

THREE THINGS: THE GOP'S TRUMPIAN DEATH PANELS [UPDATE-1]

[Check the byline, thanks! Update at the bottom of this post. /~Rayne]

Remember all the squealing by conservatives and Republican members of Congress back in 2009-2010 during the debate about health care, crying crocodile tears about “death panels”?

Well here they are, death panels brought to you by the same whiny selfish leeches who claimed socialized medicine would result in Democratic bureaucrats picking off Americans to limit health care.

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I won't embed video here. Open these links at your own risk, knowing these may be triggering to those who've had bad experiences in hospitals.

1 – Bergamo Italy hospital

2 – Brescia and Rome Italy hospitals

But this I'm going to share.



Those are Italian military trucks carrying away the dead to churches and cremation facilities, some outside of Bergamo because Bergamo's own facilities are at capacity.

This, in a very much pro-life country which is predominantly Catholic.

This, in a country which has more hospital beds per 1000 persons than the U.S.

Some of those patients who are not in ICU have likely been labeled “codice nero” – death is

imminent, do not resuscitate – during triage due to the shortage of ventilators. They are more likely to be over 60 years old because they are prioritizing critical care services and equipment for those more likely to survive.

This is what conservatives and Republicans really wanted: death panels, but conducted by the poor overtaxed health care workers who are themselves at risk because of incompetent governance by conservatives and Republicans.

I hope Americans are ready to see the dead hauled away by the truck load after the GOP's death panel is through with them.

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\$34,927.43.

That's the price for multiple tests and trips to the ER over seven days for COVID-19 an uninsured Boston-area patient was charged. You can imagine some people aren't going to want to deal with that bill – or that swamped hospitals may discourage the uninsured – leading to a lack of treatment and more deaths. Many patients will be too sick to hassle with chasing a lower cost approach as charges can vary widely across many health care providers.

A death panel by health care expense.

Capitalism unto death.

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Death panels may be composed of single individuals.

John Bolton, with Trump's imprimatur, chose to kill the National Security Council's pandemic response team, which has now lead to the deaths of Americans.

Mike Pompeo's crappy diplomatic work failed to develop and build relationships with China, South Korea, other countries facing the same pandemic threat in order to obtain and share usable information and assistance to reduce American deaths.

Jared Kushner and Stephen Miller pulled a grossly negligent EU travel ban out of their asses, executing it so poorly that the resulting crush of travelers in the airports last week will sure increase American deaths in the weeks ahead many times over.

And the malignant narcissist-in-chief continues to push bad information jeopardizing lives both here and abroad after more than two months of inaction. Trump pushed a non-peer reviewed study on hydrochloroquine and azithromycin by tweet today after pushing this drug combo during a presser. There's already been a run on the anti-malarial potentially hurting lupus patients for whom this has been prescribed; there've also been reports of poisonings in Nigeria after users self-medicated with the anti-malarial.

Trump has also mentioned and then lied about the Defense Production Act. There has been no real effort to order production of personal protection equipment for health care workers under the DPA. He's choosing to expose first responders to COVID-19.

Mass death panels by Trumpism.

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Sadly, it's not just Americans who will face so-called conservatives' death panels. The UK is already entering a state of crisis as its hospitals' ICUs exceed capacity. There is no sign of constructive decision making by Boris Johnson to alleviate the capacity problem nor realistically halt the rate of infection.

Instead, Johnson's government and now Trump's Department of Justice are seeking powers to detain people instead of doing what is already within their ability and purview to do to stem contagion and aid respective health care systems.

Death panels by Tory conservatives and Trump fascists.

By the way, where's Sarah Palin now? Still

licking her polyester-pink wounds after her recent fiasco appearance on The Masked Singer when the show's death panel gave her the much-deserved axe?

This is an open thread.

UPDATE-1 – 22-MAR-2020 – 11:00 P.M. ET

This video features Rep. Katie Porter's sister who's an emergency room physician. She breaks down what the Trump-GOP death panel will decide by the numbers.

Katie Porter's sister, a doctor, is breaking down how staying in can save lives during the COVID-19 crisis
pic.twitter.com/9q7MpbpES8

– NowThis (@nowthisnews) March 21, 2020

Are you one in 50? Or are you one of the 49 which Trump and the GOP have decided in their pro-life hypocrisy won't be saved?