Notes

1 Who Brings the Funny?

1. Obscenity, incitement to violence, and threatening the life of the president are several examples of restrictions on expression.
2. There have been several cases of threats against political cartoonists and comedians made by Islamic extremists who felt their religion was being mocked. These examples include (but are not limited to) the Danish political cartoonist who drew a depiction of the Prophet Mohammed, the creators of South Park who pretended to, and David Letterman who mocked Al Qaida.

3 Mirroring the Political Climate: Satire in History

2. Apparently, the “definitive” Pope prose is found in the volume edited by Ault and Cowler (Oxford: Blackwell, 1936–1986), and the “definitive” text for Gay’s poetry is edited by Dearing (Oxford: Clarendon, 1974).
4. The most authoritative biographies of Franklin are from Isaacson (2003) and Brands (2002), and I recommend readers look to these two authors for more information on one of the most fascinating of our founding fathers.
5. Mary Alice Wyman wrote a book on Seba Smith and Elizabeth Oakes Smith called *Two Pioneers* (Whitefish, MT: Kessinger Press, 2006) that contains more information about the author of “Major Jack Downing” and his wife, a poet.

6. John Adler has written a well-respected book about Nast and Tweed called *Doomed by Cartoon*. (New York: Morgan James, 2008)


8. The biography of Will Rogers was published by University of Oklahoma Press (2000) and a book about his political life, written by Richard White, was published by Texas Tech in 2011. Additionally, several collections of his witticisms and sayings have been published recently.


### 4 Art and Profession

2. From the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*: “A set of critical, strategic and rhetorical practices employing concepts such as difference, repetition, the trace, the simulacrum, and hyperreality to destabilize other concepts such as presence, identity, historical progress, epistemic certainty, and the univocity of meaning.”

5 Being Funny and Being Right, Being Left and Being Right

1. Discussed in Chapter 3.
2. *Se The Aristocrats*, a film described as, “One hundred superstar comedians tell the same very, VERY dirty, filthy joke,” as evidence of this.
3. There are some authoritative works on this topic, to include books from Markus Prior (2007), Cass Sunstein (2009), and Matthew Hindman (2009).
4. This reaffirms the findings from the Center for Media and Public Affairs addressed in Chapter 2.

6 Conclusions

1. 501(c) groups have been used in political campaigns for years, but increasingly so since 2008.

   The Supreme Court case *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission* gave rise to Super PACs in 2010, and since then these independent expenditure groups have been under fire from all sides, the argument being that this kind of campaign finance allowance is a corruption of American politics.

2. Potter is currently a member of the law firm Caplin & Drysdale where he works as an expert in election law. He was general counsel to John McCain’s 2008 presidential campaign.
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