Drawing on a familiar icon

Talking points

1. The pose repeated in these three cartoons is from “Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima,” a famous World War II photograph (and later a monument at Arlington National Cemetery). The three cartoons depict danger, futility and hope. Explain the issue and message being delivered in each toon.

2. None of these cartoons rely on captions to convey their message? Would captions help make each message more clear?

3. One of the toons appears to be anti-U.S. which one? Explain your choice.

4. Which toon is the most effective?

Additional resources

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

More by Antonio Neril Licon

More by Ricardo Martinez
http://www.nyimages.com/cartoons/ (search for “Ricardo”)

More by Clay Bennett
http://www.claybennett.com

Get out your newspaper

Gather a collection of political cartoons from your newspaper over the next two weeks. Using the Cartoon Evaluation Worksheet (available online at the NIE Website) analyze each cartoon and explain the issues addressed and determine the point of view of the artist. Gather news stories about those issues and evaluate the cartoonists opinions.