

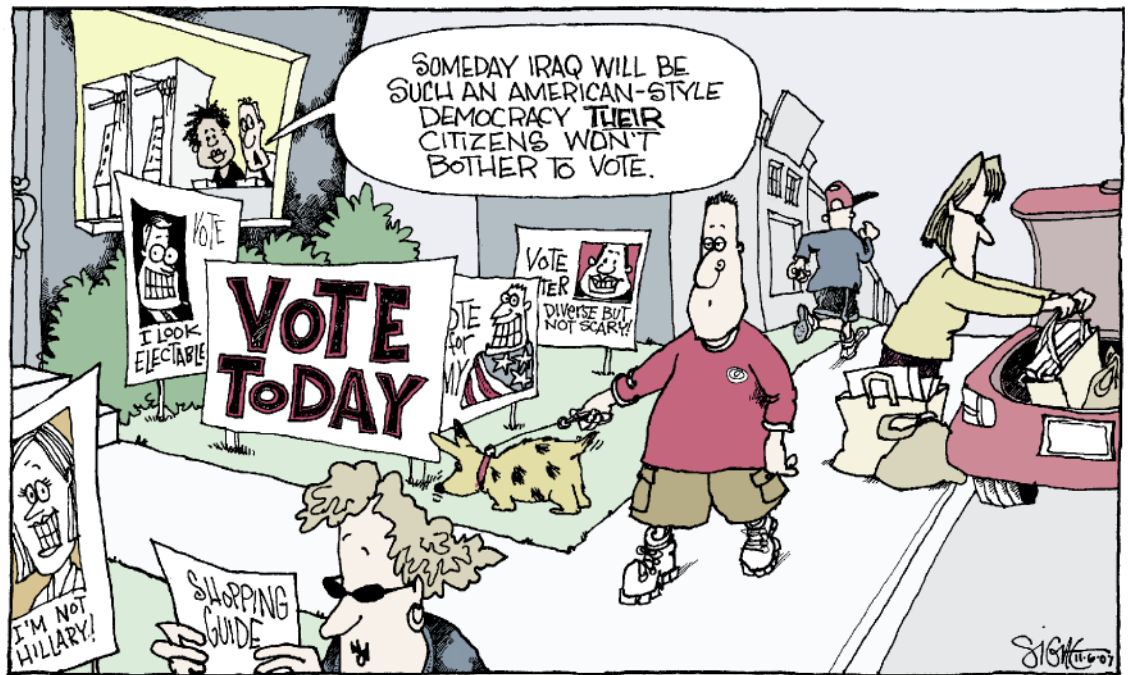
Cartoons for the Classroom

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



Between the lines

Analysts expect voter turnout numbers in this election to beat the record set in 2004 when 64 percent of eligible citizens came out to the polls. But if only 60 percent of eligible U.S. voters cast their votes, that would still leave nearly 40 percent missing from the polls.



Cartoon Courtesy Signe Wilkinson / Philadelphia Daily News



Cartoon Courtesy Rick McKee / Augusta Chronicle

Tooning into the election: Turnout or burnout?

Talking points

1. In 2005, when Iraq held its first general election since the United States-led 2003 invasion, an estimated 58 percent of eligible voters cast ballots despite threats of violence. Explain the sarcasm of Signe Wilkinson's cartoon and her interpretation of "American-style democracy."
2. Voters under 30, who make up about one-fifth of the electorate, are expected to turn out in record numbers this election. Why?
3. Rick McKee's cartoon focuses on the low turnout generally in local elections. Why do far fewer people fail to vote in local elections than in national elections. Which election probably has the greatest influence on your way of life?

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.

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

More by Signe Wilkinson
<http://editorialcartoonists.com/cartoon/browse.cfm/WilkiS>

More by Rick McKee
<http://spotted.augusta.com/chronicle/display.html?event=0&gallery=28124>