

# “Looking Backward”

*Puck*

January 11, 1893

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First-Year Seminar (COLA 100) Cartoon Project - Fall 2012

“Looking Backwards”, the controversial cartoon from *Puck* Magazine, was published on January 11, 1893. Composed by the founder of *Puck* Magazine himself, Joseph Keppler, created the cartoon that portrays the arguable rights of foreign visitors, also referred to as immigrants. The image represents an immigrant who has stepped off of a ship and entered into a foreign land and greeted with a generous “goodbye”, by those whom once were in his position and are now successful. Behind the figures that rejected the newcomer, are shadows of themselves being casted as they were once immigrants, too.

The successful Americans, being former immigrants, are setting out multiple laws and restrictions against foreigners who want to enter the land with such things as fees, required permits, medical tests and additional mandatories. The ironic situation portrayed through the cartoon signifies the hypocritical actions Americans are trying to take to carry out stricter immigration policies for immigrants, without acknowledging the obvious fact that they were once immigrants themselves.

