The Heinz Dilemma vs. ‘Becton Dickinson and Needle Sticks’

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***Introduction***

In the *“Drug Company Monopolies and Profits Case”* in Velasquez’s *Business Ethics,* states that drug companies in the United states are given the opportunity to make serious money from the new drugs that are created by them. These companies have high monopoly profits. In Fortune 500s they were making double to over four times the average rates of all other industries. They are doing so by charging from 5,000 to 500,000 percent over the cost of their ingredients. This same act of ethical manipulation was explained in Applied Professional Ethics in the Heinz Dilemma. In the Heinz Dilemma, the scenario of a woman who was near death. There was a one known drug that could save her. The catch was that the doctor who only paid $200 to make the product was charging over $2,000. The husband, Heinz, who only had half of the cost of the drug, $1000, was still refused by the doctor. Heinz was put into a dilemma so he breaks into the doctors laboratory and steals the drug. Thus, the pharmaceutical drug system presented in the case in obsolete as the greed of the companies denies a person's right to being healthy and/or even alive. Through analyzing the case in the “Drug Company Monopolies and Profits Case” with the ethics from Applied Professional Ethics, the cons of this system infrastructure and how to fix it.

***Background***

As stated previous to set the scenario again, imagine the Heinz Dilemma, Where a husband was at risk of losing his wife. She had a rare disease and there was only one known cure for it. Alas, there was a one known drug that could save her. The catch was that the doctor who only paid $200 to make the product was charging over two-thousand dollars. The husband, Heinz, who only had half of the cost of the drug, one-thousand dollars, was still refused by the doctor. Heinz was put into a dilemma so he breaks into the doctors laboratory and steals the drug. In a sense the current pharmactuel infrastructure is similar to this dilemma because in the Fortune 500s they were making double to over four times the average rates of all other industries. They are doing so by charging from five-thousand to five-hundred thousand percent over the cost of their ingredients. On top of that only a miscues fourteen percent of their profits went into research of new drugs, seventeen percent goes to dividends and thirty-one percent goes to advertising. After doing the math that, leaves forty-one percent for the company owners if split multiple ways a single person still makes over hundreds of thousands of dollars for one person.

***Alternatives***

After analysing the effect the current pharmaceutical interest has on the lives of thousand, or even millions of people who made need medicine to survive or live, the person who is at fault is the producer of the drug who charges extreme amounts for something that initially cost so cheap. In my opinion, the corporations and doctors like the scenario should be held responsible for the ethical and moral wrongdoings. And should also be held accountable for the amount of lives that they could have saved. and moral fallacies that they created as well, thought that may be extreme. To combat the profits of creators of drugs should be regulated by the same policies that allow them to make charge over 500,000 percent over the initial drug cost.

***Recommended Solutions***

As stated previously, to combat the profits of creators of drugs should be regulated by the same policies that allow them to make charge over fifty thousand percent over the initial drug cost. As the Heinz Dilemma is outdated in order to solve the solution from the perspective of the husband I would take 21 century approach. First by getting attention of the disease by posting her ailment on social media to get the support of the community and get the attention of not only ht du companies but the government to show its true effects of the current policy. After getting attention, hopefully, from politicians. We use their help them get polices and regulations created.

Works Cited

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