WHY ANY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, AT ANY TIME, ANYWHERE ON EARTH, WILL ALWAYS BE A MISHEGAZ*.

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* "Mishegaz" is Aramaic for "a mess."
Once upon a time, many eons ago, there existed somewhere in what is now Iraq a wondrous resort, spanning many acres.

It was a nudist colony, with only two people in it: a man (Adam) and a woman (Eve).

The metal rock band *Guns N’ Roses* calls the resort the “Garden of Eden”; but before that it was usually known as “Paradise.”

It was, like, totally a cool place.

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1 *The Old Testament, Genesis: Book 3.*
What is the location of the Garden of Eden?

Question: “What is the location of the Garden of Eden?”

Answer: The only thing the Bible tells us concerning the Garden of Eden’s location is found in Genesis 2:10-14, “A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold...The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush. The name of the third river is the Euphrates.” The exact identities of the Pishon and Havilah rivers is unknown, but the Tigris and Euphrates rivers are well known. If the Tigris and Euphrates mentioned there are the same rivers by those names today, that would put the Garden of Eden somewhere in the middle east, likely in Iraq. People have searched for the Garden of Eden for centuries to no avail. There are various locations that people claim to be the original location of the Garden of Eden, but we cannot be sure. What happened to the Garden of Eden? The Bible does not specifically say. It is likely that the Garden of Eden was completely destroyed in the Flood.

SOURCE: www.gotquestions.org/garden -of-Eden-location.html
**Answer:** The only thing the Bible tells us concerning the Garden of Eden’s location is found in Genesis 2:10-14, “A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold...The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush. The name of the third river is the Tigris; it runs along the east side of Asshur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.”
Thus, a reasonable conclusion is that Paradise was located somewhere in or near the Sunny Triangle in Iraq.
Behold yonder the positive orthant of the N-dimensional commodity space. You may have infinite amounts of the stuff shown on any of the N-1 ordinates not crossed off with a red X.

But don’t even think of going near the one ordinate marked with a red X. You can’t have any of it—, nothing, sip, zilch, nada.

It is the Forbidden Fruit!
GOD'S ORIGINAL DEAL WITH ADAM AND EVE

ADAM'S AND EVE'S TRADE-OFF FRONTIER

FORBIDDEN FRUIT

Not one bite!

ALL OTHER STUFF

... infinitely much
Now, Eve was what economists would celebrate as a totally rational, 100% hedonistic consumer.

As she consumed more and more of the “other stuff,” she became totally saturated with that other stuff and did not even derive any more satisfaction from throwing tomatoes and stuff at Adam. In other words, her marginal utility from other stuff was zero.

At the same time, Eve’s marginal utility of the forbidden fruit – apples or whatever – began asymptotically to approach infinity.

Doing what came naturally, she eventually partook of the forbidden fruit, subsequently trying to fool God by blaming it – get this – on a snake (yes, a snake!).
According to Genesis, Eve then made Adam eat the forbidden fruit as well, telling him it was full of Vitamin C, D and E, although, drawing on 5,000 years of Chinese wisdom, Youwee's wife Tsung-mei Cheng asserts that it was Adam who picked the apple and then made Eve eat it (and who is Youwee to argue with her, Genesis 3 notwithstanding).
In any event, God got mad at Adam and Eve, told them to put some clothes on and get the heck out of the Garden of Eden.
And God spake thus to Adam and Eve:

“And God spake thus to Adam and Eve:

“From now on, from here to eternity, and beyond, you can have everything your little hearts desire — including the forbidden fruit — but each commodity only in limited quantities. And to get more of one thing you'll have to give up something else. It will be known henceforth as 'The Human Condition'.

(GENESIS 3)
GOD’S DEAL WITH ADAM AND EVE AFTER THE FALL FROM GRACE

Ok, but limited quantity

By the sweat of your brows shall ye trade off!

Nyet!

Possible, but stupid!

Limited quantity

* Not exactly what Adam really said. He really said “expletive deleted”.
And thus economics was born!

Me Adam.
Me economist.

Banana Republic
Economics, not prostitution, is the oldest profession in the world.

Gee, there's a difference?

Regular Human Being
ANCIENT ARAMAIC ADAGE:
For economists there is no heaven or hell, because in heaven there is no want and in hell there is no choice.

SOURCE: In the original Aramaic
And thus, also, health care became a mess, for ever and ever, until time ends.

Everyone now agrees that “hard trade-offs must be made” in health care -- but only for others.

Alas, because it may appear selfish to say out loud that health care should be rationed somehow for everyone else but oneself, we use mellow euphemisms to make that case - e.g., saying that “health care needs to be restructured” somehow, without being up front about exactly what that means.
For example, folks who wish to see health care rationed by income class more than it already is - through the mechanism of price and ability to pay - wax eloquent on the mantra that “consumers should be empowered to be more responsible for their own health care choices,” by which they mean “patients should be fiscally responsible for more of their health care, with their own household budget, however large or small it may be.”

Why the reluctance to be upfront about this eminently respectable proposition, to explore forthrightly how far down that path the public really wants to go?
In any event, is it any wonder that on this veritable Health Care Tower of Babel, with its obfuscatory language and multiple hidden agendas, national health policies and the health-care systems they beget have become a veritable Mishegaz?

Could it be part of the punishment for the Fall from Grace?
All of which leads us to the great Chinese philosopher

CHENG TSUNG MEI’S

COSMIC LAWS OF HEALTH CARE
Dowager Cheng Tsung-Mei
CHENG TSUNG-MEI’s FIRST COSMIC LAW ON HEALTH CARE

People will bitch about their nation’s health care system regardless of the percentage of the GDP that their nation spends on health care, and regardless of the administrative and financial structure of that system.
At any time, anywhere on the globe, there will be calls for a “major health reform.”
CHENG TSUNG-MEI’s **THIRD COSMIC LAW ON HEALTH CARE**

At any time, anywhere on the globe, the last “major health reform” has failed.
In today’s lecture, we’ll cover Hammurabi’s failed health reform of 1780 B.C.
Ministers of Health anywhere on the globe must have done something bad in an earlier life, or they would not be condemned to be Ministers of Health in this one.