



Image 1: A representation of the leader of the Young Ireland Party, who campaigned for Irish independence from the United Kingdom. Punch Magazine, John Leech, 1840s.



Image 2: Supper at a London Workhouse, Sketches of London by James Grant, 1840.

- a) What do these images tell us about what people thought of these groups in the 19th century? Analyse each image in detail.
- b) Why might groups, who wanted to deny rights to the working classes, Irish people, or people who had been freed from slavery, use Frankenstein's 'monster' as a comparison?
Hint: What does the comparison suggest? And what does it forewarn?

Evaluation

6. Give 2 reasons why Prof. Groom thinks that we should make a habit of referring to Frankenstein's creation as a Being [1:23-2:57]?

Challenge 1: Can you think of 4 reasons why we should use the term Being?

At the very end of the lecture [6:35], Prof. Groom warns us not to sympathise with the Being too much, since he is, after all, a serial killer, and knowingly frames an innocent person for his murder, resulting in her execution.

7. Why might we sympathise with the Being in the first place? Give at least 2 reasons.

Challenge 2:

8. By thinking of him as a Being, in comparison to a creature or a monster, does this increase or decrease the sympathy we feel towards him once he commits his murders? Explain your answer.

Glossary

- **Sentience** (noun) - Being able to experience feelings.
e.g. A dolphin has more sentience than a chicken.
- **Hybrid** (noun) – a plant or animal that has been produced from two different types of plant or animal; something that is a mixture of two very different things.
e.g. R&B music was originally a hybrid of Jazz and Blues.
- **Precociousness** (noun) – Showing mental development or achievement much earlier than usual
e.g. Her teachers quickly recognised her artistic precociousness.
- **Sinister** (Adjective) – Giving the impression that something bad or evil might happen.
e.g. The abandoned house had a sinister appearance.
- **loquacious** (adjective) – Someone who talks a lot.
e.g. After listening for ten full minutes, he realised that this new friend was rather loquacious.

- **Vitriol** (noun) – Harsh and angry criticism.
e.g. During the town meeting, angry citizens spewed vitriol at the Mayor.
- **Workhouse** (noun) – In Britain, an institution where poverty stricken people were offered food and accommodation in exchange for work.
e.g. If her father could not find a job soon, the whole family would have to go to the workhouse.