

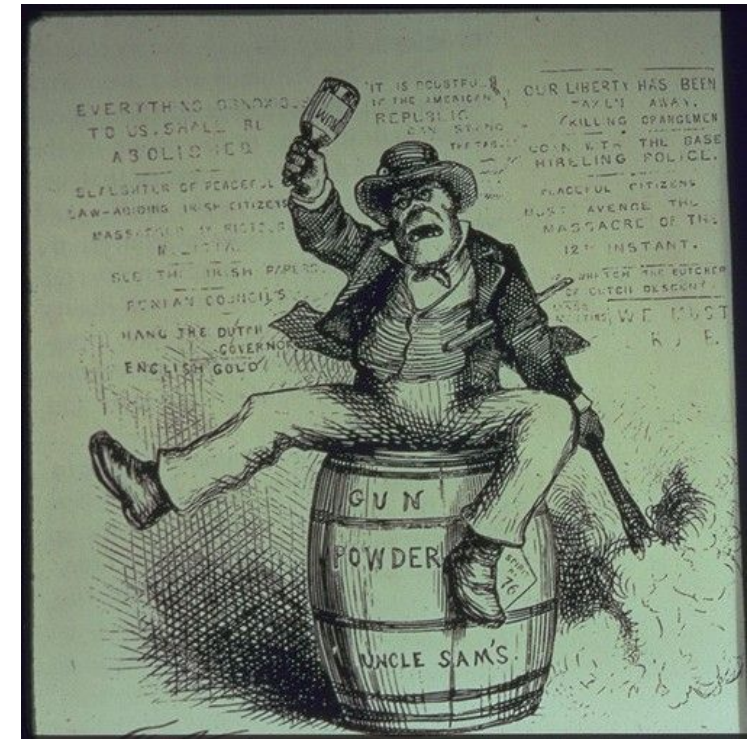
Handout #2: Anti-Immigration Cartoons of the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries



Political cartoon depicting the Irish immigrant, c. 1880s



"The Stranger at Our Gate," 1905



"Regarding the Italian Population," 1886



Political cartoon of the stereotypical “drunken Irishman,” c. 1890



“The Magic Washer,” 1882



“The Unrestricted Dumping-Ground,” 1902

After your group has had a chance to study the contents, appoint someone to write down your group's responses to the following questions:

1. How are immigrants represented in these cartoons?
2. How is the United States commonly represented?
3. Is there a disparity between the visions of immigration in the earlier motivational activities (such as those expressed in the presidential quotes) and those captured in these cartoons?
4. Some have argued that immigrants, when viewed in such a negative light, are depicted like animals. Do you see any evidence of this? If so, point to it.
5. How might representations of this kind create challenges for immigrants?
6. How might you explain why immigrants were seen as a threat by some? (Competition for jobs? Fear of outsiders/unfamiliar cultures? Health risks?)