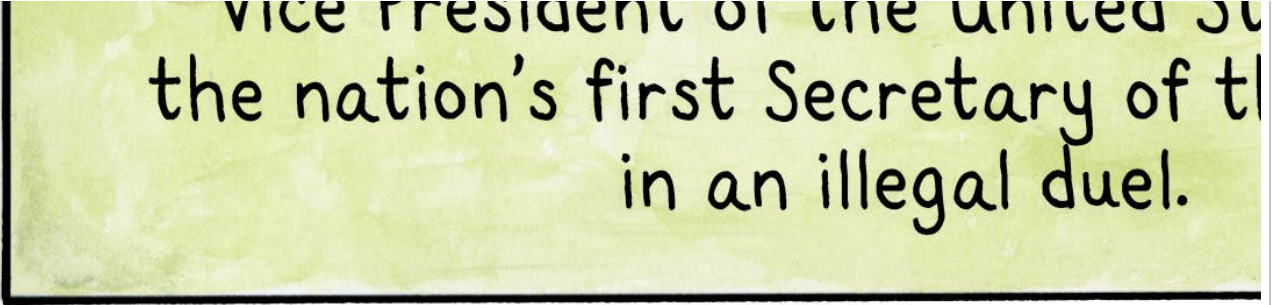
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government exceptions

by [Natalie Haffner](#) - Thursday, December 5, 2019, 11:05 PM





VICE President of the United States
the nation's first Secretary of the Treasury
in an illegal duel.

In this political cartoon about what really happened between Hamilton and Burr there can be an underlying meaning. the cartoon says the duel was illegal, but they didn't stop them. this can also be related to Jefferson making the Louisiana purchase. he didn't have the power to make that purchase. this is a topic of discussion about our government today. it seems that those in power, take advantage of said "power," despite the checks and balances.

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Cartoon 11, Free Speech?

by [Luca Belsito](#) - Friday, December 6, 2019, 7:30 PM

Cartoon 11 seems to be a very prevalent problem in today's society. Many people misinterpret free speech in that it cannot be offensive or criticize anyone. This was a problem in the beginning of our nation as well. As we learned in class, the Zenger case is one of North America's first cases of stifling free speech. This proves to be a precedent for the Constitution. Later still, we learned that during John Adams' presidency with the passing of the Alien and Sedition Acts, there was a stifling of free speech yet again.

Both the Zenger case, and the cases that led to the Sedition Act, were issues relating to criticizing the government via the newspaper. Both cases, involved stifling free speech because the man on the receiving end of said criticism did not approve and believed it to be "seditious" or even promoting libel. Directly after Adams' presidency ended, the people arrested for committing said crimes, were pardoned by the succeeding president. In the case of the Zenger trial, Zenger was defended to lead to a precedent in law.

This Cartoon deals with these same issues, except rather than the government stifling free speech, it is other people deeming some types of free speech to be offensive. Whether or not the founding fathers believed in this is up to speculation, free speech is and always has been a debated topic in which there are many limitations as to what and how you can say certain things.

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Cartoon #11

by [Bryce Turney](#) - Saturday, December 7, 2019, 11:55 AM

The Bill of Rights were created to give the people more freedom and rights and it reflected fears that were raised by a generation of struggle with centralized power (textbook pg 202). The first amendment guarantees the freedom of speech and in this cartoon this amendment is being threatened. I think the cartoonist was accurate with this because nowadays if you say something that goes against the grain there's always gonna be someone who is offended by what your saying. The founding fathers did not intend for people to be limited in their rights to speak freely about an issue that someone has to talk about as long as it's not a threat to others.

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Cartoon #13 shows an interesting point. "The people don't know their true power...". This reminded me of the Federalist political party. This party died off, why? The people did not like them. The party opposed the war of 1812. Doing this they showed a lack of enthusiasm for democracy. People did not respond well to this party during that time so it died off. People have the power to put an end to customs in the country. All we need to do to be successful in either abolishing or creating something is to work together.

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Showing "the people" keeping the politician from falling over the edge, this cartoon comments on the power of the people to keep politicians in check. The title "The People Don't Know Their True Power" could also apply to low voter turnouts, because "the people" don't know the importance of voting. The idea that the public is needed to keep the government in line dates back to the post-revolutionary period. As we learned in class, the system of government was created on the assumption that power would be abused. On the topic of building state governments, page 185 in the textbook states "They agreed that every state needed a written constitution to limit the powers of government..." On creating a national constitution, the textbook quotes the citizens of Concord - "'A Constitution alterable by the Supreme Legislative is no security at all to the subject against any encroachment of the governing part on... their rights and privileges'" (pg 185). As shown by the cartoon and textbook, the fear of government, existed at the beginning of the country, and still does today.

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In cartoon number 10 It shows the issue a picture of a cancer wrapped around the U.S that says 19 trillion national debt. I would say that this cartoon is not completely historically accurate but just when it comes to the amount of debt. However the U.S has almost always been in debt since the country first started so in some ways this cartoon is historically accurate. In terms of the artist calling the debt a cancer I would kind of

agree with that in the sense that it is a problem that has been around for a long time and its one we just can't seem to get rid of. Overall I would mostly agree with this cartoon and how it depicts the problem of our never ending national debt.

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