



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

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](#)

Re: Editorial Cartoons



by Jonathan Whittington - Saturday, January 28, 2017, 12:51 PM

Cartoons are one of my favorite things in this class and I am glad Joe chooses to use them. I think they are a great way to help us learn about a issue and still get a laugh out of it at the same time. The cartoon that spoke to me was the Am I Not A Man cartoon. We all know the horrors of slavery and all understand that it was a terrible part in Americas history, but the thing that always bugged me was that according to the declaration of independence ALL men are created equal. It just blew my mind at the hypocrisy that our country showed at the very beginning. They should have just told the truth and said all white men are created equal.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Michael Gray - Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 12:18 PM

I'm glad someone else seems to like the cartoons as much as I do. I like that the ones with a comical outlook even when the author didn't necessarily mean for it. The one he showed in class of the steps of drinking and how it ultimately ended in somehow suicide was probably my favorite. The author had a serious purpose for creating that, but as we look back we can see that it's funny because we know that isn't true. Also the one where the catholic alligators were coming ashore to eat the protestant children really shows how biased some can be along with the pro slave cartoons like the one you were responding to in your post.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Jarred Finn - Thursday, February 2, 2017, 3:54 PM

I totally agree with you in the fact that our country is built off a lot of hypocrisy at least in the beginning as you said. As we see in the cartoon "am i not a man," it goes to show that Africans were not considered men or even humans if you wanna look at it like that. But yes i like what you say about how they should've wrote all white men are equal

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



"At The South" Cartoon image shows true ignorance of the 19th century.

by Michael Gray - Sunday, January 29, 2017, 1:27 PM

I chose the "At The South" cartoon image depicting a black mother scolding her child with fear that if he does not behave, he'll be taken away by slave owners. I was confused by the word "bobolitionist" and could not find any type of definition, so using the context, I took it as slave owner. The main point is to be a derogatory image to maybe convince black children to behave and "be good." The mother refers to her child as a "little" expletive and threatens to send him away. An opposing faction to this image would be abolitionists, the educated, and people against treating others differently over their race.

Supporters of an image like this would be slave owners, racists, and the ignorant. They would support threats to put fear into children so they would behave. It was most likely effective to the racists to try and scare these people to keep them acting how they wanted them too. The only good thing for me is that it is effective in helping me understand how sad the time was and how blacks were depicted. They try and make her sound unintelligent by her words and how she even refers to her own son.

Today's culture most definitely influences my position on this image because we are now a more astute people and know that we are all created equal and to not treat people different because of their race ect.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



Re: "At The South" Cartoon image shows true ignorance of the 19th century.

by Brandon Gericke - Friday, February 3, 2017, 11:07 AM

I believe that the mother is trying to scare the child by saying that Abolitionists will come and steal him away. The tactic of instilling the fear of abolitionists in slaves would make it much more difficult for abolitionists to lead the slaves to freedom.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Alec Beebe - Monday, January 30, 2017, 11:26 AM

The political cartoon "At The South" had the greatest impact on me. I believe the cartoonist was pro slavery due to the racist nature of the photo. It almost seems like a scare tactic for the slave population telling them to obey the abolitionists. Maybe good behavior from the slaves allowed them to keep their families together and bad behavior would split them apart. This is incentive for the slaves to obey their masters and make sure that they behave as they were expected to. The way that the language at the bottom of the page also represents how illiterate the slaves were. It also seems like the cartoonist exaggerated

some of the slaves features to portray them as even less than that of a white. This is most likely a southern cartoonist targeting the slave population and warning them of what would happen if they disobeyed their slave owner.

On the other point of view this could be a cartoon by a northerner targeting the northern people and portraying his/her feelings on how wrong slavery is. Maybe how wrong it is to split up their family and that they need white northerners help because of their disadvantages such as skin color and lack of education.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Jonathan Whittington - Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 1:56 PM

I agree. I believe this cartoon was used to scare children/ Also interesting to see the type of language that was used during this time period.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



The Scale

by Hope Kelley - Monday, January 30, 2017, 1:19 PM

I decided to take a look at the cartoon labeled "The scale". I believe this is about Southern racism towards African Americans and northern racism towards the Irish. I say this because at the top of the scale, on the left it says South and on the right it says North. Now the man on the left is sitting on the scale and it says Black, on the right the man is sitting on the scale and it says White. The scale seems to be equal on both sides and I believe this is to signify the almost equal amount of racism both Irish and African Americans underwent. I think the man on the right is Irish because of his "gorilla" like features which we have been shown and talked about in class.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



