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Unremitting economic expansion is absolutely indispensable for my survival. It is a fundamental necessity of my being. In order to sustain continuous growth, the market must be constantly stimulated with new investment opportunities while creating the ideal circumstances for emerging enterprises to thrive. Among the many high profit yielding business ventures that my system has produced, one of the most successful and profitable is the industry of sickness—also known as the health care industry, as referred by those who resent the harsh language of the true nature of the industry and prefer a more soothing euphemism. It is in this industry that the nature of my economic system generates within itself an abundant supply of raw materials (illnesses) and the necessary infrastructure for amassing exorbitant profits, which is the ultimate goal of Capitalism.

In addition to the daily burdensome stress weighing on the shoulders of my underlings, which contributes to a variety of physical and mental illnesses, the output of my industrial economic system is not limited to superfluous goods for consumption. Like the human digestive system, industrial production has its intestinal tract that eliminates high volumes of carcinogenic waste matter that are released in the

atmosphere, soil, and water that inseminate the environment with sickness. It is from this contaminated womb that cancer is born, though this most profitable virulent commodity in the health care industry is also nurtured through unhealthy processed and chemically fertilized foods, harmful products, insalubrious services, among many other items of consumption that my system produces for profit.

The economic value of a devastating disease like cancer cannot be underestimated. Because it can affect any part of the body and rapidly spread to other vital organs, cancer is a goldmine that generates hefty profits for the vitiated industry of sickness. Directly impacting the lives of millions of people, and indirectly disturbing millions more who are the loved ones of the victims of the disease, cancer has become the ominous symbol of a deadly disease and the main health care issue in industrial societies. It is a frightening ubiquitous illness that is second only to death as a source of anxiety and fear regarding health. With so much at stake, the economic value of this infirmity is astronomical. After all, what's the fair market value of life when it's threatened by such a formidable disease?

Realizing the magnitude of possibilities that cancer offers as a profit-making endeavor, the industry of sickness mobilized its efforts to develop the means to diagnose and treat this physically, emotionally, and financially crushing disease. Consequently, much progress has been made in oncology and the corporate-owned—often times disguised as nonprofit organizations—factories of health care (hospitals, clinics, pharmaceuticals, etc.) set up the comprehensive

infrastructure to cash in this extremely profitable misfortune. However, the reason cancer allows for exceptionally high earnings is because of the high cost to diagnose and treat the disease. That is to say, the millions of people without health care insurance—and even the ones who do but lack sufficient financial resources—will not be able to afford the chance to fight for survival. Well, tough luck! In my economic system, health care is a luxury commodity that is on the market for those who can afford it. As for those who can't, I ought to remind them that they are replaceable cogs in my complex machinery of production; many die and many more are born to replace them. That's what overpopulation is for. That's why I maintain a large army of labor reserve.

If I sound mean-spirited and indifferent to the plight of those who succumb to a dreadful disease like cancer is because I am. It is the nature of The Beast to be indifferent to the problems of others. After all, I'm all about greed, selfishness, and competition for higher profits. My creator, Adam Smith, made it very clear that it is the pursuit of self-interest that leads to the common good. Therefore, the CEOs of the factories of health care and pharmaceutical corporations, as well as the medical doctors, the laboratory technicians, and everyone else involved in the lucrative industry of illness, they are all minding their own self-interest, which demonstrates my demands for unbridled consumption is the pursuit of happiness.

But I'm not as nefarious as I seem. The stalwart adherents of my economic system are responsible enough to recommend that women get

mammograms and pap smears on a regular basis. They also advise everyone over the age of 50 to undergo a colonoscopy procedure in order to detect the early signs of colon cancer, which significantly reduces the risk of death by this disease. What they cannot do, however, is to violate the fundamental principles of my system by neglecting their own self-interests or focus their attention on the welfare of others. Hence, if single mothers making minimum wage must choose between feeding their children or getting an annual breast exam, it is not the responsibility of my system to care for their needs. Same is applicable to a poor senior citizen with precarious medical history who cannot afford to pay for the cost of the recommended colonoscopy. My lackeys' loyalty and commitment must always be to me—and to themselves of course—but never to their brothers and sisters in distress. For Gold sake, Capitalism is fueled by the pursuit of profit in a competitive environment, not compassion in a cooperative mode of existence. I am about profits, not utopia.

The obstinate critics of my economic system suffer from prosperity myopia. They cannot see that Capitalism is not only the most financially viable web of commerce to create wealth, but also the quintessence of a democratic approach to business. As it is well advertised, in my propaganda apparatus, there is opportunity for all to pursue their self-interest and achieve their financial dreams. In spite of the evidences to the democratic approach of my economic system, the vitriolic foes of Capitalism argue that only a privileged few ever succeed while the majority scrambles to eke out a mediocre living. Their argument only shows

another myopic perception. Of course only a few will succeed! After all, it is a highly competitive system; and the end result of competition is the inevitability of winners and losers. Nevertheless, the economic twist to democratic principles is solidly in place to validate my sovereignty.

Let them say what they wish. I couldn't care less for what my critics think is unjust. It's been repeated ad nauseam that under the fair and free market system everyone has a chance to succeed. Be it access to health care, equal opportunities, delivery of justice, and an array of limitless professional opportunities are equally available and open to everyone in society—and so is The Ritz-Carlton Hotel.