

A WORD OR 2

Mba Mbulu, Editor

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“Black Nationalism is the only real solution for Black People in the United States.”

UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE, US OF A STYLE

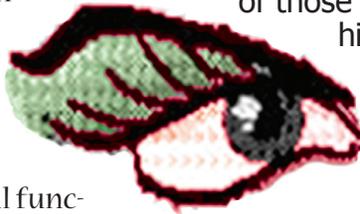
\$25 Million and Counting

There are verbal rumbblings among some presidential candidates about “universal health coverage.” Hillary Clinton, for one, is serious about making universal health coverage a reality in the US of A. The problem is this: universal health coverage does not mean the same in white power America as it does in a non-capitalist country.

There was a time not long ago when it was legal for anyone with a driver’s license and a car to drive anywhere s/he wanted to. But people began realizing that moving cars posed a threat to the public, so it was decided that vehicle owners needed to have the means to compensate others when their vehicle damaged someone else’s person or property. What came out of that realization is what we call mandatory car insurance. Mandatory car insurance is a golden goose for the insurance and health care industries, but the concept has merit.

We could easily call mandatory car insurance “universal car coverage.” When white power America approves a universal health coverage program, it will function pretty much like mandatory car insurance functions. The federal and state governments will not be required to provide health coverage to all of its citizens (which is how a universal health program should work), but all of its citizens WILL BE REQUIRED TO spend part of their money on a health insurance policy. It, like mandatory car insurance, will be a golden goose for the insurance and health care industries. But, unlike mandatory car insurance (which only applies to those who decide to drive), individuals have no way of sidestepping the expenditure. The government will force everybody to give part of their paycheck to an insurance company, whether individuals think the better of it or not.

Universal health care, US of A style, will mean the citizens of the US will have less control over their income. As it stands now, people in the US control only around 2/3 of the money they earn (the remainder is taken from them in the form of taxes by one name here and taxes by another name there). Universal health care, US of A style, will be like a tax by another



It has been reported that Barack Obama, an African-American who is running for President of the US of A, received \$25 million in campaign donations during the first three months of 2007. I wonder how many of those dollars came out of the pockets of African-Americans?

My guess? Not many; probably less than \$500,000. If it proves to be a million, I will be pleasantly surprised. But, to make sure I don’t sell African-Americans short, let’s say they contributed 5 of those 25 millions. How much would \$5 million impact on Obama’s political priorities

or, more importantly, his political agenda. My guess? Not much. If Obama is elected president, his political agenda will dance to the music of those who are disproportionately bankrolling his campaign. If African-Americans have contributed \$5 million, then the other \$20 million (80%) came from non African-Americans. If the money impacts in its customary manner, Obama’s political agenda will not address the concerns of African-Americans any more than that of any other candidate.

Hugo Chavez, whose father is a Black man, is the President of Venezuela. I would not be surprised if the policies enacted by Hugo Chavez benefit African-Americans more than those of Barack Obama, should Obama be elected president in the upcoming election.

If prevailing reports are correct, in a three month period Barack Obama collected \$25 million in campaign donations. \$25 million and counting. As Obama’s millions get higher and higher, the concerns of African-Americans will count less and less.



name. It’s going to help some people here and there, but more often than not, it’s going to generate financial restrictions that make people sick.

BE BLACK SMART