

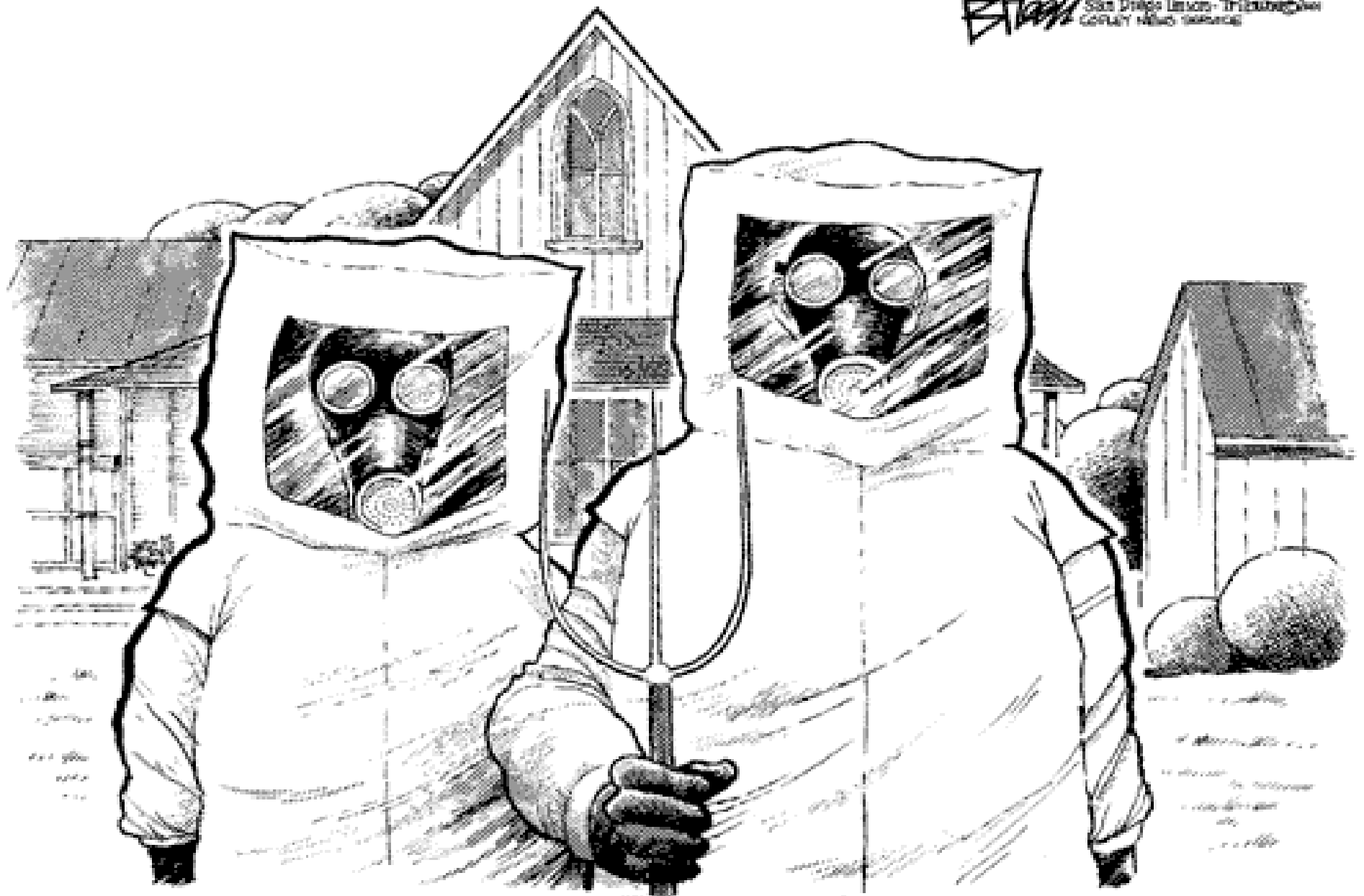
Science and Security in the Age of Bioterrorism

Challenges for Citizens and Scientists

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"Anthrax Gothic"

