

Leftist Lexicon Word of the Week

Christmas is right around the corner, but there will be an unwelcome surprise in some people's stockings: a sharp increase in their annual health insurance premiums due to Obamacare.

Ah, Obamacare, the controversial legislation that got the federal government into the health insurance game, and there is no possible down side to that, right? That depends on who you ask. If you talk to people who have benefitted from Obamacare, it's been a godsend. If you talk to people who have actually had to pay for Obamacare, it's a tool of the Devil.

And if you talk to me, it's another in a long list of things the federal government couldn't get right even with the instruction manual. Oh, and it's this week's Leftist Lexicon entry.

Obamacare

What the Left thinks it means – an attempt to insure all Americans through government-run and privately-run insurance programs that have been sabotaged by Republicans

What it really means – a program that turns a trip to the doctor into a trip to the DMV

As you might have guessed, I'm not a fan of Obamacare for a number of reasons. First and foremost, it's a massive federal overreach for something that should rightly be determined by those affected most by it: the potential patients. Barry Goldwater once said, "You can't legislate morality," but Leftists who push Obamacare seem to think you can tax it. Then again, they think they can tax anything, so that's not exactly surprising news.

What *is* surprising is how many people don't think about Obamacare's implications. At its core, Obamacare forces people to buy a particular product or service based solely on the whims of bureaucrats who don't know you or your situation. I know our culture has grown lazy, but do we really want government to make all of our decisions for us? (If you're a Leftist, don't bother responding. I already know you're bobbing your heads like a metalhead at a Metallica concert.) If you're like me, the answer to my question is a resounding "no," and not by accident. We've seen how the federal government could screw up a one-person parade, but if you're unconvinced, let's take a trip out to the Golden State.

California is a Leftist paradise. Filled to the borders with affluent Leftists who think the same way. A Governor who's nickname is "Governor Moonbeam." More Priuses (Priusi?) per square foot than anywhere outside of a Toyota factory. These are the smart ones (just ask them). If Obamacare was going to work, it would work in California.

And it wouldn't. Seems health insurance providers saw the law of diminishing returns and got out, putting more pressure on the state exchanges to pick up the slack. And when they couldn't, it made the existing problem even worse. Who knew *that* would happen? I mean, aside from everyone who was against Obamacare.

A common argument among Obamacare supporters is that Republicans threw up roadblocks that prevented it from being successful. Explain California. You can't. Republicans didn't cause problems in California that prevented Obamacare from being implemented lock, stock, and barrel. Republicans didn't withhold funding for the state exchanges. Republicans had zero to do with how California tried to make Obamacare work. That failure is all on you, Leftists.

Not that you'll admit it, mind you. Admitting Obamacare was a bigger failure than "The Emoji Movie" would be blasphemy. As

with the Left's view of communism, socialism, or the designated hitter rule, it's not that the idea was bad; it was just not done right. Listen kids, if California can't get it to work right when you control the vast majority of the power and resources, it's never going to be done right, and Obamacare is no exception.

The main problem with Obamacare is the fact it requires the purchase of a product without the benefit of comparison shopping. And when it's the government dictating what you must buy and where you have to buy it, quality is job none. We saw this in the former Soviet Union where citizens had one choice and that was it because the government said so. This approach treats everyone the same, but we're not the same.

I wear a size 12 wide shoe. Even in our capitalist society, finding a comfortable pair of shoes can be like trying to find the plot in a Michael Bay movie, but it can be done. In the Soviet Union, I could only get a size 12 wide shoe if the government determined there was a need for it, and even then there would be no guarantee I would get one. If the government's quota was 14 pairs of size 9s, you were stuck with the size 9s no matter how poorly the shoes fit.

Now, imagine this same "one size fits all" approach to health insurance. Considering Obamacare gave us the wonderful "option" for men to buy female birth control pills, it's not that hard. In fact, that's one of the features of Obamacare that no one really talked about: everyone would be required to participate. Whether it be getting health insurance or paying the tax...I mean "fine" associated with not having insurance, we all had skin in the game, and if we danced to the government's tune, we were seen as cookie-cutter copies of one another, regardless of individual issues. You have a family history of heart issues? Sit over there with the lady with a hang nail and we'll be with you eventually.

Which brings us to another Obamacare feature: wait times! I

know I like sitting in waiting rooms as much as I like listening to Lena Dunham talk about anything, but it is the price I pay for the service I get, which is exceptional. With Obamacare, you may be put on either a waiting list where they'll get around to you as soon as the woolly mammoths start taking all the spaces in the parking lot, or on another waiting list where they'll get around to you, oh, never. When the government mandates what type of care you get and when you can get it, there is no real urgency to see you. Once they see you, they're on the clock, but if they never get around to seeing you and you shuffle off this mortal coil, that clock never starts.

Although Obamacare was started with what could argue was noble intentions, the execution of it has been lackluster at best. And all because Leftists wanted to create another way for people to become dependent upon government bureaucracy for something we can take care of ourselves.

I know I've said a lot of bad things about Obamacare, but I do see one major upside. It reminds me of just how good I have it by not being on it.