

[REDACTED]
Brielle, NJ 08730

Sep 20, 1993

Cspan
Attn: Brian Lamb

Dear Mr. Lamb:

I find your discussion shows very informative and interesting, ditto "Booknotes". The excerpts on the right are from an interview with Hillary Rodham Clinton. I would be very interested in some programs discussing the following thoughts and questions.

If this "behavior training" is eventually expanded to include all "preventable medical events", is this appropriate in a free society? Where will it lead if the value of an individual is based on his/her financial cost/contribution to government expenses?

I am willing to pay higher taxes, based on income, for health care reform. I do not believe the Clinton or the Republican plan will reap the anticipated savings. Also, the emphasis placed on preventive care ignores the fact that many people do not seek timely medical intervention for a variety of reasons, other than cost/access, and you can't legislate human nature.

The single payer system would probably provide significant savings, so I don't understand why that approach was abandoned without more discussion and study. Could lobbying by the medical industry have anything to do with that?

The alcohol and cigarette taxes planned, ignore the fact that not all alcohol users are abusers, and recent studies concluded that smokers pay their own way at current tax levels. Does this mean that only the affluent will be permitted to drink or smoke?

Thoughtful people of various political affiliations are discussing the decriminalization of certain drugs and government control of price/supply, to remove the profit/crime motive. Why would it be wise to move in the opposite direction, with alcohol and cigarettes?

help my child deal with everything that's coming at her.

NC: Are you planning to "reward" people for making healthy lifestyle choices—i.e.: for not smoking or for eating a low-fat diet?

HRC: One approach we're thinking of is to add a tax on cigarettes, which will serve as a deterrent and provide money to help care for problems caused by cigarettes. This kind of linkage seems to make a lot of sense. The same goes for alcohol-related illnesses. Taxation could be a double opportunity, to fund health care and discourage certain behaviors.

GM: What about drug treatment?

Mirabella

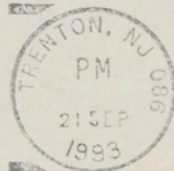
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with health care reform is to create a culture of responsibility. We want to provide incentives for behavior that leads to better health, and, frankly, to provide some disincentives for behavior that doesn't. Ultimate-

Yours truly,

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