I. Health and Health Care in America

A. America’s Physical

1. Infant mortality: approx 7 per 1000

a. class (1.6x)/race (AA2x)

b. comparative 29th

2. Life Expectancy: 77.8 years

a. class(7ys)/race (NA -10years)

b. gender w 79 m74

c. comparative w17th m 15th

3. Mortality

a. approx 2.5 million

b. #1 heart disease, #2 cancer

c. class/race

4. Communicable diseases

a. class/race

b. gender

5. Mental Illness

6. Overweight and Obesity

a. BMI: OW 25%-29%, O +30%

a. Adults 66% Children 17%

b. Trend

c. comparison

7. Eating Disorders

B. Health Care System

1. for profit

a. private health insurance companies

i. Wellpoint/Anthem, Cigna, Aetna, Humana, United Health Care

ii. McCarran- Ferguson Act

iii. 1980 Amendment to Federal Trade Act the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) was prohibited from investigating or reporting on the activities of insurance industry.

b. drug companies (Pfizer, BMS, Merck)

c. for-profit hospitals (Columbia/HCA)

d. nursing homes

f. profitability

i. drug companies

net profit 17%

2001 $30 billion 2008 $80 billion

ii. insurance companies

2009 $12.1 billion (eliminated 2.7 million)

Anthem Blue Cross (+90% raise rate 39%)

2. “ not for profit”

a. HMO (Health Maintenance Organizations)

b. Kaiser (“not for profit” 10-15%)

3. Publicly funded/Government

a. Medicare (except Supplemental)

b. Medicaid

c. Veterans Administration

d. States

4. Cost/Comparison/Trend

a. most expensive

i. $2.5 + trillion/17% of GDP

ii. per capita +$8000

iii. Seniors: avg $1500 drugs

iv. administrative costs 25%+

b. WHO: 37th

c. uninsured

i. 16%/47 (14, 000 per day, 40,000 per year die)

ii. California 1 in 4

d. underinsured: 25 million

e. w/o dental insurance: 130 million

f. only industrial country w/o universal health coverage

g. only industrial country that doesn’t regulate drug

prices

h. bankruptcies

5. Health Care Reform (Affordable Care Act)

a. mandatory

i. individuals with exception

ii. mandatory for companies with exceptions

b. “exchanges”

c. expands Medicaid

<http://www.thedailyshow.com/watch/thu-october-10-2013/medican-t>

<http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/health_insurers_are_spending_millions_to_defeat_prop_45_20141007>

d. eliminates “preexisting” condition as reason for denial

e. leaves uninsured twenty-one million

f. Medicaid

i. program is under funded

ii. only 60% of doctors accept Medicaid patients).

iii. homeless, transient populations.

g. doesn’t repeal McCarran-Ferguson Act

h. bans reimportation of drugs

i. bans negotiations on bulk prices for Medicare

h. employer “mandated affordable” health insurance

C. Three tiered system

1. upper class: best care in the world

a. private doctors

b. private hospitals

c. "boutique"

d. luxury accommodations ? (suites, butlers, five star meals, marble baths,

imported bed sheets, special kitchens)

“If they have a craving for lobster tails and we don’t have them on the menu, we will go out and get them.”

2. middle

a. personal (private insurance), HMO, employee group coverage

i. monthly premium

ii. deductible

iii. co-pays

iv. exclusions or gaps

b. underinsured/undercare/ cost cutting

i. primary care physicians as cost cutters

appointment

brief examinations

limit referrals\*

ii. exclusions: preexisting conditions

iii. excluded procedures: experimental, elective-cosmetic

iii. eliminate unprofitable units (and hospitals)

iv. low staffing

c. consequences for middle tier

i. bankruptcy

ii. inadequate care/unexpected costs

iii. approx 90,000 per year die from hospital-grown infections

(75% preventable)

iv. errors: millions prescription drug mistakes

3. bottom tier

a. Medicaid

b. Emergency room care/ patient dumping

c. “black market” health care.

D. Health Care Industry and the Political System

1. campaign finance

1. lobbying
2. think tanks and “experts”

4. $40 million to fight repeal of M-F act

E. Corporate Interests vs. vital needs

1. Pharmaceutical Industry’s “interests”

a. public funding for research and development

b. limited liability: tort reform

c. human testing in third world countries

d. limit generics

i. patent extensions

ii. bribery

e. control: FDA, medical journals (JAMA), researchers

and studies

f. DTC (Direct-to-Consumer drug advertisements)

g. no regulation

II. Health “Cure” vs Health Care

A. U.S. system is health “cure”

1. disease is individual problem/individual cure

2. diagnose, cut it out, kill it.

3. Black Plague

B. Health Care or Public health

1. discover social causes: environmental, life style, workplace

2. eliminate

3. historically success

a. sewage treatment b. water treatment

c. standards for food d. working conditions

C. Social factors

1. Exercise

a. adults

i. 60% not regularly physically active

ii. 25% of adults are not physically active at all

b. Children

i. 50% of adolescents

ii. Phys Ed

c. Work

2. Diet

a. fast foods: 1 in 4 each day

b. 90% of children visit McDonalds once a month

3. Food safety

a. each day

i. 200,000 sickened,

ii. 900 hospitalized

iii. 14 die from food poisoning

b. 1/4 of population

c. long term: heart disease, kidney damage, bowel

disease, neurological disorders

d. one study: meat

i. e coli

ii. staph 30%

iii. listeria 11.7% 1 out of 5 lethal

iv.salmonella 7.5%

v. fecal matter 78.6%

4. Cigarette and Alcohol

a. 500,000 deaths

b. disease

5. Advertising

a. targeting children

i. $, prime time

ii. selling: cereals, snacks, candies, sweetened drinks

iii. “branding” children

b. McDonalds

6. Environmental factors

a. toxic and hazardous waste

b. air pollution

c. race and class

7. Leisure

a. television

b. internet