

## Period 9 (1980-Present)

1. Iran Starts Uranium Enrichment Program  
North Korea Conducts Underground Atomic Tests  
Pakistan Accused of Selling Atomic Secrets to Libya

These headlines are most closely related to United States national security concerns over the

- (1) proliferation of nuclear weapons
- (2) construction of nuclear power plants
- (3) effectiveness of the nuclear test ban treaty
- (4) enforcement of the Strategic Arms Limitation

...Capitalism, demonstrably the greatest of the constructed economic systems, has in the past decade clearly proved its advantages over the alternative systems. The information highway will magnify those advantages. It will allow those who produce goods to see, a lot more efficiently than ever before, what buyers want, and will allow potential consumers to buy those goods more efficiently. Adam Smith would be pleased. More important, consumers everywhere will enjoy the benefits.

— Bill Gates, 1995

2. Which statement most accurately expresses the main idea of this passage?
  - (1) Information technology will make it easier to buy and sell goods.
  - (2) Information technology will make capitalism obsolete.
  - (3) Government must regulate the information technology industry.
  - (4) The costs of information technology will outweigh its benefits.



Source: Paul Fell, *Lincoln Journal Star*, 2004

3. Which statement most accurately expresses the main idea of the cartoon?
  - (1) Water pollution threatens public health.
  - (2) Farmers fail to understand the water needs of cities.
  - (3) Urban development has used all the water needed for farming.
  - (4) Conflict is growing over the distribution of scarce water resources.



Source: John Darkow, Columbia (MO) Daily Tribune, July 3, 2009 (adapted)

4. Which statement most accurately expresses the point of view of the cartoonist?
- (1) The United States should increase its imports from China.
  - (2) Many products made in the United States are sold in China.
  - (3) The American economy has become overly dependent on China.
  - (4) Many Americans have had to move to China to find work.
5. Many American corporations contributed to the problem shown in the cartoon by
- (1) demanding that Congress increase export taxes
  - (2) establishing manufacturing facilities overseas
  - (3) paying workers lower wages to encourage them to retire
  - (4) lobbying the federal government to increase the minimum wage



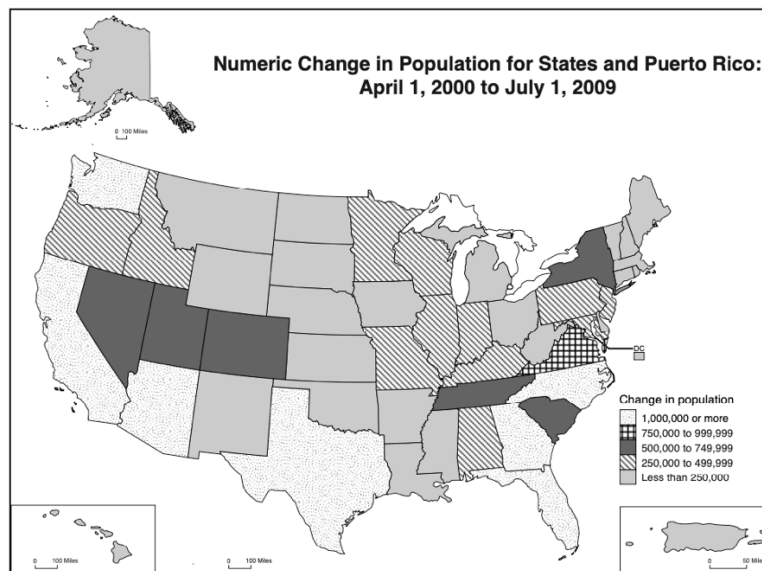
Source: Jeff Koterba, Omaha World Herald, March 15, 2010 (adapted)

6. What is considered a major cause of the problem shown in the cartoon?
- (1) Employers pay higher Social Security taxes than employees pay.
  - (2) Most Americans want to end Social Security programs.
  - (3) Wealthy people pay the largest share of the Social Security taxes.
  - (4) The growing number of Social Security recipients are being supported by relatively fewer workers.

