

HEALTH CARE by 123456

CHANGE: Health care costs soared because doctors and pharmaceuticals cost a lot of money. More statistics emerged about families going bankrupt over health care. American emergency rooms do not deny anyone help (though it may cause them to wait for it). Burgeoning numbers without health care, legal and not legal, put a strain on emergency rooms. **Theorists:** *Durkheim's explosion of dynamic diversity and breakdown of regulation. Simmel's notion that size of groups matters.*

GOAL: The executive branch decided to make health care reform a signature goal and to allow Congress design it. Thereby, they resurrected the century long goal of the Democrat's party, even adopting the Clinton idea of mandating it for all. Meantime, all good humans share the goal of humane health care for all humans. **Theorist:** *Marx and redistribution of resources – the means of health care. Weber's notion that an idea can change reality – if everyone adopts and incorporates the idea. The idea in this case was "health care for all."*

PROCESS, PROCEDURE: In the Congress, health care bills were written. Many pages were written and were difficult for people to understand. In the process, Congressional votes were counted and to secure certain votes, promises were given. Another part of the process and procedure of America is that we operate a free press. On tv and radio, hosts of the left and the right talked about the change, the goal, and the process. Because we have free speech, they talked about it substantively and also advocated for "their side." **Theorist:** *Weber: the bill was full of rules and regulations which became an Iron Cage. Marx: the people in economic, political, and intellectual control could control and determine the outcome.*

NETWORKS, SUPPORT: Back home, people learned – or couldn't learn – what was up. **Theorist Gilman:** *people were driven crazy by not knowing what was in the bill or not understanding how others could not support the noble goal. Their craziness ripped off the wallpaper or the covering from what seemed to be – or seemed not to be – the democratic process. People could not tell if this was about saving money or spending money.*

CHANGE: This process divided the country; the fervor is not unlike that which preceded the Civil War, with the exception that the division is not territorial, but, rather, everywhere. Someone got the catchy idea to call a movement "Tea Party", representing the feeling from the Networks/Support quad that the government is here to serve us. This invoked rage also on the other side because they too felt that the government is here to serve us, and should serve us with health care, a noble, humane idea. **Theorist:** Marx in that the two groups over time became "conscious"; inchoate aggregates form groups with group "interests" coming to the fore to define them. Simmel: conflict defines a group's values.

GOAL: Now the country and Congress have opposing goals on a matter which has grown monumental in cost and in meaning: to pass it or to block it. Each one feels it is pursuing its goal for democracy. **Theorist:** Marx - groups are interest based. Weber - meaning moves us.

OVERALL on direction of influence through the quads: Because the goal was set without checking with the network quad and going, instead, directly into the procedure and process quad, division took place creating a new change called Tea Party, and the conflict deepened. Time will tell if we heal ourselves individually and as a union.