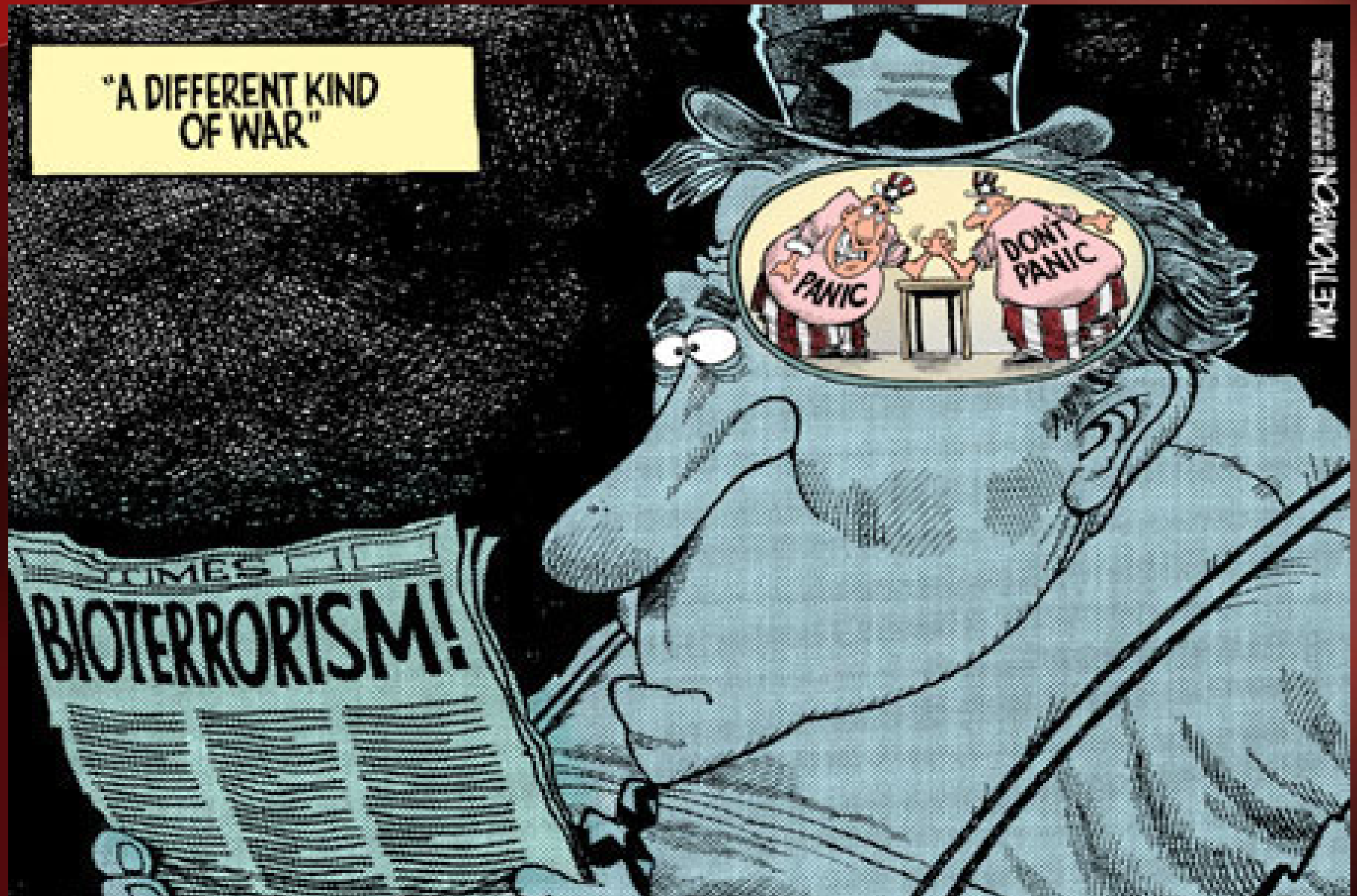
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Overview

- **Background-Rhetoric of Science**
- **Tensions**
- **Challenges**

How to Make Sense of the World?



Introduction

- Rhetoric of science/medicine; bioethics
- Concern for role of language (rhetoric) in shaping understanding
- How “science” circulates technical, public, and private spheres
- Role of rhetoric in shaping perceptions about threat of bioterrorism

Bioterrorism Boom

- **NIAID anthrax-related funding
+3400%**
- **\$1.7 billion in biodefense in 2005**
- **More than Manhattan project
adjusted to 2003 dollars**

Four Tensions

- deterrence and defense
- secrecy and disclosure
- awareness and alarm
- efficiency versus justice

Challenges

- Illuminated in case of UW and Boston Biosafety Laboratories



Challenges for Citizens and Scientists

- What is or what might be scientific citizenship?
- What is the character and form of public and expert participation in decisions regarding the interface between body politic and body physical?
- What assumptions about science, technology, society, and citizenship should inform participation?
- How to engage multiple overlapping and divergent publics?
- What role should the scientific community play in policing itself?