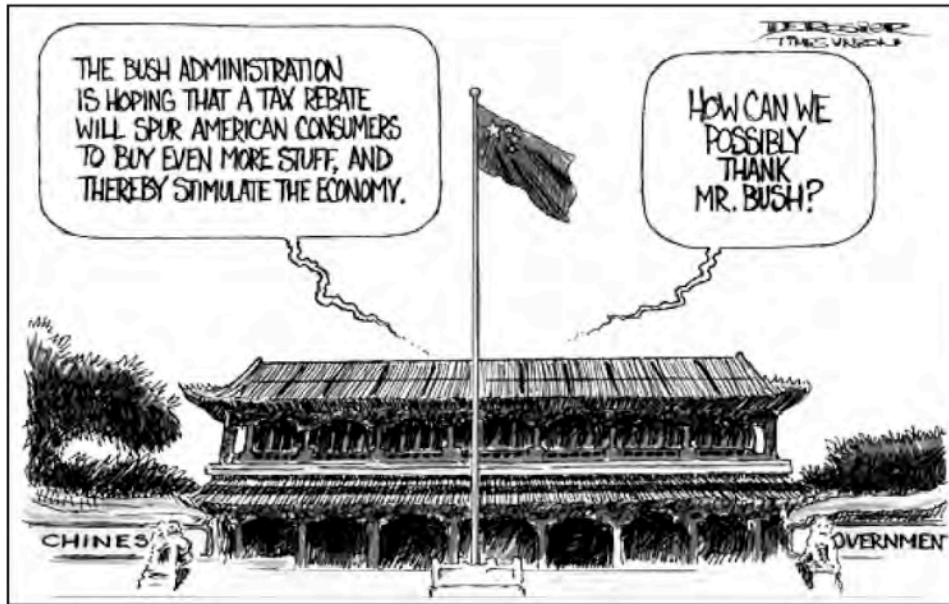


Source: John Trever, Albuquerque Journal

7. The opinion expressed by the cartoonist is that the USA Patriot Act allows the federal government to
  - (1) set new term limits for federal judges
  - (2) restrict the investigative powers of the police
  - (3) violate freedoms guaranteed in the Bill of Rights
  - (4) eliminate States rights reserved in the 10th amendment
8. This cartoon was published in response to federal actions that followed which event?
  - (1) passage of the Espionage Act (1917) and the Sedition Act (1918)
  - (2) Supreme Court decision in *Korematsu v. United States* (1944)
  - (3) civil rights march on Washington, D.C. (1963)
  - (4) attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon (2001)



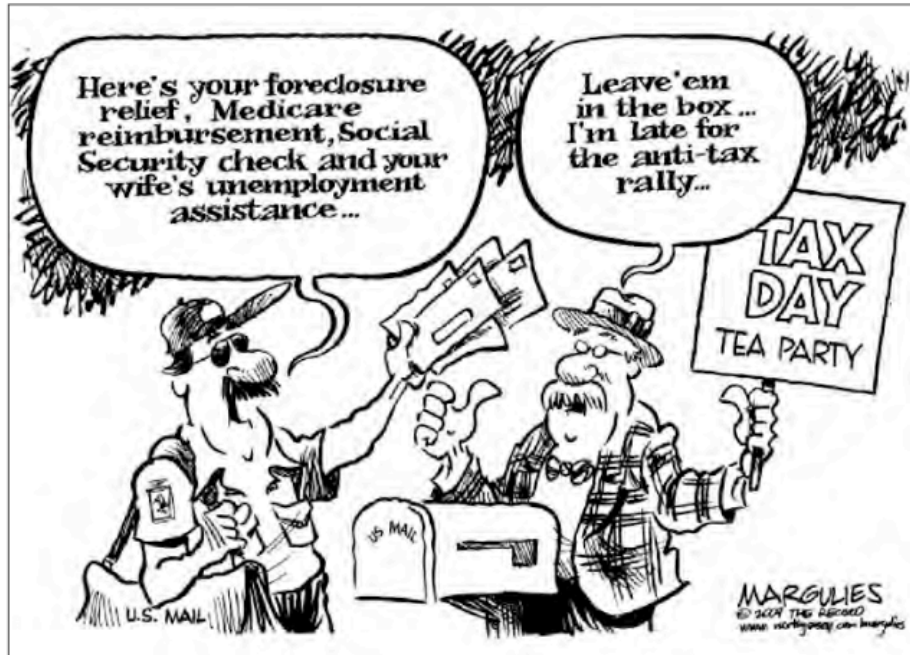
9. Information such as that shown on the map is important to state governments because it is used to
  - (1) establish immigration quotas
  - (2) set Social Security taxation rates
  - (3) identify the best location for new military bases
  - (4) determine the number of seats each state will have in the House of Representatives