Cartoon #4 - Kaylee Colt

by Kaylee Colt - Monday, January 30, 2017, 4:53 PM

1. I chose to analyze the cartoon, "Am I not a Man?" I would say that the cartoonist opinion is against slavery. I believe he is bringing up the fact that blacks and whites were not/ are not treated equally. That whites were above blacks on the social spectrum. He illustrates this by drawing a black man kneeling and what appears

to be begging up at something or maybe someone. The man is not clothed and he is chained around his ankles and wrists. There is a banner on the bottom of the photo posing the question, "am I not a man or a brother?"

2. People would oppose this cartoon that were in support of slavery and the oppression of black people, more specially, Southerners. The 19th century Americans that would support this cartoon would be the Whig Party/ Free Soil party, and the north.
3. I believe this cartoon to be somewhat effective. The artist drew a strong black man, quiet possibly a man who would be strong than the slave owners that didn't have to do any heavy lifting, and asked a simple question. I think still to this day this would still be effective. I think that most of, if not all, of our culture would like to see an end to the oppression of black people and would agree with the statement of this photo and fight for what it stands for.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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



Re: Cartoon #4 - Kaylee Colt

by Hope Kelley - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 9:44 PM

I'm going to have to partially disagree with you. While to a point I can understand how you are interpreting the cartoon, I think the author's intent is to plead to everyone both pro and anti slave to look deep inside and realize that the color of skin is not what makes a man. The chains obviously represent slavery, however I think the chains also represent a breaking away from an institution, because if you notice the chains aren't attached to anything but the man. Also his quote of "am i not a man or a brother" is very reminiscent of William Shakespeare who wrote in the merchant of Venice "If you prick us, do we not bleed? If you tickle us, do we not laugh? If you poison us, do we not die? And if you wrong us, shall we not revenge? If we are like you in the rest, we will resemble you in that."

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



The Scale

by Morganne Roy - Monday, January 30, 2017, 6:53 PM

While all the cartoons were impactful, I'm going to discuss The Scale. Although I'm sure I'm not going to hit the nail on the head with my first guess, I would tender that the initial implication of the cartoon has to do with racism towards Irish immigrants.

In the cartoon a black man and, I assume, and Irishman are sitting on a scale and they are found to have equal value. From this I would imply that the author of the cartoon believed that Irish people were subhuman in the same way they believed black people were.

Although I don't have a lot of support for this, I would also guess that this cartoon might have something to do with voting-- mostly because of the "North/South" written at the top

of the scale. In class it was mentioned that Irish people tended to vote Democrat which was the party of slavery, and thus tended to be pro-South. From there I would venture that this was drawn by a Northerner.

Although my counterargument to myself would be that black people who had the right to vote probably weren't voting Democrat and thus it makes it unclear to me how that would be equal, so I believe it has more to do with racism, possibly of the "scientific" variety that was popular during that time.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



Re: The Scale

by Hope Kelley - Tuesday, January 31, 2017, 9:17 PM

I also think that this is about racism against African Americans and Irishmen. I said I thought that the 'North' and 'South' were where the racism was strongest against the person. I didn't even think about how it might be connected to voting. I looked in multiple places on the internet and I couldn't get a really good credible source but all of the websites I visited said historically Irish voted democrat. I also looked in the book and I don't know if I just missed it but I couldn't find anything about it but I'm sure it's there. Very interesting point.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



The scale that is not so equal

by Mat Forcum - Monday, January 30, 2017, 7:16 PM

The cartoonist opinion would at first seem quite obvious. The scale has a two people one each side, one is white and the other black. The scale indicates an equal weight, which would make it appear that the two men are equal. That would make be an obvious anti slavery cartoon at first glance. Upon closer examination it is noticed that the scale has a label of north and south on each side, with North for the white man and south for the Black man. The white man also seems to be depicted as a chimp, which was often used to show the Irish as less equal than other whites of the time period. This leads me to believe that the cartoon is really showing that a northern white is at a lower level, thus making him equal to the southern black man. In the end This cartoon would leave me to think that the artist was against ending slavery.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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

**Re: The scale that is not so equal**

by Rikkianne Chatfield - Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 8:54 PM

I shared the same experience of looking at this cartoon from a distant glance and thinking its purpose was to exemplify equality but as you pointed out the cartoon is clearly showing the white man with ape-like characteristics which reminded me of the racism in regards to the Irish. I have been noticing most political cartoons have several layers of meaning hidden within sometimes very subtle detail (of course sometimes it's very obvious) I appreciate that about political cartoons because audiences can end up taking in a wide variety of information. One piece I don't quite understand about this cartoon yet is why it looks like the black man is joyfully grinning at the Irish man. The expression I see on the Irish man's face makes more sense to me, it shows dislike or fear. Maybe for being compared to a black man?

