

TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECT
Lesson Title –WWII Comic Book Covers
from Michael Meyer

Grade –High School

Length of class period – 30 minutes

Inquiry – (What essential question are students answering, what problem are they solving, or what decision are they making?)

How does popular culture reflect or affect the mind set of people?

Objectives (What content and skills do you expect students to learn from this lesson?)

Students will analyze comic book covers.

Students will evaluate the purpose of media in popular culture.

Students will identify bias in media.

Materials (What primary sources or local resources are the basis for this lesson?)

3 Comic book covers concerning American involvement in WWII (below)

Activities (What will you and your students do during the lesson to promote learning?)

Students will look at 3 different comic book covers and answer questions about them in small groups, then discuss their answers with a class sized group.

How will you assess what student learned during this lesson?

Collecting the answered questions and grade for effort and if they added to their answers during discussion.

Connecticut Framework Performance Standards –

Educational experiences in **Grades 9-12** will assure that students:

- Demonstrate an understanding of significant events and themes in United States history.
- Access and gather information from a variety of primary and secondary sources.
- Interpret information from a variety of primary and secondary sources
- Use evidence to identify, analyze and evaluate historical interpretations

Comic Book Covers of WWII

- I. Captain America Comics #1 March 1941



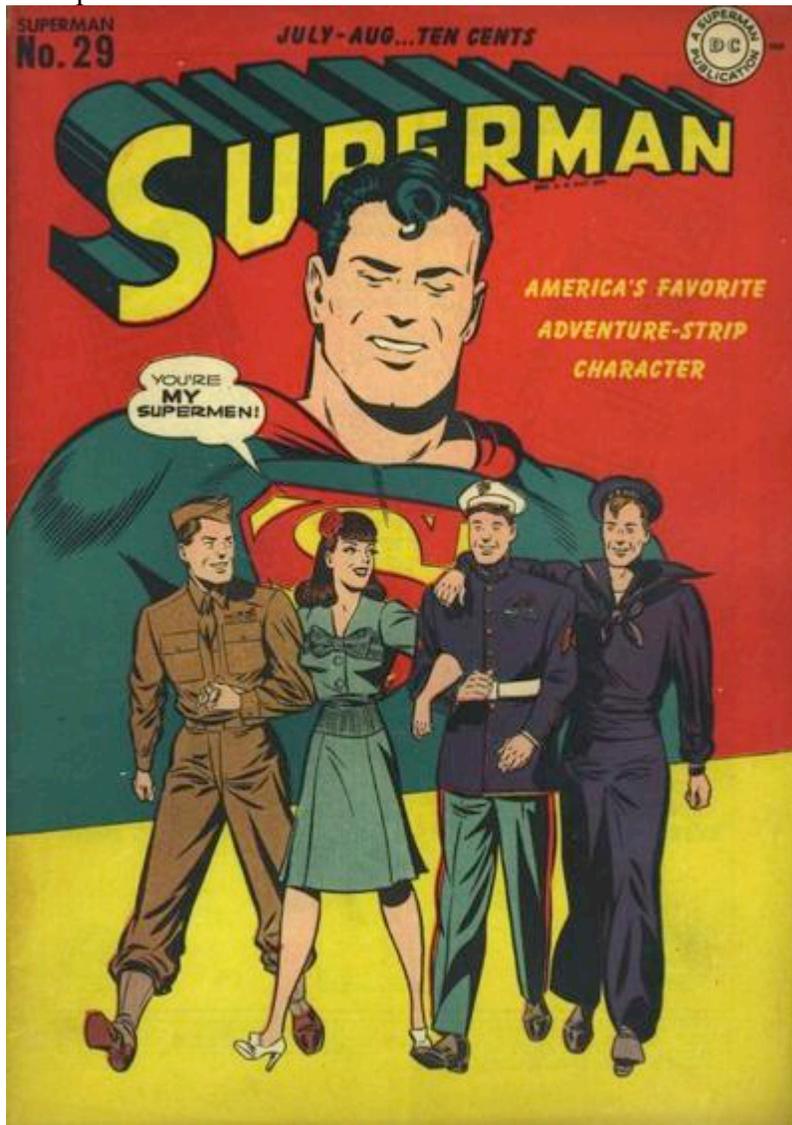
1. What symbols do you see in this picture what do they represent?
2. What was Hitler planning before Captain America showed up, how can you tell?
3. What is odd about what is happening in the picture based on the date of the comic? What does that tell you about the way some Americans felt at this time?

II. Captain America #13



4. Who is Captain America punching in this photo?
5. What does Captain America mean by what he is saying?
6. How is the Japanese soldier drawn? Why is he drawn that way?

III Superman #29



7. Who are the men pictured on this cover, what branches do they represent?
8. What is the message that this cover is trying to convey?
9. What is the purpose of the message? What is it trying to get young boys to do or believe?

10. On the back of this paper write a paragraph that answers the following question:
What can comic book covers tell us about the way people felt about World War II?