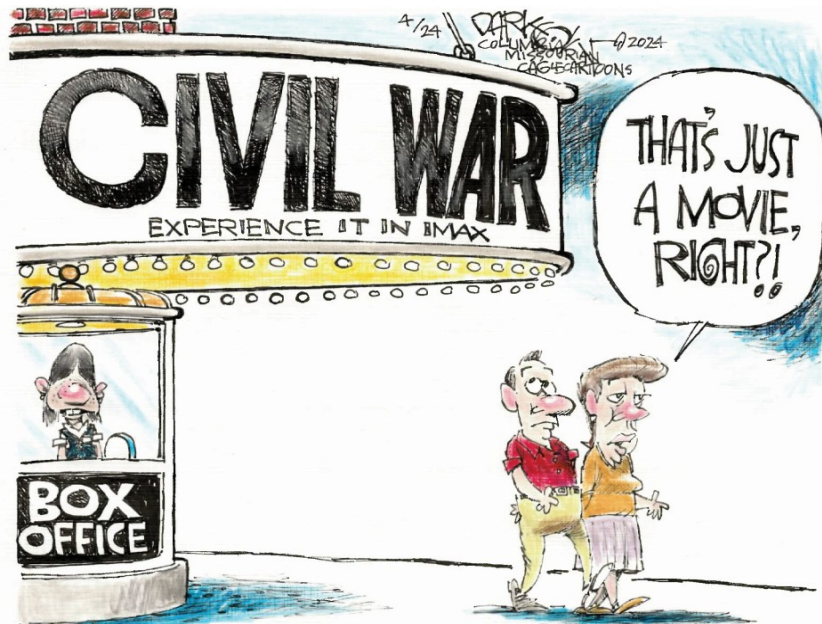


Cartoons for the Classroom

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



Is our political divide really that bad?



John Darkow / Courtesy of Cagle.com

1. What do these cartoons say about the dangers of extreme political division?
2. A new film "Civil War" portrays America ravaged by warring political factions. Is that possible?
3. Many imaginative works like books and films have warned of horrors like nuclear war, climate change, and totalitarian regimes. Did they change public opinion or even political outcomes?
4. Do the warnings ever come true? Are there any leaders in the world like George Orwell's "Big Brother," who demand worship and control what their people think?
5. Are these tales popular because people enjoy being scared?

Between the lines

"Overall I'd say this film is about checks and balances: polarization, division, the way populist politics leads toward extremism, where extremism itself will end up and where the press is in all of that." - Alex Garland, director of "Civil War."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/11/movies/alex-garland-civil-war.html>

Additional resources

■ [More by John Darkow](https://cagle.com/darkow)

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■ [More by Christopher Weyant](https://cagle.com/weyant)

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■ [Editorial Cartoonists](http://editorialcartoonists.com/)

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