Sum of ratings:1 (1) [Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**At the South**

by Christopher Cockman - Monday, January 30, 2017, 8:56 PM

I found the most interest in this political cartoon seeing as it has coinciding text to decipher as it is in broken English from the glib of slaves at the time. Most importantly, as I deciphered the message, I found it to say that if the young slave boy does not behave he will be picked up by abolitionists and taken away from his slave life.

This is definitely a contrasting message because abolitionists are fighting for the rights to free those slaves, yet this woman (I assume mother) is telling the save boy to behave so he doesn't get taken away as if being free had negative denotations. In my interpretation of the artwork, it can be seen that the two are clothed, sheltered, and the woman is able to speak English, even if it is broken. This leads me to believe that the slave life that these two live is not negative in a sense, at least she seems educated and cared for. This notion is definitely contrasting with what I would think being a slave inquired.

I am not sure what a person of the time would think about this cartoon because it is really up to who is viewing. I can say that since it is anti-abolitionist and playing towards making slaves feel that being a slave is with benefits, an abolitionist would oppose this cartoon very much so. This cartoon must be very effective since it pits itself against a major movement (abolitionist) of the time.

Some questions I would like to look into are what the term "bobolitionist" means going into the week of this forum.

Sum of ratings:3 (1) [Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Bobolitionists

by Christopher Cockman - Thursday, February 2, 2017, 7:21 PM

To answer my own question about what "bobolitionists" are in reference to the cartoon, At The South, I have merely an interpretation. Looking up the term online led me to find only more political cartoons of the civil war era and no true definition (at least within the results on the first page of google), so my interpretation is that the authors of political cartoons that use this term are inferring that abolitionists are monkey-like in figure and manner.

I come to this conclusion because of another political cartoon titled "Bobolitionists"

<http://blackhistory.harpweek.com/7Illustrations/CivilWar/Bobolitionists.htm>

where to two characters depicted in the cartoon resemble monkeys, I believe, in their facial features. I have heard in my childhood of a monkey named Bobo, this might also add to my interpretation, even though, unfortunately, I do not remember to where I heard this reference.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: Bobolitionists

by Brandi Paquette - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 5:20 PM

I honestly didn't choose cartoon one to analyze simply because I was unsure of what "Bobolitionist" meant, like Escobar always says definitions are extremely important. I now realize others don't know as well and I'm glad you looked and tried to find what it meant. Since you found this other cartoon with "Bobolitionist" that looks very similar to the one we were given and I couldn't find others I feel maybe Jarred has a really good point that it was intentional to make the word illiterate.

There is a children's book with a monkey named Bobo maybe that's what your remembering? Anyways, once you mentioned just "Bobo" I thought to myself and realized that was familiar to me as well. I took a Physical Anthropology course last term and in that course we discussed "Bonobo" which are chimpanzee's. I wonder if "Bobo" came from "Bonobo"? Since you made the connection that maybe it is "inferring that abolitionists are monkey-like in figure and manner."

I also found it interesting that if you look up the definition of "Bobo" at least at dictionary.com its "a liberal, highly educated person who combines a bourgeois, affluent lifestyle with nonconformist values and attitudes."

Since this word is used in two cartoons I wonder if this word can be found someplace else in text or etc.? There's nothing I found which leads me to believe Jarred's point is pretty valid.

I hope that Escobar will be able to address are questions related to “Bobolitionist” after the forum closes. 😊

Sum of ratings:2 (1) Permalink | Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Bobolitionists

by Christopher Cockman - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 10:26 PM

I did also look at the definition of bobo on dictionary.com. If the term Bobo is used in this way, rather than as the name for a monkey like what I discussed before, the viewpoint of this cartoon stalls at a strange contrast. As I stated in my analysis of At The South, the fact that they are called bobolitionists makes the abolitionists ape-like in feature and therefore not competent as leaders or even people. And with the negative view the woman has in the cartoon towards abolitionists, this notion would make the most sense. However, if using the definition of bobo to piece together the etymology of the term bobolitionist, the view of the woman becomes conflicted in nature. She would be having negative views of a group of abolitionists with a positive term such as bobo. But in my reading of that, I suppose that is why the cartoon shows such a strange change in perception than what one would think to be one slaves actual reaction to the abolitionist movement. So, in all of this, my conclusion is that if bobolitionist is used in terms of the definition bobo, then it only reiterates my thoughts found in my analysis of the piece: that this slave woman shouldn't be warning her child to be weary of the abolitionists.

