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Is Sen. Liljenquist's idea to cut Medicaid funding reasonable?

by Blaine Nichols

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Some things in life are so easy to understand that the mind boggles when they are ignored by apparently educated people. Usually when those plain and precious things are ignored it is not out of ignorance, but out of personal greed or political blindness. One of those things is publicly funded health care. Medicaid and its "old maid" sister, Medicare, are perfect examples of what publically funded health care holds out for us all.

Bountiful Sen. Dan Liljenquist created a tempest in a teapot by suggesting that certain "elective" procedures, including epidurals and some C-

sections, should not be paid for by Medicaid. Attacks against him clearly come from those who advocate a continuation of the cancerous growth of publically funded health care.

Liberals who support the Trojan Horse destruction of America and individual responsibility are shocked that Liljenquist would not plainly understand that our benevolent federal government would never allow such cuts to one of their favorite programs. These people see absolutely zero problem with the fact that Medicaid now takes \$1 out of every \$5 that Utah spends. They care nothing about the fact that, at its current rate of growth, Medicaid will be spending nearly 50 percent of Utah's total budget before the year 2020.

One of Liljenquist's opponents, Lincoln Nehring, and his Utah Health Policy Project are strong Medicaid advocates. They also support the removal of the "Medicaid Asset Test" and the expansion of coverage for illegal invaders. Nehring says that the decision about what care should be paid for "shouldn't be up to legislators". Very interesting! If "legislators" don't make those decisions, just exactly who will? Nehring?

Isn't it interesting how socialism presents so many ironic twists? Mr. Nehring is an ironic example of those who advocate for more legislator involvement in providing Medicaid while simultaneously advocating for less legislator involvement in Medicaid. Sorry, if you get the politicians involved in giving you something, you will have the politicians involved in everything they touch.

Medicaid and Medicare are bankrupt. They are living on borrowed money. Liljenquist is clearly right; there must be some large cuts in Medicaid expenditures. Expanding Medicaid, or not finding ways to reduce and eliminate it, is like giving your drunk friend another shot of whiskey to ease the pain of his

hangover.

Until someone finds a way to fund the socialistic expansion of health care without stealing money from our children, health care should not expand. We must find a way which allows everyone to become the best they can and makes personal responsibility, rather than public dependency, the goal.

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