Source: John de Rosier, *Albany Times Union*, January 27, 2008 (adapted)

10. In this 2008 cartoon about a tax proposal by President George W. Bush, the cartoonist is implying that China anticipated

- (1) a more favorable balance of trade with the United States
- (2) greater difficulty in selling its products in the United States
- (3) the opening of new markets for Chinese goods in Europe
- (4) an increase in United States tariffs that could cause a recession in China



Source: Jimmy Margulies, *The Record* (Hackensack, NJ), April 14, 2009

11. Which statement best expresses the cartoonist's point of view?

- (1) Citizens sometimes fail to appreciate the tax-funded benefits provided by government.
- (2) More social benefits programs are needed for older Americans.
- (3) Older Americans reject tax-supported government assistance.
- (4) The Tea Party movement lacks public support.



Source: Jim Day, *Las Vegas Review Journal*, February 25, 2009 (adapted)

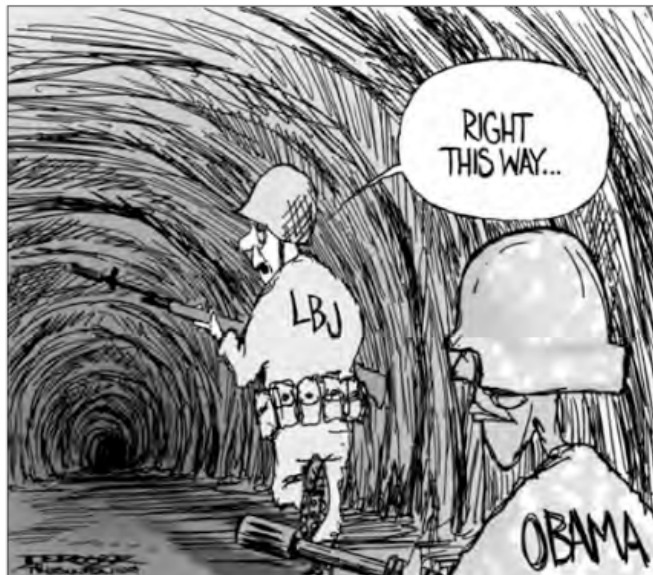
12. Which statement most accurately expresses the cartoonist's point of view?
- (1) Presidents have failed to learn the right lessons from past experiences in waging war.
  - (2) Victory in Vietnam inspired later presidents to become involved in wars.
  - (3) The Iraq and Afghanistan wars ended in quick victories for the United States.
  - (4) The military tactics used in Vietnam have been effective in Iraq and Afghanistan.
13. The cartoonist most likely refers to the war in Afghanistan as "Obama's Vietnam" because
- (1) the war was begun during the administration of President Barack Obama
  - (2) the war ended soon after President Barack Obama took office
  - (3) President Barack Obama favored the reinstatement of the military draft
  - (4) President Barack Obama chose to continue military involvement in Afghanistan
14. President Carter Negotiates Camp David Accords  
 President Reagan Sends Troops to Lebanon  
 President Bush Orders Operation Desert Storm
- Which United States foreign policy goal is most closely associated with these headlines?
- (1) imperialism in Latin America
  - (2) globalization of trade
  - (3) stability in the Middle East
  - (4) delivery of humanitarian relief
15. Which statement accurately describes a result of the 1993 adoption of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)?
- (1) Tariff barriers were reduced between the three largest nations of North America.
  - (2) A single currency was created for the nations of North America.
  - (3) Immigration restrictions between North American nations were eliminated.
  - (4) The United States stopped importing oil from other North American nations.



