



# HST 202: History of United States W17 (Escobar Meta 30937 30938)

Home ► Winter 2017 ► HST 202 W17 (Escobar Meta 30937 30938) ► Week 4 ► Forum 2 ► Editorial Cartoons

  
Search forums

## Forum 2

### Editorial Cartoons

• [Subscribe](#)

◀ Hollywood History & Mythology

Hollywood History & Mythology ▶

Display replies in nested form

Move this discussion to ...

Move

Pin



#### Editorial Cartoons

by Joe Escobar - Saturday, January 28, 2017, 12:02 AM

This thread is for discussions on the Editorial Cartoons 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 an informative subject line for your post, especially the cartoon number you are addressing . Do NOT simply leave it RE: Editorial Cartoons

Sum of ratings: -

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

**Am I Not A Man**



by Megan Martin - Sunday, January 29, 2017, 12:54 PM

The cartoon Am I Not A Man was likely drawn by someone who does not believe in slavery. The caption was a big reason for leading me to this conclusion but the African American man pictured is also in what seems to me a begging position. Believe it or not, most people would agree with this cartoon in the 1830s. According to a chart of slaveholders in the South shown in Week 1 of class, 64% of people in the South were not slaveholders. Abolitionists would also strongly agree with this cartoon. More specifically, someone like William Lloyd Garrison who wrote "the Liberator", claiming slavery as a great national sin, would likely agree with the message behind this cartoon. The people who would disagree with this cartoon would be the 36% of Americans who were slaveholders(Week 1 lecture images #19). Of those people might be Andrew Jackson, as he was a slaveholder himself.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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



### The Scale

by Noah Cramer - Monday, January 30, 2017, 12:43 PM

1. The opinion of the cartoonist seems to be that he looks past the color of skin and judges African American males as equally as white males. The artist showed this by depicting two men sitting on opposite sides of a scale being weighed equally. The African American has a grin on his face seeming to be rubbing it in the face of the white man. Obviously, the scale and the two men lead me to this point of interpretation.
2. An opposing point of view could be that while the South and the North have two different jobs in the world, they are depicted as equal to one another, each needing the other. The Southern African Americans would have been supportive of this message because it depicts them as equal to the Northern American Male.
3. I could imagine this cartoon bringing hope to the African American Slaves of the south, showing them that times are changing. It shows me that times have really changed and everyone is created equal no matter race, sex, etc. 2017, in America, shows equality and growth since past ages. This equality in America influences my position on this cartoon.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### Re: The Scale

by Timberly Thomas - Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 9:57 PM

1. I never really noticed the grin on his face. I don't know if I really agree with you on the fact that he is rubbing it in the white mans face. I think the white man is Irish and is unhappy because even though he is white and free, he is being treated like a slave. he

left his home looking for a better life, and he is not much better off. I think the black man is happy because he is no longer the only one on the bottom.

2. I can see where you are coming at with this. the south was more for crops, while the North was the industries. I do wonder though, if this is what the cartoonist is trying to put out, why did he make a point to write black and white on the scales? I mean there was whites down there too. I think if it was about this, there wouldn't be a black man in the scale but a white man dressed in the same way.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### Re: The Scale

by Megan Martin - Friday, February 3, 2017, 3:12 PM

I agree completely on your point that the black man is happy because he is no longer alone as being the worst in America. In the week 3 lecture images, we see the picture on "scientific racism" where we see the Irish man looking similarly to the black man and the magazine also stating they should be extinct. In class, we also were shown the horrific quote that stated along the lines of the fact that Irish and blacks should be hanged and killed. This gives us a good understanding of the hatred of the Irish, and why the scale could be showing them as equals.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### Re: The Scale

by Anthony Aviles - Thursday, February 2, 2017, 11:23 AM

It is interesting how each of the men are depicted. I could be wrong, but the man on the right looks more unattractive and almost resembles a monkey. I believe during this time many people in the south viewed blacks not necessarily as "monkeys" but as a different race. And there job was to civilize the black population and impress their superior intellect and culture among them. So it interesting that the author chooses to portray whites as more "primitive". The black man smiling is a good catch. The act of him smiling is ostentatious in the fact that it is a simple idea to us in the 21st century to understand that all races are equal but somehow revolutionary to the people in the south.