As far as Jarred said in his post that this term was simply an explication of the jargon the slaves possessed at the time, I believe that could be true and that we have been led to overanalyze the cartoon because of it; however, I hope that is not the case for sake of a fun research session and conversation of ideals and interpretations.

Sum of ratings:2 (1) Permalink | Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: At the South

by Jarred Finn - Friday, February 3, 2017, 4:16 PM

I like how you view this political cartoon. I'd say i can agree with you for most of it. But I also feel as if maybe the mother is telling the kid if he's not good the Bobolitionist will come get him and how you said that term is unclear as to what it means. This is just my guess at what the term means, it either means abolitionist and that's the way the author chose to write it too add to the characters illiterate dialect. Or this could be a mocking

term of the abolitionist and referring to the slave owners as the opposite of the abolitionist. Because even though these slaves may of had it better than others they still probably were punished for acting up.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



(Holy Horror #2) Racism

by Brandi Paquette - Monday, January 30, 2017, 9:22 PM

The cartoonist doesn't share the "horror" that Mrs. McCaffraty does. The cartoonist doesn't seem to sympathize with racist people and believes that it makes people ugly inside and out. Mrs. McCaffraty's inner ugliness is depicted more visually to represent how the cartoonist feels about racist ideologies and how they make people look. Mrs. McCaffraty's facial expression is of utter disbelief and horror that an African American woman of wealth and beauty is sitting next to her which is in stark contrast with her idea of what an African American woman should be.

Unlike what the cartoonist thinks, back in the 19th century others thought that African Americans were second class citizens and shouldn't have the same rights that white's have. The average middle class American citizen especially in the south would have held the belief that white people are superior to African American people. For generations cultural indoctrination of the superiority of whites had taken place in America. This fallacy had been propped up by the elite class in order to absolve them morally for owning people to further their own gains.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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



Re: (Holy Horror #2) Racism

by Alec Beebe - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 12:14 PM

I agree with what you are saying but I think that there is a little more to the cartoon. Yes, the cartoonist depicted McCaffraty as ugly, but wouldn't you also agree that she was drawn like some of the Irish at the time? Maybe it's an insult saying that by her actions she was no greater than an Irishman which were thought of as lesser whites. I assume the cartoonist is a northern person fighting against slavery and saying how negatively people view you in society when you treat blacks as not equal.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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

Re: (Holy Horror #2) Racism



by Brandi Paquette - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 6:26 PM

I believe that her Irish depiction is simply to add another layer of the absurdity to the racism . In America at this time the Irish were seen as second class citizens but to a lesser degree than the blacks. Instead of showing solidarity or empathy for another person that is also marginalized in American society she, Mrs. McCaffraty, seeks to further divide and show the same racism that no doubt is a source of pain in her own life.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) Permalink | Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Am I Not A Man interpretation

by Rikkianne Chatfield - Monday, January 30, 2017, 10:20 PM

Interpreting the editorial cartoon of Am I Not A Man

1. What conclusions can you draw about the cartoonist's opinion? What was their main point and how did they make it? What specific items in the cartoon led to your interpretation?

As the information given through our Wikipedia entry on cartoons points out it is most common for political cartoons to embody a mix of satire, hyperbole, and humor. This cartoon of Am I Not A Man caught my attention in the way it calls the audience to reflect or become aware of the similarities between humans rather than differences. Without using any of the common characteristics of cartoons such as satire. From my perspective, it aims to provoke the audience to foster empathy and recognize the abuse slavery inflicted on fellow human beings who are not different or inherently less than others. The statement on the cartoon “Am I, not a man and a brother?” reminded me of our readings in chapter 12 when in 1833 the American Anit-slavery Society was created. The beliefs of the abolitionists were that “God had created blacks and whites as members of one human family, abolitionists opposed the “scientific” racism spouted by Democrats and many Whigs.”

