Between the lines

"At least 6 million gallons of crude have spewed into the Gulf, though some scientists have said they believe the spill already surpasses the 11 million-gallon 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill off Alaska as the worst in U.S. history.

"The spill’s impact now stretches across 150 miles, from Dauphin Island, Ala. to Grand Isle, La.

"Each day the spill grows, so does anger with the government and BP."

--Dallas Morning News
May 22, 2010

Oil spill perspectives

Talking points

1. John Darkow’s Uncle Sam is not happy. The “children” have made a mess of things. Big Oil blames the government agency that was supposed to stop him from making a mess. The government agency agrees. But who puts one child in charge of watching another child? What would one expect to happen? Do you get the point of the cartoon now? In Darkow’s opinion, who’s really to blame for the oil mess?

2. Bob Englehart’s cartoon is more poignant. (Define “poignant”) Does Englehart’s cartoon take a stance on the situation? Is he blaming anyone? Then what’s the point of the cartoon?

3. Different parts of the country are more directly affected by the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Which states are more directly affected and why? How will the disaster eventually affect other states?

Additional resources

More by John Darkow
http://cagle.com/politicalcartoons/PCcartoons/darkow.asp

More by Bob Englehart

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