

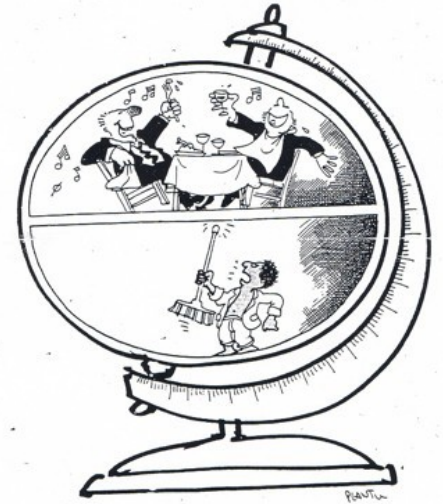
THE GLOBE AND INEQUALITY

I

This document is a cartoon. There is a signature, but it's blurred so I can't read it. There is also no date.

D

The drawing is of a globe divided into two parts by the equator. In the top part, two men are having a loud party, they are drinking, eating, laughing and listening to music. In the bottom part a neighbour complains by tapping a broom on the ceiling.



A

The men at the top represent people from wealthier northern countries, and the man on the bottom represents people from the poorer south. So the aim of the cartoon is to make us think about the unfair relationship between the rich and poor, politically powerful and politically powerless.

H

There is a lot to say about the details of this document. I think the most important detail is that fact that the cartoon isn't just saying that people in the global south are suffering, it is saying that they are suffering and living in poverty directly because other people are rich and powerful - the man isn't just being disturbed in the middle of the night, it is his neighbours who are waking him up. I believe this is related to the idea that rich and poor are not separate things, rather some people are rich because others are poor. For example, in the last 20 years, wealthy EU countries have become steadily wealthier and at the same time the poorest people in the world have become proportionally poorer. In other words, the poverty gap has gotten bigger. The second important detail is the fact that the man from the south is shouting and banging on the ceiling, but the party is so loud that no one can hear him. Here, I think the artist is trying to say that, even when people want to protest, they are ignored. Also, the fact that the artist represents rich and poor people as neighbours shows us that our actions do directly affect other people, and that really we all live in the same world and should be more equal.

O

I think that this document successfully highlights some aspects of the relationship between north and south. However, I think that in order to understand it properly, you would probably have to understand a bit about global politics. However, I imagine it was probably published in a newspaper, so its target audience would be people who are interested in politics. So although I like the cartoon, I don't really think it can teach us anything new.

B

In general, I think it is interesting that cartoons are often used to illustrate social and political problems. I suppose it's because they can make complicated issues seem more simple and understandable. Also, cartoons are a good way of making something very serious into something entertaining, so maybe having cartoons helps newspapers sell more copies?