

(Download free pdf) Health Reform: The End of the American Revolution?

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Lee Kurisko, MD

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Lee Kurisko, MD : Health Reform: The End of the American Revolution? before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Health Reform: The End of the American Revolution?:

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Relevant and InformativeBy R. LadwigAuthor offers an informative critique of the Canadian Health Care System as it exists in its current socialistic state. Everything from doctor shortages to incredibly long wait times, to government controlling educational output is well explained and critiqued.Book offers a convincing explanation that central planning can never account for the progressing trends of society and in terms of health care will lead to only unnessecary complication and ineffectivness of such care. Author firmly believes and lays out that free market solutions is the best possible way to provide health care to as many people as possible.Beyond defending the effectiveness of free market healthcare, book touches on the moral issues of government officials and doctors having to "play god" with peoples lives.Book is clearly written and is not too technical.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Canadian single payer-why the US must stay away from itBy D. RacerThis review came to Alethos Press LLC, the publisher. A Florida nuerosurgeon wrote it on September 19, 2009:Health Reform: The End of the American Revolution?Dr. Lee Kurisko is a Canadian radiologist but in his heart he is a philosopher. He has written an elegant and eloquent condemnation of the Canadian health care system. He points out that the Canadian system is based in the philosophy that has been shown to cause the absolute most harm to the most number of people: Collectivism. Dr. Kurisko passionately defends a philosophy that has been show to bring the most good to the most people over history: individualism. Throughout the text are examples of patients dying early

due to waiting lines and rationing in Canada. Like Mr. Sanolen who died with a faulty heart valve waiting 9 months for an appointment to see a heart surgeon only to drop dead before even getting on the list. Ms. Doris Miller died of a massive preventable stroke awaiting surgery for a narrowed carotid artery. Dr. Kurisko describes the harrowing seat of the pants angiogram where he had to perform the test with outdated equipment prone to failure due to budgetary shortfalls by the government system. Such stories illustrate the central theme of Dr. Kurisko's book - when governments collect all the money, and government panels set prices and tolerate substandard medical care to save money, people die. Dr. Kurisko points us to Friedrich Hayek's "Road to Serfdom" as he describes the elitist panels that arrogantly ignore the plight of average patients in the system. He defends the American system where all people get medical care in the E.R. if they need it and points out how the U.S. spends more money on health care for low income people than in Canada. He exposes and eviscerates the "egalitarian" sentiment underlying the Canadian health system. There it is seen as unacceptable that a person use their own money to purchase health care more quickly. That would create a "two-tier health system". Sadly, in order to avoid one putative problem that comes with a person spending their own money, the system has allowed people to die early in the name of "equality. Dr. Kurisko then goes on to defend the application of the free market in medical care and brings up the long proven fact that when individuals spend their own money for themselves, they are far more likely to drive down costs and increase quality. He also points out how charity care shrinks as a welfare state grows and people no longer feel any motivation to voluntarily help their neighbor. Dr. Kurisko even quotes key passages from Ayn Rand's Atlas Shrugged on the moral basis of capitalism in our society. Offering us "Econ 101", he reminds us how it is amoral for a small group of bureaucrats to ration care to help them achieve their political objectives of "health care for all". Such rationing may create a system where all are equal. It reminds this reviewer of the observation of Sir Winston Churchill: "The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings; the inherent virtue of socialism is the equal sharing of miseries." Perhaps as Americans consider the expansion of government control of health care in the United States in 2009, they will read this book and remember where prosperity and charity come from: freedom and capitalism. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Read this book By Logical thinker A thoughtful examination of consequences. In the debate of healthcare reform the one area that was consistently ignored was would the reform moving forward improve healthcare in the United States. Cost control was discussed, access to insurance was discussed, but actually improving healthcare was ignored. And that is why we got a giant bill that imposes a nightmare of regulations and does not a single thing towards making people healthier or making care for people with health problems better. Read this book and see the consequences of the path we have started down. The United States has always been about making things better, not controlling costs.

