

# Cartoons for the Classroom

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



## Liberty vs. security

### Between the lines

The issue of curbing civil liberties in the name of national security has been argued vigorously in the wake of the 9/11 attacks and the passage of the Patriot Act. Should people be willing to give up certain liberties protected by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights in exchange for protection against terrorism?



Cartoon Courtesy Clay Bennett / The Christian Science Monitor

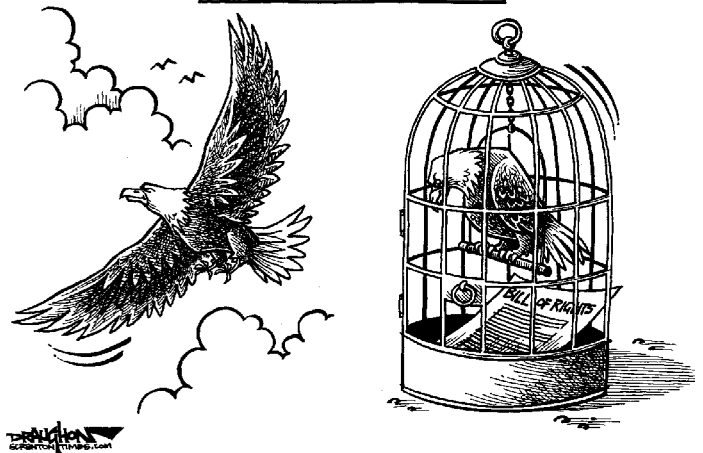
### Talking points

1. Clay Bennett's cartoon illustrates the problem of Liberty vs. Security succinctly. Workers are peeling away layers of privacy to build a security fence. Notice that in Bennett's toon, as security increases, privacy decreases. What's the right balance? How much privacy should we give up to gain security?
2. Is the right to privacy specific or implied? The First Amendment protects freedom of speech, press, religion, assembly and the right to petition the government. It says nothing about a right to privacy. Why not? What's changed since the Constitution was written?
3. In Draughon's toon, security has become a cage. The eagle is safe, but at what cost? What did the artist mean by lining the bottom of the cage with the Bill of Rights?

### Get out your newspaper

Gather a collection of political cartoons from your newspaper. Using the *Cartoon Evaluation Worksheet* (available online at the NIE Website) analyze each cartoon and explain the issues addressed and determine the artist's point of view.

### LIBERTY VS. SECURITY



Cartoon Courtesy Dennis Draughon / Freelance

### Additional resources

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

More by Clay Bennett

<http://editorialcartoonists.com/cartoon/browse.cfm/BenneC/>

More by Dennis Draughon

<http://editorialcartoonists.com/cartoon/browse.cfm/Draugd/>