

Re: Why socialized medicine is inevitable

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From: MS (*mikesc_at_iname.com*)

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robert j. kolker wrote:

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- >
- > *sinister* wrote:
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- >> *Unless you want to continue buffing up your reputation as a rabid*
- >> *anti-empiricist, please provide links to any evidence that the main*
- >> *empirical claim in the article---that the VHA is now providing*
- >> *high-quality health care---is wrong.*
- >
- > *High quality in comparison to what? Who made the determination. By what*
- > *objective criteria? Why should I believe this?*
- >
- > *Even granting the point there is no assurance that the government will*
- > *supply high quality care nationwide to everyone. Governments have a very*
- > *bad record in quality and efficiency.*
- >
- > *Let me ask you a question. Would you like the entire food production and*
- > *distribution system of the country government run? Would you expect to be*
- > *as well fed? Do you want the workers in the local food store to be*
- > *government employees? If government is so great why not have it run*
- > *everything?*

Who said government was "so great"? Another strawmen? There are some sectors (few) of the economy that require government involvement --- health care is one of them. Study the roles information asymmetry, externalities, and uncertainty play in the health care sector.

Arrow (Nobel Laureate) published an article, "Uncertainty and the Welfare Economics of Medical Care" about these characteristics in a 63 edition of the AER. However, if you cannot understand the Washington Monthly, the AER is going to give you trouble. Even if it is from 1963.