Source: Pat Oliphant, November 10, 2000

16. This cartoon was published in response to the
- (1) ratification of the 22nd amendment limiting presidential terms
  - (2) influence of third-party candidates in presidential elections
  - (3) decision of the Supreme Court establishing the “one man-one vote” principle
  - (4) dispute over the presidential election between George W. Bush and Al Gore

### Into the abyss



Source: John de Rosier, *Albany Times Union*, November 26, 2009

17. The main idea of the cartoon is that President Barack Obama
- (1) is determined to end President Lyndon B. Johnson’s foreign policy commitments
  - (2) is better prepared than President Lyndon B. Johnson to lead the nation in war
  - (3) should learn from President Lyndon B. Johnson’s failure in Vietnam
  - (4) should follow the advice of President Lyndon B. Johnson



Source: Jeff Stahler, *Columbus Dispatch*, March 7, 2009 (adapted)

18. Which situation related to the Great Recession in 2008 and 2009 is addressed in this cartoon?

- (1) crisis in home foreclosures
- (2) growth of federal budget deficits
- (3) shortage of health care facilities
- (4) decline in the financial stability of Social Security



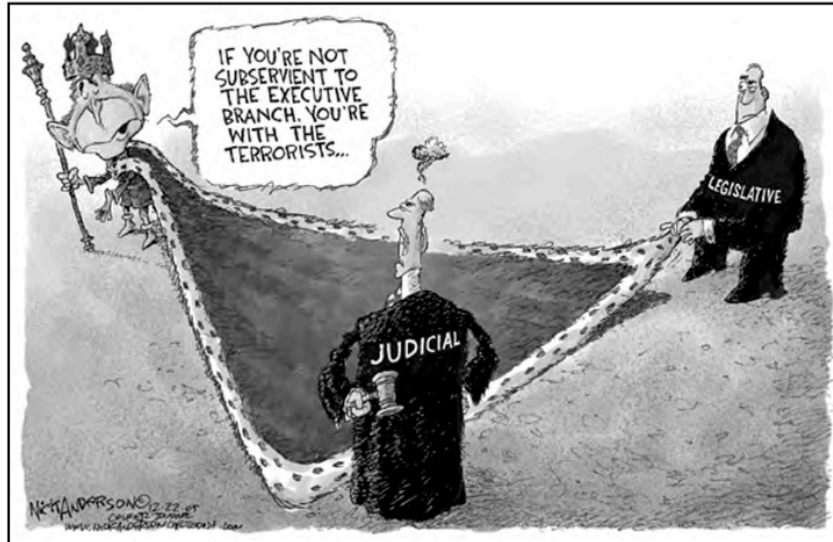
Source: Arthur Bok, *Akron Beacon Journal*, 1992

19. Which economic issue is the cartoonist addressing?

- (1) globalization
- (2) high tariffs
- (3) transportation costs
- (4) quality of American cars

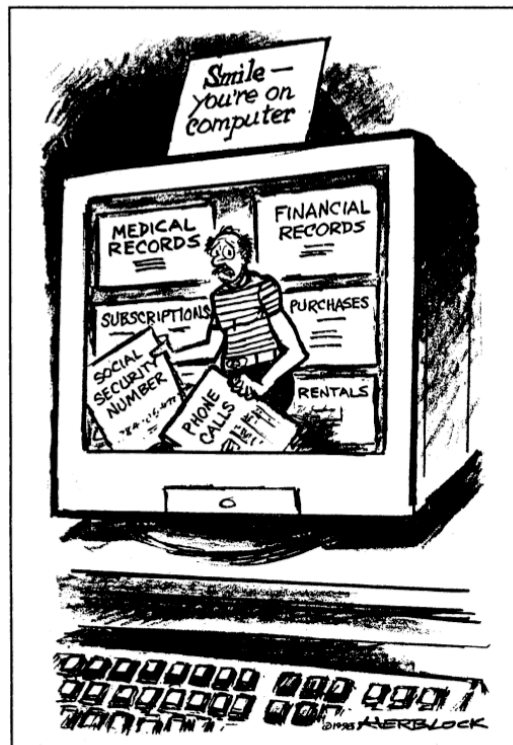
20. President George H. W. Bush's decisions to send military aid to Saudi Arabia in 1990 and to conduct the Persian Gulf War in 1991 were consistent with the United States
- (1) long-term commitment to protecting oil resources
  - (2) determination to appease Saddam Hussein
  - (3) continued application of the Truman Doctrine
  - (4) goal of nuclear disarmament
21. "Somalians Are Still Hungry and at War Despite Efforts of United States Troops"  
"United States Troops Help Reinstall Haitian President"  
"United States and NATO Allies Use Air Strikes To Slow Ethnic Cleansing in Bosnia"  
These 1990s headlines illustrate the efforts of the United States to
- (1) support independence movements
  - (2) act as an international peacekeeper
  - (3) prevent the spread of communism
  - (4) protect United States business investments
22. Which United States foreign policy stated that European powers should no longer expect to establish colonies in the Western Hemisphere?
- (1) Monroe Doctrine
  - (2) Dollar Diplomacy
  - (3) Good Neighbor Policy
  - (4) Alliance for Progress
23. Brinkmanship, the domino theory, and massive retaliation are elements of United States foreign policy associated with the
- (1) Revolutionary War
  - (2) Civil War
  - (3) Cold War
  - (4) War on Terror
24. President Ronald Reagan supported supply-side economics through reduced tax rates to
- (1) encourage economic growth
  - (2) create more public-works jobs
  - (3) increase government regulation of business
  - (4) decrease defense spending
25. North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) were created primarily to
- (1) support environmentalism
  - (2) maintain mutual defense
  - (3) improve public health worldwide
  - (4) promote economic interdependence