An interesting idea to propose because the words above are small yet are very significant. Is it possible that this was written by a southerner? What if the author is trying to depict that their slaves which they view as "3 / 5's" a person are equal to whites in the north. What if they also believe northerners share common ancestry with the? Look at the way the white man from the north is depicted. He is equal on the scale with the black man from the south and he looks more primitive than the black man. At first I

thought this image portrayed equality between black men and white men but the more I analyze the picture the more I am swayed by the division of the North and the South. I believe this image depicts the southern viewpoint of northerners.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### **Re: The Scale**

by Matthew Brownlee - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 12:17 PM

I agree that the cartoon is looking to portray both groups as equal, but the goofy caricatures lead me to believe the cartoonist is trying to cast both groups in a negative light, and is likely a Southern white man.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### **Am I Not a Man**

by Alexander Salgado - Monday, January 30, 2017, 1:40 PM

In this political cartoon I came away with the impression of a slave asking why he is being treated the way he is. The main point of the cartoon is a representation of how slaves had no rights in comparison to white people in the South. The way the slave is in chains and on his knee asking, "Am I not a man and a brother," with his hands together looking up as if there were a slave owner he could be talking to is what led me to this conclusion on the cartoon. This cartoon is effective because it gets the point across as to what slaves felt and were treated in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. What is crazy to me is how this was drawn in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and is still relevant today as far as all the police brutality against African-Americans that has occurred despite everybody being free.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### **Person or Property?**

by Katherine Fjordbeck - Monday, January 30, 2017, 4:38 PM

I chose the cartoon "Am I Not a Man?", this one spoke to me because it showed just how harsh people were on slaves. So harsh that they wouldn't even consider them a human, just property. I found it interesting how the artist used this interpretation to show how abused and mistreated slaves were in this time period. I also found it interesting how they show the man so bare, I believe he was showing his vulnerability through this rough time. I

believe that the main point was to show that this person was more than just property to someone. It's a living, breathing human being and they deserve just as much respect as anyone else.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### **Am I Not A Man**

by Anthony Williams - Monday, January 30, 2017, 6:49 PM

Many inclinations come to head when viewing this photo regarding the cartoonist's opinion, the author maybe opposes slavery by stating "AM I NOT A MAN AND A BROTHER", states how slaves aren't looked at like normal people. Many american abolitionists would have agreed with this that slaves are in fact brothers of you and I. In the 19th century many Americans would feel different solely based on your opinion of African Americans, but one thing people would maybe feel from this would be feel sympathy for the hardships slave went through. It's always effective for us students to look back at our historical past of America.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### **Editorial Cartoons-Scale**

by Timberly Thomas - Monday, January 30, 2017, 7:28 PM

I believe the artist is for equal rights, I mean it is an actual scale labeled white and black and they are pictured as being equal. I am assuming the white man is Irish, due to his face shape and we all know that the Irish where seen on the same level as blacks. I believe the artist not only was trying to show people his view, but show people that the Irish are just as white as everyone else. If this cartoon was only about equal rights, why did he write white and black on the scales?

I believe that this cartoon was made for the north because he wanted to show them that they are just as bad as the south. They go on about how slavery is bad and they should have freedom, but they are treating the Irish like how the south treats slaves. I really don't know how affective it was back then. People tend to turn a blind eye to things to suit there needs and wants. Today I believe it is affective as a learning tool, at least for me. I always new how both the Irish and slaves where treated, but never really thought of them as one in the same.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



### Re: Editorial Cartoons-Scale

by Alexander Salgado - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 10:36 PM

I think as far as showing how southerners looked at slaves and the Irish as the same shows how they actually meant it. Slaves were treated as property and to say the Irish are equal to a slave is pretty powerful.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### Promised Land - Promise or Conquest?

by Caleb Pruitt - Monday, January 30, 2017, 7:31 PM

Nast quite clearly deplores Catholicism and its entrance into American culture. As we saw with "The American River Ganges" (in Thursday's class) and additionally in this cartoon here, the pope is used in a negative way. Here he has the demeanor of a conqueror, preparing to go convert those American sinners!

I believe it is impossible for the cartoon to be anything but Catholic satire with the tonsured monk, the man waving incense, let alone the pope and bishop with miters, and the crosses. I think the monk with the spyglass and the menacing spear-like weapons in the top right definitely give the pope and his posse an aggressive appearance, especially with how Nast depicted their rotund, grotesque faces.

