# Cartoons for the Classroom

Presented by NIEonline.com and the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)

# Smelly gas a sign of life on Venus?



Joe Heller, Green Bay Post-Gazette / Courtesy of Cagle.com

## **Talking Points**

- 1. An astronomer discovered phosphine, a smelly gas made by microbes on Earth, in the atmosphere of Venus. What do these cartoons say about the possibility of life on Venus?
- 2. Should we spend millions of dollars to find out if there really is life in the clouds of Venus or under the surface of Mars?
- 3. How has the pursuit of scientific knowledge helped or hurt humanity? Examples?
- 4. A runaway greenhouse effect made the surface of Venus uninhabitable. Do you worry about Earth's fate?

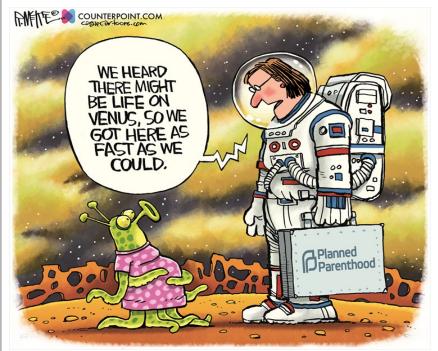
#### Between the lines

"It's very speculative to say that there is life on Venus, but it's also speculative to say there definitely can't be life on Venus." - Michael Wong, astrobiologist.

https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/ venus-might-host-life-new-discovery-

### Additional resources

- More by Joe Heller https://www.cagle.com/author/joe-heller/
- More by Rick McKee https://www.cagle.com/author/rick-mckee/
- Association of American **Editorial Cartoonists** http://editorialcartoonists.com/



Rick McKee, The Augusta Chronicle / Courtesy of Cagle.com