Sum of ratings:2 (1) Permalink | Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete | Reply



Re: Am I Not A Man interpretation

by Alec Beebe - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 12:22 PM

Adding to your statement, the Declaration of Independence states that, 'that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.' Northerners perhaps saw this in the Declaration and wanted to act on it by making the black community equal, but they first needed southern support for this idea in order to have a society where everyone can coexist in peace.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Jarred Finn - Monday, January 30, 2017, 10:24 PM

You can tell that some of the cartoonists were happy about the stuff going on in america at the time such as the Mexican war and the manifest destiny

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



Re: At the South

by Megan Spencer - Monday, January 30, 2017, 10:32 PM

I chose to interpret the cartoon "At the South". The mother is holding her son by the arm, and is wagging her finger at him, like he is in trouble. He looks at her in horror, as she describes to him what will happen to him if he continues to misbehave. I think that the opinion of the cartoonist is against the Abolitionist movement. In the cartoon, the mother is using the northern abolitionist as a way to scare the child into behaving. She tells her son that if he doesn't behave, then she will go get the abolitionist, and tell them to take him to the North. I think it makes it look as if slavery is not that bad, and that being in the North is where all of the troublemakers go.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: At the South

by Michael Gray - Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 12:39 PM

I like the way you interpreted that the mother was actually referring to an abolitionist that was going to take the child away. I originally thought that she was saying that a slave owner would take him away to split him from his family and that would be the punishment. Your reasoning makes more sense and that the pro-slavery cartoonist was trying to manipulate the slave kids into thinking the north was bad and not where they'd go to be free.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: At the South

by Alexandra Flores - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 7:13 PM

I had no idea what to think of this cartoon when I was first glancing through them. Your interpretation is very enlightening by showing the view of democratic southerners. They depict slaves as inhumane people that would term on their own children.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



Re: At the South

by Hope Kelley - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 10:45 PM

I think there is something to what you're saying. I think this is an obvious attempt at satire I would assume that the author of the cartoon is pro slavery. I think that he is trying to put the abolitionist in a bad light by showing that slaves are so uneducated that they don't even understand that the abolitionist would not be the bad guys.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Holy Horror Interpretation

by Alexandra Flores - Monday, January 30, 2017, 10:42 PM

I can conclude that the cartoonist's opinion is that of a republican. The main idea is equality. A few things led me to this decision, two of which were the passage and the looks of each woman. Mrs. McCaffraty is obviously the white woman because she looks like something out of a horror film. Saying her husband voted against African American's right to vote shows that the cartoonist is mocking the democrats with an ugly woman to represent them. The cartoon is also displaying that the black woman is more civilized and attractive than the 'Holy Horror of Mrs. McCaffraty' by showing her calm and elegant composure. The democrats would have opposed this cartoon and the republicans would of favored because they needed the black votes from the north and the south. The republicans also were also the party to introduce the 15th amendment giving black men the right to vote. This would have been very effective in catching the attention of the average family in the 19th century. The cartoon showed me how strongly the people felt on both sides and how America's artwork at the time was created to make a statement.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



Re: Holy Horror Interpretation

by Morganne Roy - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 7:39 PM

The Holy Horror gave me the most difficulty for understanding at first. I like how you brought up the 15th Amendment which gave African American men the right to vote, because my initial reading of the cartoon was "It's showing a white woman as ugly and a black woman as beautiful, and the white woman is horrified that her husband voted against black people". Even though it says suffrage, for some reason it didn't click in my head that this cartoon was about voting; I was trying to understand why the women were drawn the way they are and the word horror.

Another thing I noticed upon closer inspection is that the white woman is Irish. Her name (also probably the fish in her basket) and the way she is depicted as pig-like all indicate that. From there, I have to wonder if this cartoon was drawn by an abolitionist (or perhaps a later group of similar strain, because I kind of doubt this was drawn in the pre-war period) who wasn't racist against black people, but was against the Irish.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by George Prigmore - Monday, January 30, 2017, 11:13 PM