An obvious point of view in opposition to this would be the pro-Catholic population. The leftmost figure almost has the "ape-like" face that Dr. Escobar showed as Nast specifically pointing out Irish people. The spurned Irish and other Catholic believing immigrants or minorities are clearly being targeted in this picture, but I don't think that this picture is one that was received with contempt or rioting.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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



### Am I Not A Man? Cartoon

by Luis Huidobro - Monday, January 30, 2017, 9:02 PM

1. The conclusion that I can draw from this cartoon is of an enslaved black man begging that he is a man and a brother much like the white man. The main point the artist is trying to convey is that Blacks should be considered men and brothers of the same country and treated as equals. What led me to this conclusion was in the art of the black man begging in chains and the banner underneath stating that "Am I not a man and a Brother?" leading me to believe that the black man begging for equality.

2. The opposing point of view for this cartoon would contend that blacks are not men nor brother but property. The opposing point of view would come from the south democrats and slave owners stating that blacks were not men nor brother but property to be held.

3. The effectiveness of this cartoon would have been spoken to the abolitionist of the north and folks that were against slavery in this time frame. The effect it has on me studying the past is of anger of the treatment of "slaves" just wanting to live their lives without serving a overlord. In 2017, this influences my position in equal rights for all not just some, sure it might not be evident by the looks of our current society that we need more equality through all races.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



### **Re: Am I Not A Man? Cartoon**

by Katherine Fjordbeck - Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 9:44 PM

I very much agree with your first conclusion. These black men wanted so badly to be treated equal as the white men but they were never seen as equals until later on and even then there was still racism. Even this day in age racism is still very prominent, people are still hateful against people that don't necessarily look the same, which is a shame. So, even though this cartoon was drawn a while back it's still applicable to this day in age. People should see their peers as equal and that was what this chained up man was begging for just to be seen as equal.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### **At the South Interpretation**

by Matthew Brownlee - Monday, January 30, 2017, 9:07 PM

To me, this cartoon is arguing that the Abolitionist movement is actually bad for the slaves, and that slavery is a better option. It argues this by showing the mother threaten to send her son away with the "Bobolitionists" if he isn't good. It paints the Abolitionists in a negative light, making it sound like they kidnap slaves. White Southerners would likely agree with this view the most. I could be missing the point completely on this, so I'd like to hear your thoughts.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### Re: At the South Interpretation

by Caleb Pruitt - Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 5:20 PM

I definitely agree with what you have to say! The mother's phraseology of the abolitionists "run away" with him clearly paints them in a negative light. Also, I think it could be argued that the spelling of her speech (yer instead of you; mudder for mother) is a manner of mocking of the slaves' style of talking, especially in the south. Additionally, the cartoonist exaggerates the size of the little boy's lips, a distinctly "black" characteristic and potentially another subtle jab at slaves.

I do believe that mostly the southern holding slave owners would have laughed at this kind of cartoon and that the cartoonist was of a similar mindset as well. Nonetheless, I so think it would be interesting to know how the abolitionist communities would have received this. Personally, I think it would have aggravated them, but not to the point of uncontrollable rancor; instead, I believe they could have used this to fuel their insatiable urge to liberate the south, almost as an inspiration to further their ambitious endeavor!

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



### Re: At the South Interpretation

by Alexander Salgado - Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 4:50 PM

I agree with your statements but I also think this cartoon was drawn by a slaveholder painting the image to others that the abolitionists were bad people that just took slaves away when they were misbehaved. A mothers words to her son are impactful and thats probably why he drew a mother talking to her son.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### Re: At the South Interpretation

by Anthony Williams - Friday, February 3, 2017, 6:55 PM

I agree, the picture interprets the same meaning to me that the mother uses the "bobolitionists" as monsters and that if the child does not behave they will come for him. White southerners would agree with this depicting image that shows defamation towards abolitionist.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### Am I Not A Man and A Brother?

by Riley Stromvig - Monday, January 30, 2017, 10:22 PM

This cartoon shows a slave who is chained by his feet and his wrists while wearing nothing but a slim garment around his waist. The cartoonist is trying to convey the idea that slaves (blacks in general) were thought of as less than whites. They were considered property, and were treated like it as well. Their opinion is, obviously, that slaves should be treated equal because they are people, just like 'whites'. Their main point is also that slaves should be treated the same as their owners because they are no less than them. There were a few things that led me to interpret the cartoon the way I did. One, the man is chained up. Two, he is on his knees, looking up, almost as if he is begging. Three, the wording along the bottom of the cartoon that reads "Am I Not A Man And A Brother?". The biggest standout, to me, was the wording across the bottom. The way that it is worded, along with the man being in a position of 'begging', makes it seem as if all he is asking for is equality. He is not asking for any special privilege or anything like that. All he wants is to be equal. No more, no less. This cartoon really speaks volumes to me.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



