

## **The Power of the Pen? Journalists and Cartoonists in Zimbabwean Editorial Cartoons**

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This paper takes a historical approach to the question of how journalists and cartoonists have been portrayed in Zimbabwean editorial cartoons. It will argue that the way cartoonists have penned their own profession and that of journalists into their work as cartoonists, may provide an insight into the state of freedom of the media, freedom of expression and artistic agency. This is based on a view that editorial cartoons can be understood as arguments in their own right, with political, ideological and democratic implications. Based on a variety of textual examples from the past thirty years, this paper seeks to explore particular aspects of editorial cartoons in Zimbabwean print and Internet media.