

## ELEMENTS AND SYMBOLS OF A POLITICAL CARTOON



### Cartoonists use 5 main elements to convey their point of view.

### Examples of Symbols Used in Political Cartoons

#### **Symbolism :**

Using an object to stand for an idea.

#### **Captioning & labels :**

Used for clarity and emphasis.

#### **Analogy :**

A comparison between two unlike things that share some characteristics.

#### **Irony :**

The difference between the way things are & the way things are expected to be.

#### **Exaggeration :**

Overstating or magnifying a problem or a physical feature or habit: big nose, bushy eyebrows, large ears, baldness, etc.

**Peace :** Dove, olive branch, scales of justice.

**United States :** Uncle Sam, flag, stars and stripes, shield, lady liberty.

**Democrats :** Donkey.

**Republicans :** Elephant.

**Death :** Vulture, skeleton w/ shroud, skull and crossbones, grim reaper.

**Love :** Heart, Cupid, Venus

**Money :** Dollar bill or dollar sign.

**Heroes and Good Guys:** Wear White

**Villians and Bad Guys:** Wear Black

**Dirty, Untelligent people:** Pigs

**Common People:** Rails, working men

**Sneaky People:** Snakes

**Growth / Life:** Tree

**Mockery:** Jester

