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| NYS Learning Standard | <p>Social Studies 1& 5. ELA 3 & 4. Arts \$.</p> <p>Recommended for: Grades 7-8 American History, U.S. History and Government, Participation in Government, and Economics</p> |
| Objective | <p>Objectives: To identify comics that make a social or political comment.</p> <p>To analyze these comics in cooperative teams.</p> <p>To express social issues clearly and make generalizations.</p> |
| Materials | <p>Newspapers, graphic organizer worksheet</p> |
| Method | <p>Students need to peruse the newspapers for three comics that discuss a current social issue. Some suggestions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Doonesbury for political issuesCathy for gender equity concernsZits for the plight of the teenager (or the plight of the parent)Dilbert for the current business office milieu <p>Working in pairs, students should select a cartoon from their samples that they feel is making the strongest social or political comment.</p> <p>Still working with partners, each pair of students should complete the graphic organizer (click here for worksheet) as it applies to their cartoon choice.</p> <p>Place the students into groups of four or six, and have them share their comics and graphic organizers with one another. The larger group must now select their favorite. Spokespersons for each group should then explain their choice and their interpretation of that choice to the class.</p> <p>Collect the finished graphic organizer from each original pair of students.</p> |
| Evaluation | <p>The teacher may assess the group process, or evaluate the original selection of comics by each student and how well the graphic organizer was used. Assessment may also include evaluating the productiveness of the class discussion.</p> |

Comic Graphic Organizer

Name(s) _____ Class _____ Date _____

| Choice #1 | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Title _____ | Cartoonist _____ | Date _____ |
| Characters Involved: | Topic Involved: | Appropriateness to society today: |
| | | |

| Choice #2 | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Title _____ | Cartoonist _____ | Date _____ |
| Characters Involved: | Topic Involved: | Appropriateness to society today: |
| | | |

| Choice #3 | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Title _____ | Cartoonist _____ | Date _____ |
| Characters Involved: | Topic Involved: | Appropriateness to society today: |
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