

“Welcome To All”

Puck

April 28, 1880

Samantha Hamika

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

In the cartoon “Welcome to All” by Joseph Keppler published in the magazine *Puck* on April 28, 1880, it portrays Uncle Sam standing in front of an ark with his arms open to immigrants, who are lined up in front of the ark. There are signs next to the ark that claim all good things about America that other countries don’t have. There is also a big, black, evil-looking ghost blending in with the clouds in the background that is staring down on the immigrants.

The ark that Uncle Sam is standing in front of might be referring back to the biblical story about Noah’s Ark. This means that America was willing to accept immigrants of all kinds from different countries. The signs show the immigrants the opportunities they will be given in America. Another thing to point out is that Uncle Sam’s arms are opened to the immigrants. This means that he is willing to bring them in to America just like the cartoon’s title suggests. People were leaving their countries to move to America for a better life and America took them in with open arms. However, this did not last for long.

