



Ho Hum! No chance of contagion.

By Dr. Seuss

Dr. Seuss Political Cartoon Questions

1. Who is pictured in the bed on the left?
2. Who is pictured in the bed on the right?
3. What is happening to the figures in the bed on the right and what event will this result in?
4. Why is the figure on the left happy for separate beds?
5. What do you believe is the position of the artist? Be sure to provide reasons for your position.

Dr. Seuss Political cartoon answers

1. Uncle Sam, the United States
2. European nations including Russia, Germany, Italy, Poland
3. They are sick from the totalitarian regimes in Germany, Russia, and Italy; WWII
4. Because he will not get “sick” from the events occurring in the next bed.
5. Answers will vary but may include:

Dr. Seuss wants the U.S. to get involved in the war effort against the totalitarian regimes. It is clear that Europe is weak as a result of the takeover by fascists and Stalin and the entire continent is suffering. The caption seems to chide the U.S. for staying in their own bed and not getting in with the rest of the suffering nations. Uncle Sam is portrayed as large and clearly healthy, and seemingly able to assist but has his eyes closed to the situation since he has a separate bed.