

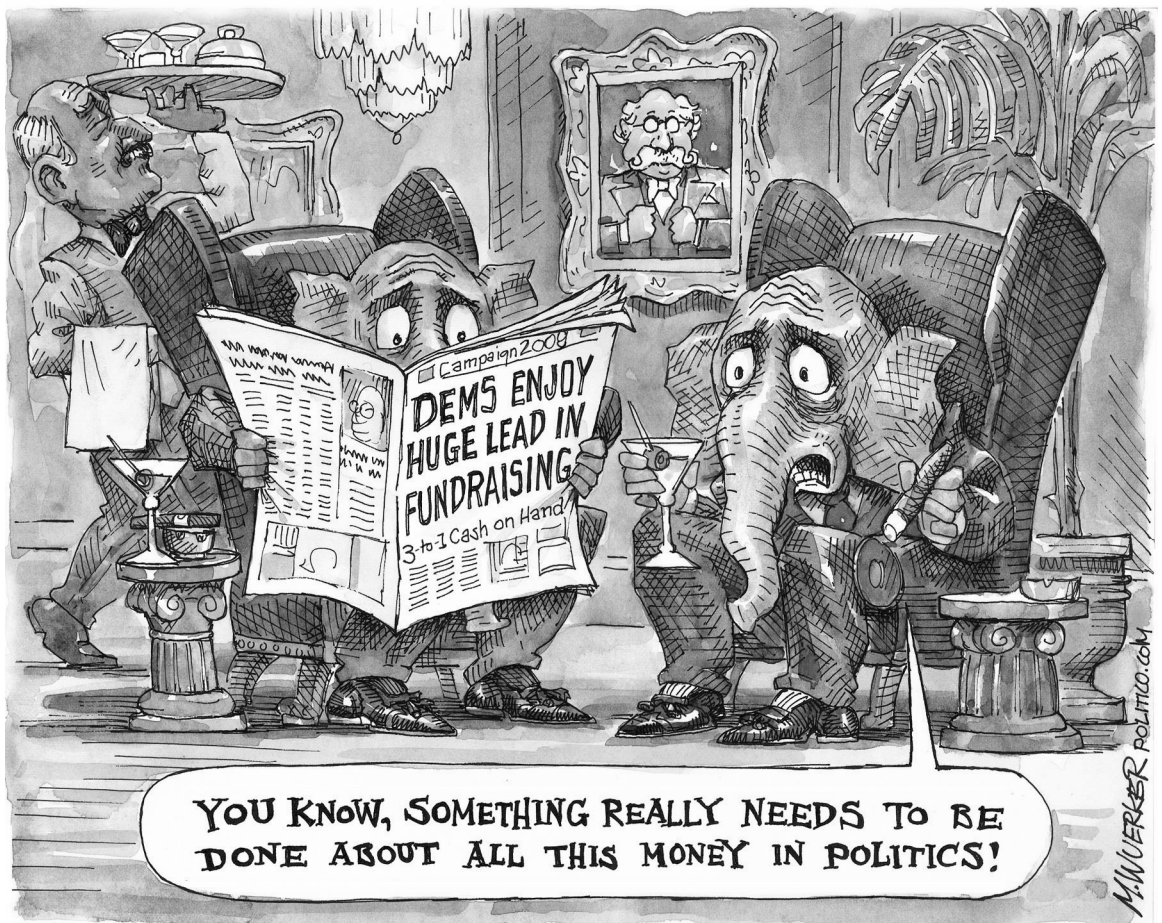
Cartoons for the Classroom

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



Between the lines

Democratic White House hopefuls have raised far more in political contributions for the 2008 presidential race than their Republican counterparts. Reports from the 3rd quarter of 2007 indicate that Republican front runners have raised less than half the cash Democrat front runners have so far in their campaigns for their party's nomination.



Cartoon courtesy Matt Wuerker / Politico.com

Tooning into the campaign: Fund raising

Talking points

1. Matt Wuerker's take on campaign fund raising is loaded with symbols. The elephants are symbols (for what?) the setting is a symbol (for what?) and even the drinks and cigars are symbols. To understand the artist's message, you need to decipher these and attach meaning to them in the context of the toon.
2. Democrats (and a lot of cartoonists) like to portray the Republican party as the party of the rich. Wuerker uses irony to show the "rich" Republicans worrying about fund raising by the Democrats. Explain what "irony" is.
3. Why is Fund raising so important in a political campaign? What kind of problems can occur in the way funds are raised for a candidate?

Get out your newspaper

Gather a collection of political cartoons from your newspaper dealing with campaign issues. Using the Cartoon Evaluation Worksheet (available online at the NIE Website) analyze each cartoon and explain the issues addressed.

Additional resources

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

More by Matt Wuerker: <http://editorialcartoonists.com/cartoon/browse.cfm/WuerkM/>