Making a mistake in health care reform could cost us our liberty. That we need health care reform is something about which we can all agree. But turning to a government-run system, such as that of Canada, would be a tremendous error. Dr. Lee Kurisko, the former Canadian physician, moved to the United States to experience personal liberty. He has seen the profound advantages of market-based health care. Build on this, he says, not on the idea of central government planning. He experienced Canadian health care from the inside. Practicing in Thunder Bay, Ontario, he saw the explicit and implicit limitations of government-run health care. And he worries about his adopted land, the United States. He knows the U.S. would suffer from inferior care, long waiting lines, and exorbitant taxes turning to the Canadian model. But even more than that, he sees how the economic model on which government-run health care is based will fail every time in all but one thing - to reduce the human spirit, and rob us of liberty. Don't go there, might be the cry of this book.

Dr. Lee Kurisko is a Canadian radiologist but in his heart he is a philosopher. He has written an elegant and eloquent condemnation of the Canadian health care system. He points out that the Canadian system is based in the philosophy that has been shown to cause the absolute most harm to the most number of people: Collectivism. Dr. Kurisko passionately defends a philosophy that has been show to bring the most good to the most people over history: individualism. Throughout the text are examples of patients dying early due to waiting lines and rationing in Canada. Like Mr. Sanolen who died with a faulty heart valve waiting 9 months for an appointment to see a heart surgeon only to drop dead before even getting on the list. Ms. Doris Miller died of a massive preventable stroke awaiting surgery for a narrowed carotid artery. Dr. Kurisko describes the harrowing seat of the pants angiogram where he had to perform the test with outdated equipment prone to failure due to budgetary shortfalls by the government system. Such stories illustrate the central theme of Dr. Kurisko s book - when governments collect all the money, and government panels set prices and tolerate substandard medical care to save money, people die. Dr. Kurisko points us to Friedrich Hayek s Road to Serfdom as he describes the elitist panels that arrogantly ignore the plight of average patients in the system. He defends the American system where all people get medical care in the E.R. if they need it and points out how the U.S. spends more money on health care for low income people than in Canada. He exposes and eviscerates the egalitarian sentiment underlying the Canadian health system. There it is seen as unacceptable that a person use their own money to purchase health care more quickly. That would create a two-tier health system . Sadly, in order to avoid

one putative problem that comes with a person spending their own money, the system has allowed people to die early in the name of equality. Dr. Kurisko then goes on to defend the application of the free market in medical care and brings up the long proven fact that when individuals spend their own money for themselves, they are far more likely to drive down costs and increase quality. He also points out how charity care shrinks as a welfare state grows and people no longer feel any motivation to voluntarily help their neighbor. Dr. Kurisko even quotes key passages from Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* on the moral basis of capitalism in our society. Offering us Econ 101, he reminds us how it is amoral for a small group of bureaucrats to ration care to help them achieve their political objectives of health care for all. Such rationing may create a system where all are equal. It reminds this reviewer of the observation of Sir Winston Churchill: The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings; the inherent virtue of socialism is the equal sharing of miseries. Perhaps as Americans consider the expansion of government control of health care in the United States in 2009, they will read this book and remember where prosperity and charity come from: freedom and capitalism.

--Dr. David McKalip St Petersburg, Florida

About the Author Born, raised, and trained in Canada, Dr. Lee Kurisko moved to Minnesota during 2001. Before beginning his career as a Diagnostic Radiologist, Kurisko spent three years as a family practice and emergency room physician. While in Canada, Kurisko served as the Medical Director of Diagnostic Imaging for Thunder Bay Regional Hospital in Thunder Bay, Ontario. He is currently a partner with Consulting Radiologists Ltd., where he sits on the Board of Directors. Kurisko is certified by the American Board of Radiology and is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. He is also a Certificant of the College of Family Physicians of Canada. Kurisko graduated in 1983 with honors and earned a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Guelph in Guelph, Ontario, majoring in Biological Sciences with a minor in Human Kinetics. In 1988, he received his M.D. degree from the University of Ottawa in Ottawa, Ontario. From 1988 to 1990, Kurisko did his internship and residency in Family Medicine at the Ottawa Civic Hospital in Ottawa, Ontario. From 1993 through 1997, he served as the Radiology Resident at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Manitoba. From 1997-1998, Kurisko completed a Neuroradiology Fellowship at the University of Calgary.