

Cartoons for the Classroom



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

Tooning into History

Herblock at 100

Between the lines

This week, the Library of Congress celebrates Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Herb Block (1909-2001) with a look at his remarkable 72-year career. The exhibition, *Herblock!*, includes 82 of his cartoons on topics ranging from the Great Depression, the rise of fascism and World War II, communism and the Cold War, Senator Joseph McCarthy, and race relations to Richard Nixon, the Reagan era, the 2000 election, and more. Herblock drew cartoons for the Washington Post for 55 years until his death in 2001.

Additional resources

Herblock exhibit at the Library of Congress
<http://myloc.gov/Exhibitions/herblock/Pages/default.aspx>

Association of American Editorial Cartoonists
<http://editorialcartoonists.com/>



Herblock / Washington Post, 1946, courtesy Herblock Foundation

“Let’s Get A Lock For This Thing”



Herblock / Washington Post, 1962, courtesy Herblock Foundation

Talking points

1. During the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962, Nikita Khrushchev, Secretary of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union, and President John F. Kennedy worked to prevent the use of Soviet nuclear missiles in Cuba aimed at the United States. Herblock uses Pandora’s Box as a metaphor. Can you explain the caption?
2. A 1946 Herblock cartoon depicts Lady Liberty as a figure halting immigrants, not as a beacon of hope to new arrivals. The focus today has shifted to illegal immigration not immigration quotas. Does this cartoon fit today? Explain Lady Liberty’s role as a symbol for immigration.
3. Explore the online *Herblock!* exhibit and select a cartoon from a specific historical era and explain the issue presented.