Source: Nick Anderson, *Louisville Courier-Journal*, December 22, 2005

26. This cartoon illustrates that actions taken during times of crisis have sometimes led to concerns about the functioning of
- (1) federalism
  - (2) salutary neglect
  - (3) checks and balances
  - (4) bicameral legislatures



Source: Herb Block, *Washington Post*, 1998

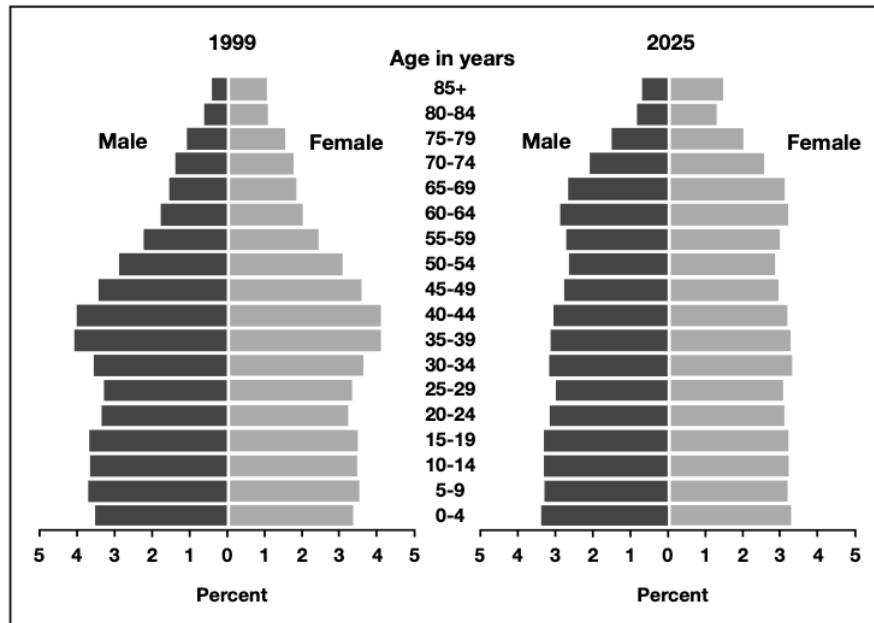
27. Which statement most accurately reflects the point of view of the cartoonist?
- (1) New technology has made modern life less convenient.
  - (2) Computers have made medical records more secure.
  - (3) Use of computers might compromise personal privacy.
  - (4) Government records should be stored on computers.