### Re: Am I Not A Man and A Brother?

by Alexander Salgado - Friday, February 3, 2017, 5:54 PM

In the movie 12 years a slave some of the stuff the slaves were made to do was awful and showed how inhumane southern whites were. I think the cartoonist was trying to get the white majority of the nation to view slaves as equals to everybody rather than just the slave owners.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Anthony Aviles - Monday, January 30, 2017, 10:42 PM

- Am I Not A Man is the most powerful image to me. The image portrays the physical bondage of a black man and questions the morality and the ethics of enslaving another human. More so, the image seeks to relate us. The scroll at the bottom of the image of the black man exclaims, "Am i not a man and a brother?" The picture not only portrays the man as a human but as a brother physically, socially and spiritually. The posture of the man is very important. One could say he is begging, pleading but to who? This man could be very well be praying to the same God that many 1800 christians believed in.

- There are a multitude of counter arguments to the idea of black people being of the same species as whites. Scientific racism was a major influencer during the 19th century. Samuel George Morton, a scientist and physician who worked in Philadelphia gathered a large amount of skulls. Morton used these skulls to test his hypothesis that brain size could be used to rank the various human races. Morton's measurements consistently showed that Europeans had larger brains than Africans. However, his evidence was flawed. He used female skulls for other races that weren't white, smaller sample sizes and picked which sub-groups to include in his study for each race (Race and Racism Pg. 25). I believe a majority of Americans would believe these studies especially white southerners to reinforce the idea of European superiority.
- I believe many abolitionists used this image or images like this to spread the idea of equality. This image exemplifies the pathos, the emotional argument of emancipating slaves. As a student, it abhors me that this was the norm for this time period but helps to enforce the mindset of reality during the 19th century. My view on our culture is that we accept everyone regardless of race, religion, sex and gender and I wish to support equality to all individuals.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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



### **The Scale**

by Devyn McCloud - Monday, January 30, 2017, 10:46 PM

The cartoon I chose was the scale cartoon. This cartoon's conclusion to me was how negroes in the south and white men in the north are the same. I also got that the white man is kind of drawn like a monkey, like the stereotype of negroes that racial cartoonists make. But then I saw the feet of the cartoon and how the negro has no shoes and the white man does think makes me think that there is a little difference from the two but still the same weighed out. Some people might think that the negroes were shown as sloppy country fellows since the negro is dressed bad and doesn't have shoes and the white man is dressed good with shoes and all. I believe the southerners in the 19<sup>th</sup> century would be highly offended by this cartoon since they believed that there was no equivalence between the white and the blacks.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### **Re: The Scale**

by Riley Stromvig - Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 4:40 PM

The scale cartoon also really caught my attention. I see all the same things that you do: the north and south, the equal scale, the northerner being drawn like a monkey, and the shoes on the northerner but not the negro. I am following the idea that negroes are often

depicted as monkeys back in the day but I don't quite understand what the point of drawing the northerner as a monkey. Could you possibly further explain it, just for my own understanding? As for the shoes, you are saying that the northerner has shoes and the negro does not to resemble how negroes were viewed in that time period? As sloppy country fellows?

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### Re: The Scale

by Alexander Salgado - Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 5:04 PM

I know this question is not aimed at me but maybe I could chime in and express my views. First, I think the southerners viewed any northerner as equal to African-Americans because they did not agree with slavery and that is why they are drawn the same as each other. I also believe the reason why the white northerner has shoes on is to show that he is in fact white and free and the reason the slave has no shoes depicts he is in fact a slave who is not free. So to answer your question I don't think he has shoes on because that wasn't a right for a slave.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### Re: The Scale

by Riley Stromvig - Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 1:20 PM

I see. I have actually never thought about that; how the southerners could potentially view the northerners as equal to slaves imply because they didn't believe in slavery. That is definitely interesting and something that could have been a possibility. Thanks for chiming in!

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### Re: Am I not a man

by Noah Cramer - Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 11:57 AM

The cartoonist's opinion seems to be that he is NOT pro-slavery. He makes his statement by showing an African American on his knees with his hands chained up. asking a rhetorical question, "Am I not a man and brother?". The African American depicted in the picture, along with the question, shows how I reached my decision.

