

Dr. Seuss' Political Cartoons

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Individual Website

Student-composed Words: 1200

Process Paper Word Count: 492

I chose my topic, Dr. Seuss' political cartoons, for many reasons. When I first started looking for a topic, I thought about what time period I would like to study as well as what topics interested me. I narrowed my ideas down to two topics: political cartoons and Franklin Delano Roosevelt's fireside chats. During class, another student picked the latter, so I opted for political cartoons. When I told my teacher I was planning a project relating to political cartoons, he suggested I look into Dr. Seuss' political cartoons.

I started my research by searching Google about Dr. Seuss' political cartoons. I found many articles. I discovered the book, *Dr. Seuss Goes to War* by Richard Minear, so I went to Minneapolis Central Library to view the book. I also checked out and read *Dr. Seuss and Co. Go to War*. I discovered that the University of California San Diego Library scanned all of Dr. Seuss' original cartoons and created a website with them. I looked at this website to explore the cartoons. I also searched through many online articles during my research. For each one, I read and took notes so I could look back at the articles when writing my draft for my website. I also used eLibrary Minnesota and Encyclopedia Britannica to find more sources and photos.

To create my project, I began by making an outline. In my outline I planned out what I would say on my website. Next, I created a first draft of what I would write on my website. I divided the draft into sections that would become different pages for the website. Then, I made a second draft in which I revised and edited my first draft. After my drafts were finished, I created a website with NHD Web Central. I made eight pages and colored them different colors. I copy-and-pasted each section from my second draft onto the correct page on the website. Then I had to make sure all of the formatting, fonts, and colors were proper.

Dr. Seuss made a mark in history in the fight against isolationists and anti-interventionists and helped urge the United States to join World War II. During the beginning of the war, there

was a large anti-interventionist movement in the United States that wanted to stay out of the war. Although the PM newspaper was a minority daily in the New York press, Dr. Seuss still got his message across by publishing cartoons there.

Dr. Seuss' political cartoons are significant in history because most of the cartoons are still relevant today. Dr. Seuss fought racism, communism, denial of the news, isolationism, and many other problems using his cartoons. Because Seuss included these topics, his cartoons are a very important tool to communicate to others. Political cartoons, especially Dr. Seuss', are a key to success in communication. They provide readers critical, analytical, and harsh views of current events. These views are necessary in a healthy democracy.