The cartoon that most spoke to me was the cartoon of the two men sitting equal on the scale. The most notable feature in either of the men is their skin color and that while one of them is black and the other is white they are still seen as equals. This carries over to the clothing on each of the men as well. The white man is dressed in a business attire while the black man is in working clothes and shoeless. The population that would have been for the cartoon would have been abolitionists and slaves while the opposing view would be from slaveholders and rich white men. They would oppose this because they make their livings off of the work of slaves. If the slaves are granted more rights and seen as equal to them then they will have to hire more expensive work. I believe this would have been a very effective cartoon for the fact it can call to both sides of the story very well. This is best depicted in the facial expression of each man. The black man has a smile on his face of satisfaction while the white man seems to be anguishly frowning at the fact he is not more powerful. As a student looking back at this cartoon it gives an insight into the minds of the people creating the cartoon but what they saw happening around them. It shows how differences in the two individuals but reminds the viewer that both of these men are equal. We have been able to see this succeed into our culture today by having our first black president in Barack Obama. His election has shown that equality amongst white and black men and that a black man can be successful.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Michael Gray - Friday, February 3, 2017, 11:05 AM

How I interpreted "The Scale" was far different from yours. I took from it that the "white man" is actually an Irishman. I got this perception from his ape like features and how the scale is equal between him and the black man. The Irish were discriminated and oppressed in north like the black man would be in the south.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Alec Beebe - Friday, February 3, 2017, 11:33 AM

I didn't think that the white man was Irish rather than a northerner cartoonist depicting a southerner as primitive for not adopting a new lifestyle. The cartoon is saying that with how the southerners are treating slaves makes them look just as bad as a slave. This is meant to be an insult at southerners telling them how dumb they look.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons "The Scale"

by Gabe Sorber - Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 6:21 PM

In the political cartoon "The Scale" you can obviously tell that the cartoonist was against slavery and believed that blacks and whites were equal. You could also say he was probably from the north. I came to this conclusion because not only are they of equal "weight" on the scale but they are actually looking eye to eye.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons "The Scale"

by Gabe Sorber - Thursday, February 2, 2017, 1:07 PM

Looking back at it now it may not be a northern cartoonist. As I look at it now the white man is very ape looking and probably is Irish because of the fact that back in the 19th century the Irish were almost on the same level as the blacks, as shown in class with the "scientific racism pictures". So its not "obvious" like I said in the last post.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons "The Scale"

by Alec Beebe - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 12:27 PM

Maybe this is a person who sees the flaws in both northern and southern cultures and how they both have a society that is looked down upon. The cartoonist could also be saying that north and south people are the same in the fact that they both have their flaws and change needs to happen.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons "The Scale"

by Hope Kelley - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 6:35 PM

I think what this cartoon is saying is that the Irish are on the same level as the African Americans. The man on the right is very ape looking which makes us think he is and Irishman, go job to the artist there, and that side of the scale he is on says 'North'. So my thinking is that racism towards Irish was more in the North than in the South and vise versa for African Americans.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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



Promise Land

by Hope Kelley - Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 8:56 PM

I believe this cartoon is about the Catholics attempting to scout out America and potentially go there. I've heard/read that Catholics are often depicted as trying or scheming to take over the American government. That could be another meaning for this cartoon. There is a man standing higher than everyone else, pointing towards/over the Atlantic Ocean. There is what appears to be a child swinging a censer over the edge of the roof. I don't quite know what this could represent, if it represents anything at all. It could just be a boy. There is also a man looking out of a telescope, maybe scouting out America to see what is there and if they have a future there.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Promised land for some, but not others-Dennis Waske

by Dennis Waske - Thursday, February 2, 2017, 1:07 PM

1. a conclusion I can draw about the opinion is that the cartoonist is he is anti-Catholic. the main point of the cartoon is that the Catholics are trying to take the Protestant U.S.A as a new "Promised land" by the pope. note the cartoonist putting smug faces on all the cardinals and bishops present; a friar finding where best to plant their roots, and worldly men of the church seeking funds for the venture: and forget not the armed men in the background.
2. an opposing point of view could contend that all religions are equal under Constitutional law, ergo there is no threat of Catholicism "taking over". Irish-Americans, Native Catholics (such as those that founded Maryland and their lines), and Italian-Americans might have supported that reasoning due to the fact they were trying to find acceptance in the new world, not conquest.
3. depending on where it was circulated, it was either very effective (Protestant Mid-west, West, and South, along with part of the North) or insulting (immigrant city regions in the North). for me, as a student, it is not effective, but it reminds me that not every immigration tale was Ellis Island and a Horatio Alger-esque "Luck and Pluck" tale of success. There were genuine obstacles for immigrants to be accepted as part of this nation on many fronts. The way I see it, The only difference is today, Race, not Religion, is the main driver of nativist hysteria and immigration phobia.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Jarred Finn - Thursday, February 2, 2017, 3:51 PM

