

C-SPAN

Brian Lamb

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Washington, DC 20001

USA

Health Care

Dear Sir, I looked at Your C-SPAN today. Your programme is interesting - but naturally very America-centered! I thought to call to You, but it is expensive and my English is so bad that it is for me better to write.

I have time to look at Your programmes, because I am retired because of my sickness. I have been retired since 1973 - almost the whole of my adult life - but it is not a tragedy here in Finland: I have a pension of my own (4000 Fmk/month), a flat of my own (50 m² with the own sauna) and much to do and study.

I think that in the USA the reasons to oppose or resist to - some persons say "socialized" - social health care are ideological, not reasonable!

In Finland we have both the ^{social}public and private health care systems together completing each others - and since this it has worked fine - but now we have an economical depression and lack of money.

I have a pension of my own that consists of ^{social}public and private pensions.

Because I am not able to work, I cannot get any more private sickness ^{insurance} ~~(security)~~ for the sickness daily allowance (or what an earth it is called?).

Some years ago the costs for the patient place in a hospital were 85 Fmk/day to the patient. The real costs for the taxpayers are maybe 500 Fmk/day/patient - for the society! It would be a catastrophe for me to pay 500 Fmk/day! I would have starved and dead ^{quay} with the American system. The unemployed people in America have no money to pay the ^{insurance} ~~(security)~~.

Now, however, here in Finland the costs for the hospital are 115 Fmk/day per patient for the patient to pay!

It would be again a catastrophe to go to the hospital: ^{one} month would pay 3450 Fmk/month, and my pension is about 4000 Fmk/month - and I have many ^{payments} ~~(payments)~~ ^{and bills} also here outside the hospital all the time!

The disgusting thatcherism have come also to Finland with the economical depression. However the rich people in Finland can take private ^{insurances} ~~(securities)~~ and they can get daily allowances of sickness bound to their incomes and earnings. But now it is a real danger to the non-working people to become abandoned like in the USA! As a - relatively ^{poor} - poor person I cannot support into Finland the system like you now have in the USA! You ought to change your system in the health care, not we!!! The rich people are privileged, but they ought to pay for the American society for the health care for poor people! I cannot understand why you Americans still lack the ^{social} ~~(public)~~ health care??? The richest nation in the World! (Is the reason the business of doctors and hospitals?) Are you so cruel to each others? If the ^{social} ~~(public)~~ system is

so much worse than the private system (in the input-output respect), so why not to make the ^{insurance}(security) for every American to get private doctors and private hospitals! (I have suggested so in Finland when a hearing such a rubbish that the ^{social}public system is so much worse. If it is worse, it only means that the money for the ^{social}public system is not much enough because of the private sector is privileged and favoured by the deciders!!!)

I hope You Americans can make your health care systems better also for the poor people of America! No doubtedly the standard of medicin is high in the USA! And You use ^{much} money for the health care for the hospitals etc per person in the USA!

But it does not meat the poor people, because of the medicin beeing business! It ought to be more ^{the} calling!

This is my vision now as an outsider - or am I an outsider!? Whole the World is imitating USA also in all bad sides! Like apes! So it seems to be sometimes. For example thanks to the "glasnost" the freedom of speech is existing now also in Russia, the former Soviet Union. It is good!!!! But what do the Russian ~~people~~ people ^{do} with this freedom!!!! It is not now better art, Russian Art in Russia, not for example ~~the~~ better movies or litarature, but every filmtheather ~~performs~~ performs the fourth of the light ~~in~~ class films, American films, in Moscow!

(And now the Mafia is buying the Russia and the new republics - no one else have money much enough - like in ~~the~~ the USA the former ~~capitalists~~ capitalists were ~~are~~ crooks and unscrupulous - but it is another story. But it is only 50 km's from Savonlinna to the Russian border and the Russian mafia is spreading also in Finland: crimes, ^{drugs}prostitution, illegal alcohol etc, etc.)

I hope that the richest country in the World can ^{its/}solve ~~he~~ health care!

Yours sincerely

[redacted]
[redacted] (my pseudonym)!

My real name:

[redacted] means = brother, fellow, [redacted] means = brisk, alert - nomen non est omen!)

Address: [redacted], SF-57710 Savonlinna, Finland, tel. ([redacted])

(Ps. The vice president of the USA, Dan Quayle, was also here now! He is like Donald Duck; he is not very convincing. Marilyn Quayle is more convincing!)

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