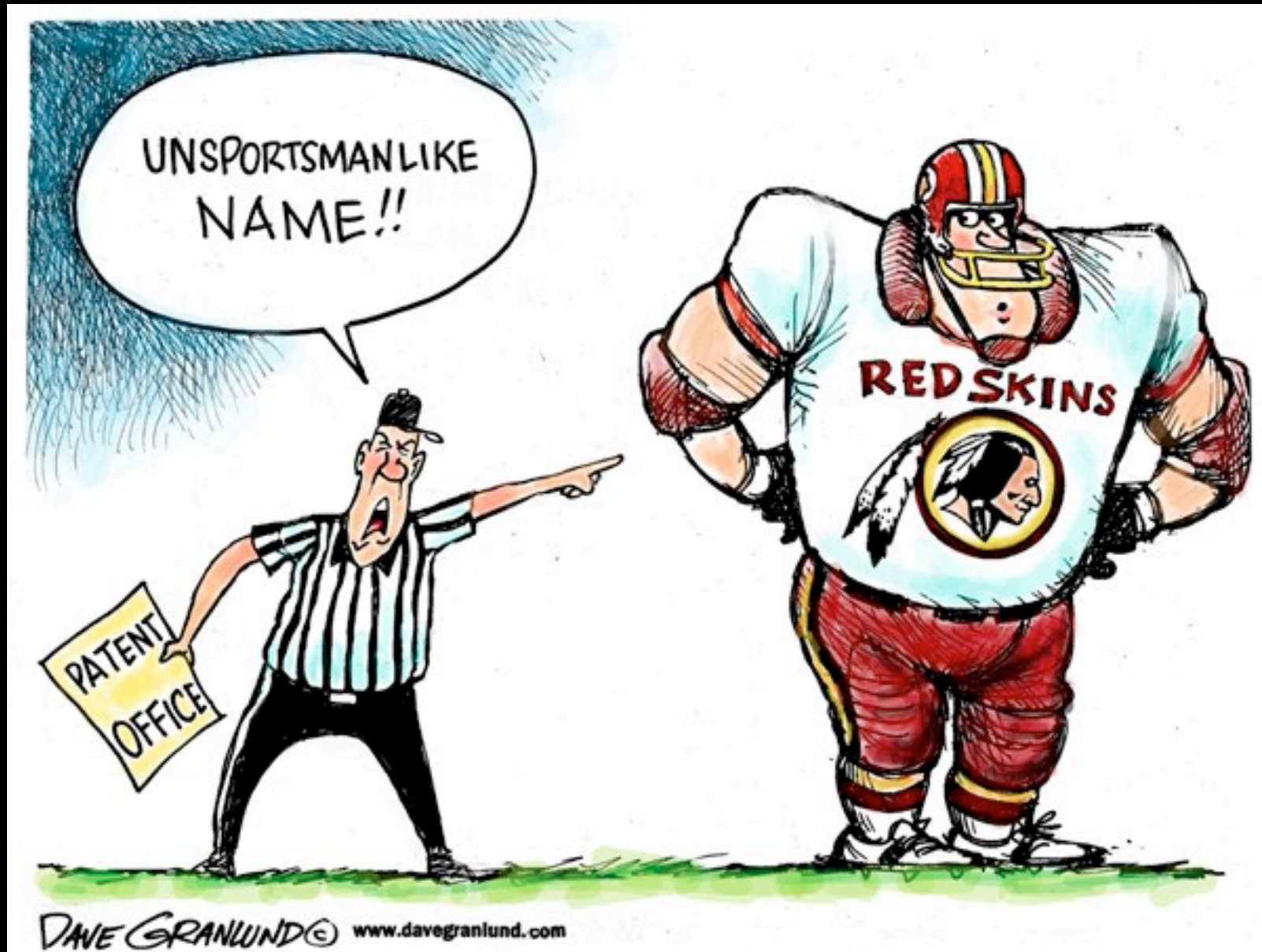


Understanding Multiple Perspectives: The Redskins Controversy in Cartoons

A Sample Presentation



Cartoon #1—The Typical Democratic Party View



Why?

1. Since 1948, the Democratic Party has prioritized civil rights issues more than their Republican Party counterparts.
2. Democrats are typically more comfortable with “public sector solutions” that seek to “correct” past mistakes re: racial insensitivity (e.g. affirmative action laws)
3. 42% of registered Democrats support banning the Redskins name, and 50 Democratic Senators recently petitioned NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell to change the name.
4. Most Native Americans vote Democratic
5. Dozens of organizations and 23 tribes representing more than 2 million Native Americans want the Redskins name dropped.
6. A recent study found that 67% of Native Americans find the Washington Redskins name and imagery racist.
7. On June 18, 2014, the United States Patent and Trademark Office voted to cancel the Redskins federal trademark registrations, considering them "disparaging to Native Americans"

Cartoon #2—The Typical Republican Party View



Why?

1. Republicans are typically more suspicious of authoritarian, public sector solutions to perceived problems.
2. Republicans tend to prioritize free market, private sector solutions, such as voluntarily not supporting the team, their merchandize, or their sponsors, if individuals don't like the term "Redskins."
3. Just 11% of registered Republicans are opposed to the Redskins name.
4. The Washington Redskins are paying a team of high-profile
5. consultants with ties to the Republican Party to advise the team on issues around its controversial name

Discussion Questions:

1. Are the Redskins (and their related songs, dances, gestures, and costumes) racially and culturally insensitive, as a majority of American Indians now suggest? Why or why not?
2. Should the government or the free market ultimately decide the Washington Redskins mascot issue? Why?
3. Why are Native Americans still popular sports mascots when other racial minorities are not?