Source: Mike Keefe, *The Denver Post*, November 8, 2003

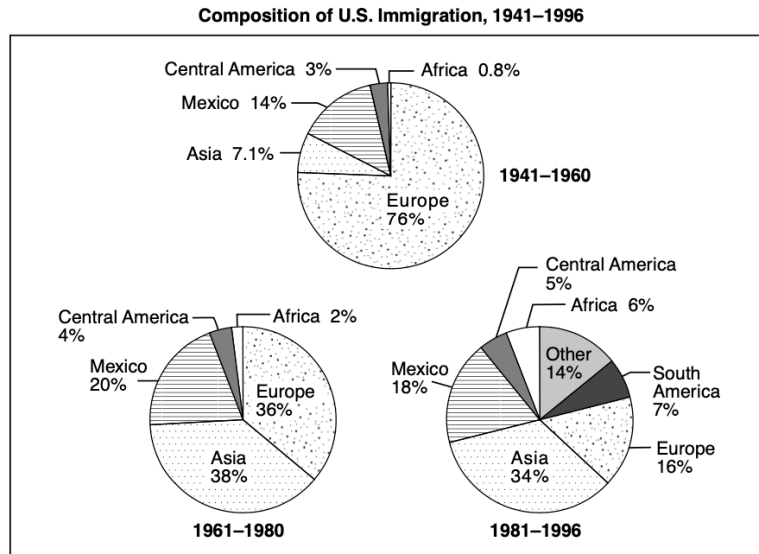
28. Which statement most accurately expresses the point of view of the cartoonist?
- (1) Middle Eastern leaders favor isolationism over international cooperation.
  - (2) Middle Eastern leaders prefer representative government to military dictatorship.
  - (3) The peoples of the Middle East are well prepared for democratic rule.
  - (4) The United States version of government is unlikely to work in the Middle East.

**Age and Gender Distribution of the U.S. Population, 1999 and 2025**



Source: Population Reference Bureau (adapted)

29. Which conclusion about the estimated United States population in 2025 compared to 1999 is most clearly supported by information in the graphs?
- (1) More people will live longer in 2025.
  - (2) The size of the population will have doubled by 2025.
  - (3) Death rates will have increased by 2025.
  - (4) More men than women will be over age 85 in 2025.



Source: Wilson and Dilulio Jr., *American Government: Institutions and Policies*, Houghton Mifflin, 2004 (adapted)

30. Which statement about the population of the United States from 1941 through 1996 is most clearly supported by the information provided in the graphs?
- (1) The average age of the United States population increased.
  - (2) The number of immigrants who applied for naturalized citizenship decreased.
  - (3) The number of foreign-born residents of the United States fell after 1960.
  - (4) **The diversity of American society increased in the second half of the 20th century.**
31. Which development has resulted from the creation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) in the 1990s?
- (1) growth in membership of labor unions in the United States
  - (2) **greater global economic interdependence**
  - (3) fewer industries leaving the United States
  - (4) more protective tariffs between the member nations
32. Which charges led to President Bill Clinton's impeachment?
- (1) excessive use of the pardon power
  - (2) **perjury and obstruction of justice**
  - (3) illegal use of campaign funds
  - (4) misuse of war powers and deficit spending
33. One way in which Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid are similar is that they are all
- (1) programs that provide aid to education
  - (2) **examples of social welfare programs**
  - (3) attempts to balance the federal budget
  - (4) aspects of public works projects



Source: Jim Morin, *Miami Herald*, July 21, 2006

34. This cartoonist is critical of the leadership of President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney for
- (1) supporting the clear-cutting of forests
  - (2) overusing the presidential veto power
  - (3) **weakening the system of checks and balances**
  - (4) waging the war in Iraq
35. Which document is the result of President Jimmy Carter's efforts to increase stability in the Middle East?
- (1) **Camp David Accords**
  - (2) Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
  - (3) Panama Canal Treaty
  - (4) Paris Peace Accords
36. What was the reason the Equal Rights Amendment did not become part of the United States Constitution?
- (1) President Ronald Reagan vetoed it.
  - (2) **Three-fourths of the states did not ratify it.**
  - (3) The National Organization for Women (NOW) did not support it.
  - (4) The Supreme Court ruled it was unconstitutional.
37. Which combination of factors contributed most directly to the severe recession in the United States economy in 2008?
- (1) immigration restrictions and lack of skilled workers
  - (2) cuts in defense spending and social welfare programs
  - (3) **excessive use of credit and bank speculation in the mortgage market**
  - (4) tight monetary policy and overregulation of banks



Source: Walt Handelsman, *Newsday*, April 26, 2006

38. The main idea of this cartoon is that public approval of the president in 2006 was directly linked to the
- (1) cost of gasoline in the United States
  - (2) success in stopping human rights abuses abroad
  - (3) ability to restrict the flow of illegal drugs
  - (4) amount of the budget surplus

“... The United States, together with the United Nations, exhausted every means at our disposal to bring this crisis to a peaceful end. However, Saddam [Hussein] clearly felt that by stalling and threatening and defying the United Nations, he could weaken the forces arrayed against him...”

