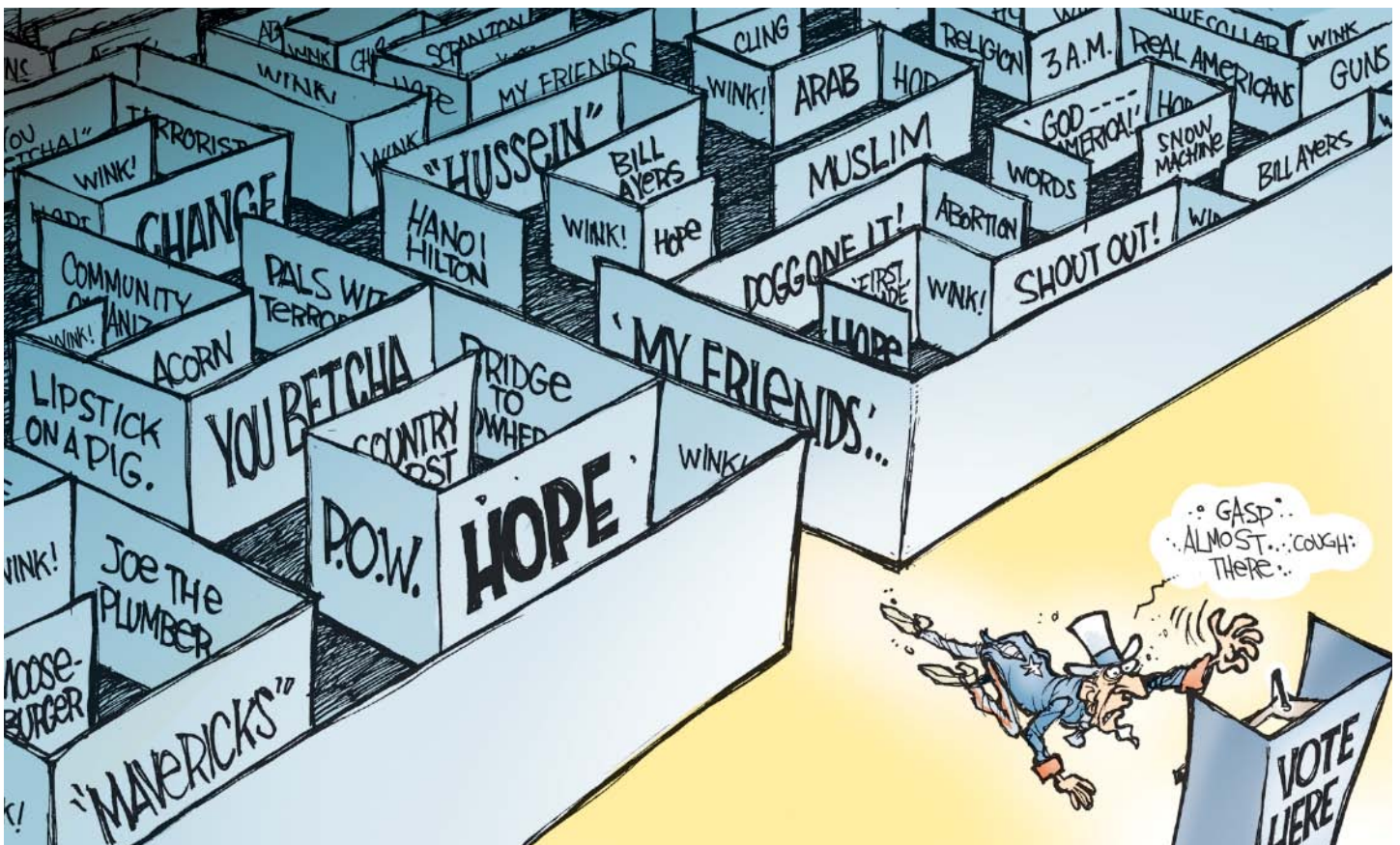


Cartoons for the Classroom

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



Cartoon Courtesy John Cole / Times-Tribune, Scranton PA

Tooning into the election Campaign echoes

Talking points

1. *Doggone it*, John Cole gets kinda mavericky as he reminds us of the sound bites that defined the 2008 campaign. Uncle Sam had to navigate through the maze of catchphrases to finally get to the voting booth. Explain how the maze metaphor helps get the cartoon's message across. By the way, what is the message?
2. List the phrases shown in the cartoon and indicate which candidate applies to each phrase. Did Cole miss any? What about *Joe Sixpack*, *Obama Girl*, *Bridge to Nowhere*. Can you think of more?
3. Were any of these phrases actually dealing with "critical issues" that will ultimately define the presidency?

Between the lines

Every presidential election produces its own catchphrases -- handy little words and slogans championed by White House hopefuls, their supporters and detractors. Some, like "It's the economy, stupid," and "You're no Jack Kennedy" survive and become part of our popular and political culture. Others, thankfully, fade quickly.

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.

More by John Cole
<http://editorialcartoonists.com/cartoon/browse.cfm/ColeJ>

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