In the editorial cartoon Promised land, It is clear that the artist was trying to make a point about how the catholic religions saw the USA as their promise land and thought of it as theirs. Which is what led to the many conflicts that the white christian people created by kicking out the natives, and enslaving African's. I got this Point of view from seeing the man in the pilgrim outfit with the pope next to him and they're all pointing toward the "promise land." Also in the "Am I not a man," cartoon this is a black man kneeling down and praying and asking the question, "am i not a man?" This is clearly a great cartoon to describe what the Africans were thinking at the time, because they were being enslaved and treated like animals instead of Humans. The opposition to this would be the Southerners who saw the Africans as lesser people and that the Whites had god.

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

Sum of ratings:0 (1)



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Morganne Roy - Friday, February 3, 2017, 7:15 PM

I find it interesting how you see The Promised Land cartoon as depicting the Catholic perspective, because that's not at all what I get from the cartoon. Although, if that's a misrepresentation of what you were saying by all means let me know!

I think this cartoon is representing the Protestant view. The Protestant/Catholic divide is a pretty important one to understand as far as Western history goes, and even beyond the West as religion often isn't restricted to a single race or culture. It was five hundred years ago this October that the Protestant Reformation began in Wittenberg Germany yet Martin Luther's 95 theses have left a mark that is still relevant to this day the world over.

I see this cartoon as showing the Catholics in their high, european tower looking on at the predominantly Protestant America with insatiable greed-- and potentially violence as the weapons in the background imply. I don't think there are any pilgrim outfits shown here, and indeed that would run counter to the rest of the group, as the people drawn here are all "evil" Catholics and Pilgrims were fairly "radical" Protestants who hated the Catholic church. I wouldn't be surprised if the Anti-Catholic bigotry so common in America today had its roots in the Separatist Pilgrims.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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



At he South

by Brandon Gericke - Friday, February 3, 2017, 10:28 AM

It is pretty obvious to me that this cartoon had the intention of making the southern slave look ignorant. I also could see that the adult or mother was trying to get the child to act appropriately by scaring him with idea of an abolitionist coming to steal him away. This was most likely an attempt by slave owners to hinder abolitionist attempts to free slaves. If a slave was scared of abolitionists they would not follow them to freedom because the slave thinks they are better of where they are.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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



Re: Editorial Cartoons

by Alec Beebe - Friday, February 3, 2017, 11:26 AM

The more I think about the "Am I Not A Man" editorial cartoon the more I realize how bad

slavery was. This seems as if a northern cartoonist drew this picture and had a negative view on slavery. The cartoonist is pointing out a flaw in the American society by referencing the Declaration of Independence. In it states that ALL men are created equal. Clearly slaves were thought of as a lesser being and was still considered a man, but not an equal man like the Declaration of Independence says all men should be. Also, who would treat family in such a horrible way. The cartoonist is most likely trying to get his audience, including whites, to think about what it would be like to be born a slave and to have a black family during the 19th center. The clothes that the slave is wearing could be saying how little slaves have that they barely have any clothes to put on his/her back. The chains could represent that slaves hand and feet are tied in the matter and dare to speak against the white population in fear of punishment. Without white northern support slaves had even less of a chance of becoming free.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



The Promised Land

by Christopher Cockman - Friday, February 3, 2017, 10:54 PM

The immediate representation that I draw from this cartoon is that these Catholics crusaders are looming over America from the east (nice accuracy on direction) towards America which is quite often titled "The Promised Land". The way the characters are depicted, it represents a cunning and ominous presence. Because of this reason, I believe the author is anti-Catholic, which as we have learned in class, is one of the main strings of nativism; therefore, the author is most likely American.

The author's main point is to show that there was a strong Catholic body in Europe that set it's sight on America. The inclusion of weaponry iterates that they were willing to spread their belief by means of force. Roman Catholics were looking over at America as if they were to crusade to "The Promised Land" to spread their religion in an anti-Catholic America. The clear opposition to this viewpoint is that of the Roman Catholics that existed in America at the time, which was a small population of immigrants.