While this clearly shows that the artist is NOT pro-slavery, others could view this differently. I feel like this is so obvious to what the statement is, that if someone interprets this different, towards more of a pro-slavery depiction, that they are beginning to lie to themselves about what the cartoon means.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



### **Holy Horror!!!**

by Caleb Pruitt - Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 5:38 PM

I wonder why no one has picked this one to analyze yet! What a tremendous picture we are presented here. At first glance it made me think of the potentially offensive quote that Dr. Escobar placed on the board last week concerning (I believe) that a perfect would occur when the Irish people killed all the blacks and then hung themselves. (Or something of that vein. Also, as previously stated by a number of posts, the ape-like face suggests a negative depiction of Irish folk). However, I think this picture could possibly emphasize the question of "Which woman truly is this *Holy Horror*"? To the southerners it would clearly be the black person, since the Irish hardly ventured down south; however, the average northerner might deem the grotesquely penned Irish-woman to be the more horrific!

But who other than an Irish couple would bear the surname "McCafraty," let's be honest. If the white woman would be deemed the more horrific of the pair, then I believe that this would have been targeted towards the northern population, and that the cartoonist himself would bear the same opinion. All in all, I think it's interesting that to the northerners, the Irish were even more disdained than the blacks!

Any other thoughts on this dangerous image here?

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



### **At The South**

by Megan Martin - Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 7:04 PM

The cartoon "At the South" was a much different take than my previously analyzed cartoon, "Am I Not a Man." This picture depicts an African American slave telling her son that if he is bad she will let the abolitionists take, and run away with him. Although the text itself helped explain what is going on, the mother is also waving a scolding finger to the boy to show that he is getting in trouble. The artist of this cartoon was likely pro slavery and disagreed with the idea of abolishing slavery, as they act like it's a punishment to escape. Someone who may have agreed with this perspective could have been John C Calhoun, as we know in 1848 he ran "directly challenging the Wilmot Proviso"(textbook pg. 443). William

Garrison, an abolitionist and writer of "The Liberator," would have strongly disagreed with this cartoon as he called slavery "America's great national sin." (textbook pg. 419) Overall I think this kind of editorial cartoon would have been more appealing to people who owned slaves themselves.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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



### **At the South**

by Katherine Fjordbeck - Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 9:40 PM

The political cartoon "At the South" represents the uncertainty these families had. They never knew if they were going to be split up from their loved ones and children. It also shows how the parents worried about if their kids were considered rude or not behaving well, that they would be sold to a different slave holder. So, this picture really shows how stressed the relationship was in between slave families. This showed how serious the circumstances were and how worried the families always were and all the struggles they went through on a day to day basis.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### **Re: At the South**

by Noah Cramer - Thursday, February 2, 2017, 11:50 AM

I think this political cartoon had to be more of the mother trying to scare the child into behaving. While it is true, they didn't know if they would be split up, the mother threatens to send the young child away if he doesn't behave. This is why I think it depicts the mother just trying to get her son to behave, rather than the uncertainty of the family being torn apart!

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



### **Re: At the South**

by Katherine Fjordbeck - Thursday, February 2, 2017, 10:53 PM

I very much agree with you in that regard. My personal interpretation of this cartoon was the unknowing aspect of being a slave. Where the parent was just trying to get her child to behave because if he didn't she knew something bad could happen to her family. Yet, I do agree that she was just trying to get him to behave but there was much higher circumstances compared to other family situations at the time.



## Interpreting Editorial Cartoons

by Dylan Mandoli - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 9:47 PM

### 1. At the South

This cartoon depicts a black mother scolding her son. Nothing directly indicates they are slaves, but it is likely it was produced at the time where their blackness alone would make that clear to the audience. In characteristically bad english, the mother is warning her son that if he does not behave, she'll call the "bobolitionists" to take him away. The cartoon depicts abolitionists as boogeymen, waiting to break up whatever slave families they can. However, the title, "At The South," as well as the satirical tone of the cartoon, lead me to believe it is probably a northern cartoon depicting the sort of lies slaves might have been sold to scare them away from abolitionists.

### 2. Promised Land

This cartoon depicts the pope (indicated by his triregnum crown) surrounded by bishops, cardinals, franciscan monks, and other catholic clergymen. The halberds of Swiss guards and Landschnechts peek into view far behind him. They stand atop a cathedral's dome, looking out on the terrain of the western hemisphere before them. Their expressions and body language indicate that they are looking upon this land eagerly, intending to claim it as their own. This cartoon clearly depicts anti-catholic fears that second-wave immigrants, primarily from catholic countries like Ireland and Sicily, would allow the catholic church to gain a foothold in the Americas.