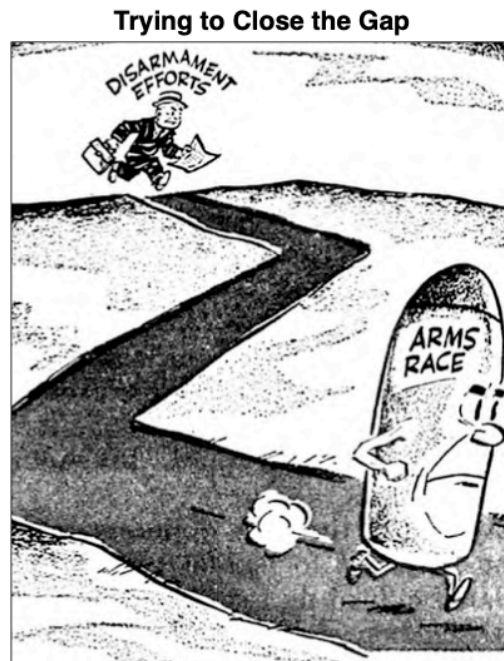
– President George H. W. Bush, address to the nation, January 16, 1991

39. President George H. W. Bush used this statement to defend
- (1) taking military action to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi aggression
  - (2) providing foreign aid to Israel
  - (3) supporting Egypt against attacks by terrorists
  - (4) using United States troops as peacekeepers in Bosnia



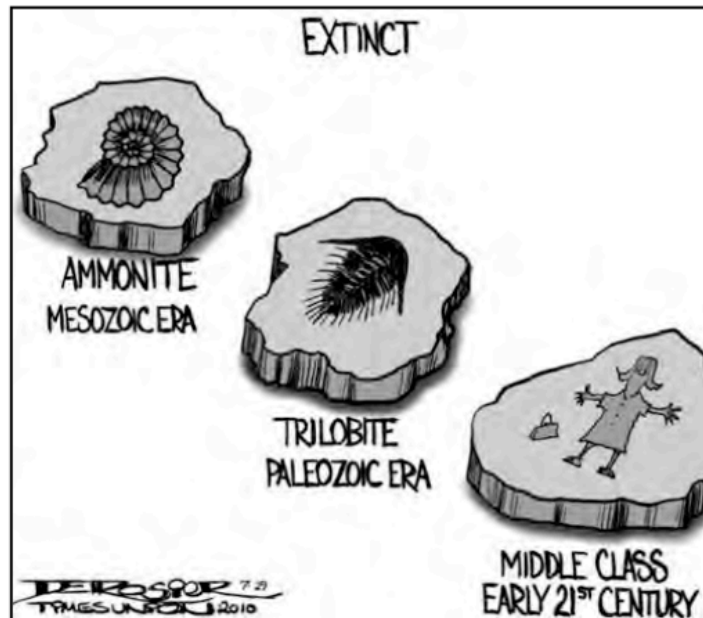
Source: Jim Morin, *Miami Herald*, May 10, 2015

40. The main idea of this cartoon is that telephone surveillance by the National Security Administration (NSA)
- (1) has been troubled by technical difficulties
  - (2) violates some of the protections of the United States Constitution
  - (3) is legal because it protects the privacy of Internet users
  - (4) increases hacking of top-secret government information



Source: Art Bimrose, *Portland Oregonian* (adapted)

41. Which action was an attempt to close the “gap” referred to in the cartoon?
- (1) signing the Yalta Agreement
  - (2) passing the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
  - (3) proposing the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)
  - (4) agreeing to the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT)