Finally, I believe this type of political cartoon was very effective in America at the time due to the nativism that showed such a strong opposition to Catholics. This sort of propaganda would solidify the fears and hatred that Americans had towards the Catholics. As a student right now, this cartoon only solidifies my understanding of American nativism at the time.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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



Re: The Promised Land

by Rikkianne Chatfield - Sunday, February 5, 2017, 12:04 AM

Christopher, your description of this cartoon was really well said in my opinion. The manner in which the artist drew the catholic crusaders 'looming' over America. Until this history class, I did not understand how deeply rooted Anti-Catholicism was in our culture. Especially during the 1800's. In chapter 14 it goes into great detail about both immigration and nativism. From a quote on pg. 521 "During the decade after 1845, three million immigrants entered the United States." I am assuming the artist of this cartoon was a republican and fearful of the autocratic catholic church. As chapter 14 continues to point out the condemnation Pope Pius expressed by directing the followers at that time to "a period of reaction against secular liberalism. Leading the Archbishop John Hughes of New York to "attack abolitionists, Free-Soilers, and various protestant reform movements."

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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



Am I not a man

by Christopher Cockman - Friday, February 3, 2017, 11:06 PM

Out of the five political cartoons provided, this, to me, is the most simplistic in means of volume and artistic styling. While the art may be simplistic, the message is a strong one. The conclusion I draw from this is the extreme discrimination and senselessness of slavery. The man depicted in the cartoon, (I assume) slave, is in shackles, which is not far from the normal depiction of a slave. Yet the question that he asks "Am I not a man and a brother" shows that this man was a slave not only to his slave owners, but to his own race. He was not free as a man, and even further as a black man of his race.

What bothers me is why he would feel this way to his own race? To whom is he asking if he is actually a brother? I come to a slight conclusion that he may be in a state of oppression from his peers for succumbing to slavery and not joining the abolitionist for his freedom. This would make sense to me because he is in that sense, shaming the ideals of his race, much like the ignorance depicted in the cartoon At The South. This is the only reason I can think of at the time for why this man would be ashamed by his own.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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

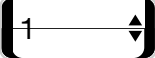


Re: Am I not a man

by Alec Beebe - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 12:44 PM

Maybe the slave is trying to say that he is a slave of his own race because his race wont stand up and fight slavery together. The term 'brother' is most likely referring to the white population because Christians believe that everyone is a son/daughter of God making everyone brothers and sisters. Looking at it this way, the slave could be asking the

question on why would you treat a brother in this manner? Who would treat family in such a negative way? The slave could also be asking for northern help because slaves have no voice in the south during this time.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 

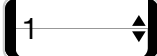
[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Am I not a man

by Christopher Cockman - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 10:40 PM

I find myself in a personal, moral dilemma after reading this response to myself. I did not look to pair the man depicted with the white population in the terms of brother being used as means for Christian belief as you suggested. This is bothering to me because even though I tried to view this cartoon with an open mind, the color of this character's skin surpassed the option in my mind to view him as saying brother in terms of the white population. I boil this issue down to the stereotypes of today that have lingered from this time of slavery in our culture are still so prominent as to why I would not, in my modernized perspective, come to pair the two together even though I do not consider myself to be racist in the slightest. I suppose it is hard to stray from the past of your culture without a clear conscious effort. That is why U.S history gleams such a stimulated response in my mind. Our culture of today in America has been molded for the past three hundred years, and learning of the past tendencies and ideals can lead me to reflect on those that are here in the present.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 

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



Re: The Scale

by Megan Spencer - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 9:53 PM

I think this cartoon shows the racism and nativism that was popular in America at this time. On one side of the scale, there is depicted a black man. On the other side of the scale there is shown an Irish man. Above the black man are the words South, and above the Irishman there are the words North. They are both shown to weigh on the scale an equal amount, which means that they are equal in value, which basically means they aren't considered fully human. Especially, because they are both drawn as very ape-like. I think that the black man is to show how the South was predominantly racist towards blacks, because of slavery in the South. I think the Irishman is shown to represent the anti-Catholic North. From one of the lectures we were shown a map that depicted the North as having mostly Irish immigrants, because they were the ones that predominantly worked the factories up there. I think this cartoon is very important today, because at least for me, I was not taught about the anti-Catholic North, just the racist South. I think that this cartoon in the 19th century would show how each side has their own prejudices, but also that neither of these

people are valued as humans or part of American society. I would definitely say that this cartoon represents the main points of John Higham's book *Strangers in the Land, Patterns of American Nativism (1860-1925)*.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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

◀ [Hollywood History & Mythology](#)

 [Moodle Docs for this page](#)

[Accessibility at Lane](#)

You are logged in as Joe Escobar ([Log out](#))

HST 202 W17 (Escobar Meta 30937 30938)

