

About cartoons

a. description:

The cartoon **SHOWS - DEPICTS...**

if you briefly describe a cartoon and the characters in it: he is holding/ carrying/ sitting/ wearing : **Be + ING**

b. Meaning

the cartoon **ILLUSTRATES** (the idea, the notion that)

It **DENOUNCES - CRITICIZES - COMMENTS ON - TARGETS - MAKES FUN OF**

The cartoon **CONVEYS THE IDEA THAT** (suggère)

The **aim-goal-purpose** of the cartoon(ist) is to..

Briefly introduce the cartoon, contextualizing it. (context and topic)

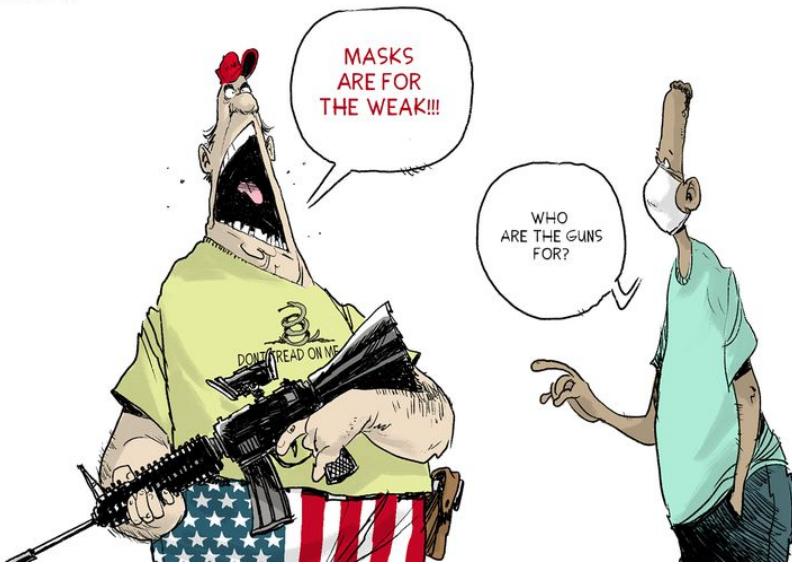
Describe what it shows and what it means. (analytic description)

Say what the cartoonist criticizes with their cartoon.

10 points for the use of English

10 points for content

SHENEMAN^{THE STAR-LEDGER}



This is a very recent cartoon alluding to the current public health crisis that has been hitting the world for almost two years now. It more specifically refers to dissensions tearing apart the American population on the issue of governmental measures implemented to curb Covid infections.

On the left of the cartoon stands a rather large man wearing American-flag shorts and a t-shirt reading "don't tread on me" below a rising snake. This is a reference to the Gadsden Flag, originally a symbol of

the Revolution against the British Crown, that was eventually claimed by the Tea Party and white supremacists and seen during the recent raid on the Capitol. That man, who is also holding a machine gun and, strapped to his belt, a gun holster, is yelling "Masks are for the weak!!!". He embodies the radical Republicans and the Alt-Right.

On the right of the cartoon, a man, who might be an African-American, is wearing a face mask and asking "Who are the guns for?". He represents the Democrats at large and those in favor of governmental action against covid **and** of gun control. Indeed, with his question, this character ironically refers to the infamously frequent shootings of black Americans by the police and armed civilians.

As such, Sheneman's cartoon illustrates the irreconcilably diverging understandings of what freedom can mean to an American. To roughly half the population, it means being free to defend yourself and to decide for yourself on all vital matters. To the other half, it means protecting the general population from any kind of violence, whether it be physical, political, economic or judicial.

The way the Covid crisis was dealt with by the Trump administration on the one hand, and Biden's on the other, perfectly illustrates that great divide in the American population. Donald Trump publicly **railed against** masks **and at** those who were wearing them while Joe Biden, as soon as he was in power, made wearing face masks mandatory in public spaces, to the horror of hard-core Republicans and so-called freedom of choice defenders. To the latter ones, wearing a mask represents a breach of freedom, the same freedom that grants them the right to carry a gun, oblivious of mass shootings that keep on scarring the nation. Whether he stands on one side or the other makes no doubt when it comes to Sheneman as he is ridiculing the character on the left.



This cartoon dates back to Trump's presidency. It deals with the global migration crisis and the rejection of increasing flows of refugees from all parts, especially from wealthy nations.

The cartoon is centered on a representation of the planet earth seen from a relative distance, floating in an empty space. The globe is turned to focus our looks on the Atlantic ocean. In the middle of the ocean lies a massive continent covered with white tents, just like the ones one has seen numerous times in pictures or reports made from refugee camps. To the right of this continent, Europe and a sign planted in it reading "Not Welcome". To the left,

the tip of Florida and the American west coast with a similar sign reading "NOT WELCOME" and featuring an instantly identifiable caricature of Donald Trump, with his big strand of yellow hair. In the top left corner of the cartoon, a caption: Great Ocean Garbage Patch.

With this analogy between the Great Pacific Ocean Garbage Patch, often labeled as the 8th continent, the cartoonist denounces the attitude of western nations towards refugees. To them, the men, women and children who have fled their countries and are waiting to be let in another one, that would offer them asylum, are an inconvenient mass somewhere far away that no one wishes to deal with. This illustration thus condemns the cold refusal to even acknowledge this human tragedy taking place in the other ocean and to welcome refugees in countries at peace and enjoying a relatively stable economic situation. It may also point an accusing finger at the responsibilities of wealthy western nations in the plight of these new flows of refugees. Just as mass consumption and poor environmental policies are feeding the Great Pacific Ocean Garbage Patch, past and present imperialism, wars and diplomatic relationships are to be blamed for what is driving thousands of people to leave their home in search of a safe haven.

Elements of correction

- *Developped nations
- *a man that is yelling
- **It shows how are divided the United States.
- *the decision to don't wear a mask
- *considerate
- *masks are for the weaks
- *We can see on this cartoon two men.
- *usefull

Utilisation des guillemets

Grammar recaps

United States (plural or singular?)

United States is a [singular noun](#) and takes singular verb forms; for example, we say “The United States is in the Western Hemisphere,” not “The United States are in the Western Hemisphere.” This has been the case for over a century. Think of *United States* as the name of a country like any other. England, China, and Bahrain, for example, are all treated as singular nouns. United States is the same, even though it takes the form of a plural noun.

For example, these publications treat *United States* as singular:

According to estimates, the United States is set to hit its current debt ceiling between April 15 and the end of May. [[Washington Post](#)]

The United States has issued a rare public apology for the “repugnant” actions of a so-called American “Kill Team”. [[Telegraph](#)]

The United States is now actively pushing the United Nations Security Council to approve a wide range of military options that could be used against the Libyan regime. [[National Post](#)]

General knowledge flashcards

The Great Pacific Ocean Garbage Patch
The Deep South (instead of “Texas”)