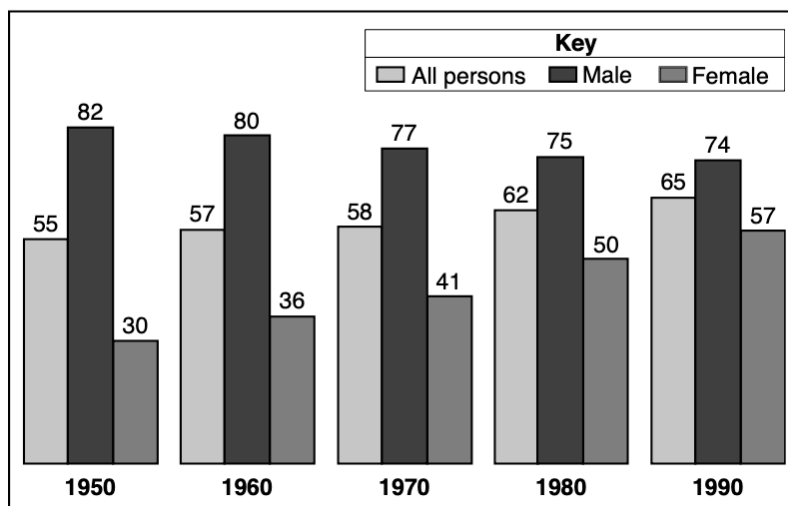


Source: John de Rosier, *Albany Times Union*, July 29, 2010

42. Which combination of factors has led to the problem shown in the cartoon?

- (1) lower medical costs and high interest rates
- (2) business monopolies and depletion of natural resources
- (3) consumer debt and nearly stagnant wages
- (4) population migration and the graying of America

Percent of Men and Women in Labor Force: 1950 to 1990



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 (adapted)

43. Which conclusion is most clearly supported by information in the graph?

- (1) Older Americans remained in the labor force longer in 1990 than in 1950.
- (2) All Americans born during the baby boom after World War II joined the labor force.
- (3) Half as many men were in the labor force in 1990 as compared to 1950.
- (4) In every decade shown, the percentage of women in the labor force grew while the percentage of men in the labor force declined.

44. During the Persian Gulf War (1991), the primary aim of the United States was to force Iraq to
- (1) withdraw its troops from Kuwait
  - (2) hold democratic elections
  - (3) increase the price of its oil exports
  - (4) submit to weapons inspections by the United Nations
- 45 In 1993, many labor union leaders opposed United States membership in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) because they feared it would
- (1) cause Americans to lose jobs to foreign nations
  - (2) reduce the number of immigrants to the United States
  - (3) result in higher exports from the United States to Mexico and Canada
  - (4) outlaw wage increases for workers in the United States



Source: Steve Breen, *San Diego Union-Tribune*, 2004 (adapted)

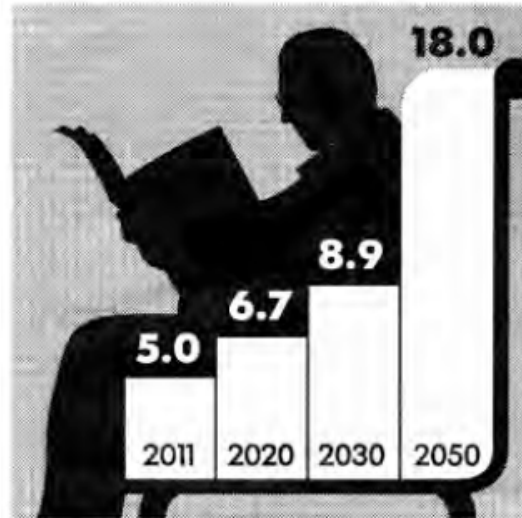
- 46 According to the cartoonist, the investigation of intelligence failures related to the 9/11 terrorist attacks resulted in
- (1) praise for government efforts to stop intelligence leaks
  - (2) open immigration from all regions of the world
  - (3) recommendations to limit dependence on foreign intelligence
  - (4) various federal agencies attempting to avoid criticism by shifting responsibility
47. Same-Sex Marriage Upheld by Supreme Court  
 47% of Children Live With One Parent  
 Majority of College Degrees Now Go to Women
- A conclusion that can be drawn directly from these headlines is that
- (1) more people are delaying marriage to a later age
  - (2) legal and societal changes have affected the family unit
  - (3) the role of women has changed little in the past decade
  - (4) most married couples do not have children



**USA SNAPSHOTS®**

**'Oldest old' crowd  
growing rapidly**

Americans 85 and over, in millions:



\*2020–2050 are projections

Source: *USA Today*, February 4, 2013  
(adapted)

48. Which government programs will be most directly affected by the trend shown on this chart?
- (1) defense spending
  - (2) immigration reform
  - (3) Head Start and school construction
  - (4) Medicare and Social Security