



# ANTI-FLAG

## LIES THEY TELL OUR CHILDREN

### MODERN META MEDICINE

ft. Jesse Leach of Killswitch Engage

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Self-serve, it's all that you can eat / How will we pay,  
we're the commodity / We can never help ourselves /  
We want it all and nothing else / Market plan.  
Consumed, buy everything / Create desires and trade  
them publicly / The sweet smell of our excess /  
We choke and gag upon the stench / Every dime spared  
from the war fund / Another pill for us to choke on...  
/ On and on and on and on / We're never right / We're  
never wrong / And on and on and on and on / What's  
black is white / What's true is false / Take off my weary  
head / Fill us with medicine / We're all bogged down  
with dread / Fill us with medicine / Under treat the pain,  
deny dignity / Subhuman graves robbed for the body  
/ Indelible memory remains / The histories of abuse  
and shame / Same story, the character a caricature  
/ A premium paid, a misery ensured / Shocked by the  
inhumanity? / Is this life of ours worth anything? /  
So we get what we deserve / So we try to bereave the  
interred / So we get what we deserve / This modern  
medicine / This modern meta medicine. / So let us in...  
/ This modern meta medicine

The U.S. spends more on health care as a share of the economy — nearly twice as much as the average OECD country — yet has the lowest life expectancy and highest suicide rates among the 11 nations.

The U.S. has the highest chronic disease burden and an obesity rate that is two times higher than the OECD average.

Americans had fewer physician visits than peers in most countries, which may be related to a low supply of physicians in the U.S.

Compared to peer nations, the U.S. has among the highest number of hospitalizations from preventable causes and the highest rate of avoidable deaths.

SOURCE: [HTTPS://WWW.COMMONWEALTHFUND.ORG/PUBLICATIONS/ISSUE-BRIEFS/2020/JAN/US-HEALTH-CARE-GLOBAL-PERSPECTIVE-2019](https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/issue-briefs/2020/jan/us-health-care-global-perspective-2019)

What happens, of course, when you have a mini-monopoly is you have an enormous sway over price. And so, what we see in research over and over again is that the cities that have the most hospital consolidation tend to have the highest prices for health care without any benefit for patient results. So consolidation, which started as a good idea in many places, has evolved to a point where it's not benefiting patients anymore, it is benefiting profits.

If you're a pharmaceutical manufacturer and you have a problem like diabetes, for example, if I invented a pill tomorrow that would cure diabetes — that would kill a multi-billion dollar business market. It's far better to have treatments, sometimes really great treatments ... [that] go on for life. That's much better than something that will make the disease go away overnight.

SOURCE: [HTTPS://WWW.NPR.ORG/SECTIONS/HEALTH-SHOTS/2017/04/10/523005353/HOW-U-S-HEALTH-CARE-BECAME-BIG-BUSINESS?T=1655814273464](https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/04/10/523005353/how-u-s-health-care-became-big-business?t=1655814273464)

Many black people in the 1970s and '80s fought against police harassment and for black self-determination and community involvement in drug user recovery—and sometimes, unfortunately, for heavier legal penalties and increased police harassment of predominantly black drug users. In contrast, many white people seem less eager to take responsibility or demand change along those lines. Self-declared sons of white America feel robbed of their birthright, and they want it back from their black, brown, immigrant, and off-shore brothers... never considering that it could be their own parents who are to blame. Some whites acknowledge that reforming their own behavior is part of the solution to their social problems, but many—such as the Proud Boys—aim to do so only in order to glorify and renew the misogynist, racist foundations of “Western civilization.”

This is ironic, in that these same radicalized divisions are also responsible for preventing white workers from making common cause with others to stand up for themselves against the causes of their suffering. Deindustrialization is hitting white communities now the same way that it hit black communities in the 1980s, bringing with it the addiction and despair long familiar to more targeted groups. While fascists seek to attribute responsibility for the suffering of poor white people to people of color or some sort of Jewish conspiracy, the fundamental problem is obviously capitalism. Market imperatives make dealers and cartels seek profit at any cost, just as they reward industrial corporations that shift their production facilities offshore or replace human employees with machines. It is capitalism that has broken up our communities, compelling us to chase jobs from one place to another across the continent while extractive corporations decimate the natural world we depend on for survival. To defend ourselves against this onslaught, we have to come together across all lines of identity, identifying with each other even across gulfs of privilege and fighting to abolish privilege and capitalism entirely. One of the chief reasons race was invented in the first place was to split the interests of those on the receiving end of all the disparities and misfortunes imposed by capitalism.

SOURCE: [HTTPS://CRIMETHING.COM/2017/10/09/THE-OPIOID-CRISIS-HOW-WHITE-DESPAIR-POSES-A-THREAT-TO-PEOPLE-OF-COLOR](https://crimething.com/2017/10/09/the-opioid-crisis-how-white-despair-poses-a-threat-to-people-of-color)