

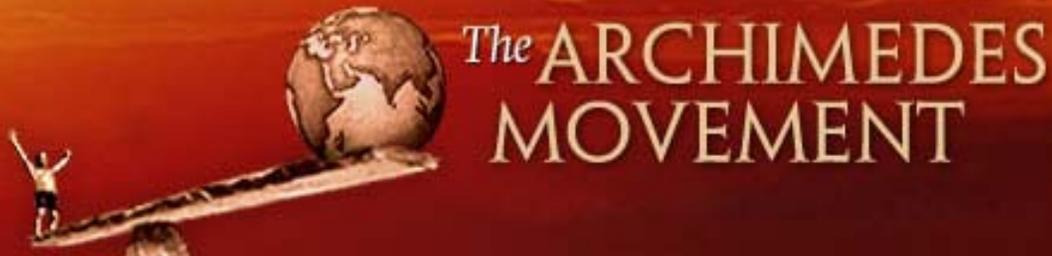


The ARCHIMEDES
MOVEMENT

"Give me a lever and a place to stand, and I can move the Earth."

On the Road to Revolution: Fear and Loathing in the U.S. Health Care System

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.





PUBLIC RESOURCES



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MAXIMIZE THE BENEFIT



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PUBLIC EDUCATION

- **Explicit entitlement to public education**
- **Explicit public subsidy**
- **Everyone contributes to the subsidy**
- **All children eligible for the same “benefit”**
- **Those with more income can purchase additional services**



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CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY



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Preferential Tax Treatment

Employer Sponsored Coverage

(Tax Reform Act of 1954)

No one could have envisioned:

- **Highly competitive global economy**
- **Public subsidy would grow to > \$200 B per year**
- **Paid by all taxpayers including those without coverage**



MEDICARE

Purpose: Improve financial access for the elderly

- **Entitlement program**
- **Financed by taxes on those who are working**
- **Does not cover long term care services**



MEDICAID

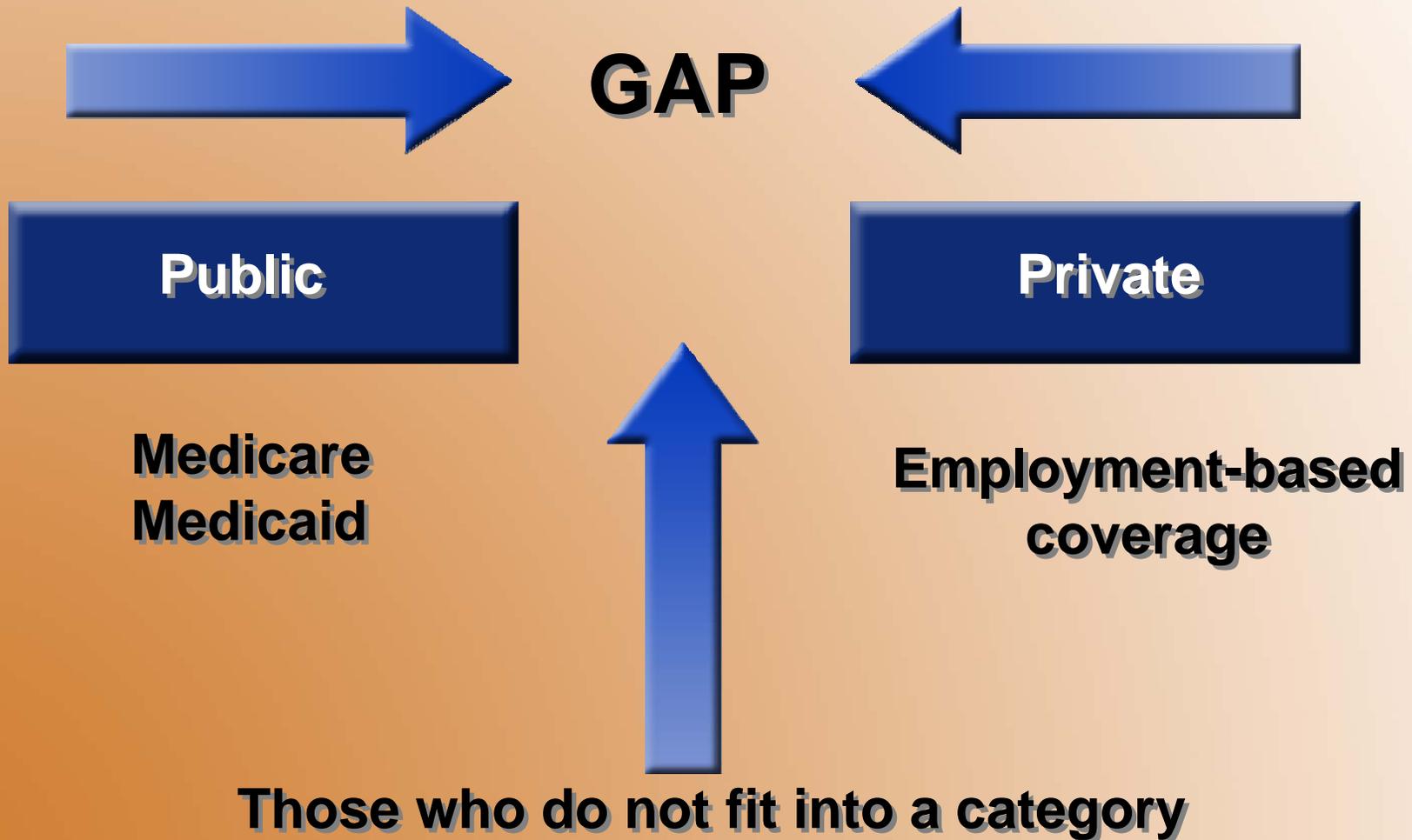
Purpose: Improve financial access for certain categories of the poor

- **Poor children**
- **Blind & Disabled**
- **Elderly needing long term care**
- **Pregnant women**



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COVERAGE GAP



Cost Shifting (Shifting Accountability)

Change
Eligibility



Public

Drop
Coverage



Private



ER



VISION

To maximize the health of the population by creating a sustainable system which uses the public resources spent on health care to ensure that everyone has access to a defined set of effective health services.



Demand a Different Standard for Public Resources

- **A health benefit for the dollars allocated for health care**
- **A benefit to all of us, not just some of us**



Bill for an Act

Health Care Equity
and Empowerment Act of 2006



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Preamble

- (1) There shall be no explicit policy objective adopted to guide the allocation of public health care resources.**
- (2) No clear responsibility shall be assigned for financing the care of those who cannot pay for it themselves.**



Section I

Categories shall be established to differentiate between the “deserving poor” and the “undeserving poor.”

- (1) The “deserving poor” shall include women who are pregnant, families with dependent children, and those who are blind or disabled. People in these categories shall be provided with publicly financed health care.**
- (2) The “undeserving poor” shall include poor women without children who are not pregnant and poor men. People in these categories shall be denied publicly financed health care.**



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Section II

- (1) All those who are over 65 years old shall be entitled to publicly financed healthcare, regardless of their income.**
- (2) All those who are employed and under the age of 65, regardless of whether they can afford health care for themselves and their families, shall be required to pay a portion of their taxes to purchase health care for wealthy citizens over the age of 65.**



Section III

- (1) The public program for the elderly (Medicare) shall not provide coverage for long term care services.**
- (2) The public program for the poor (Medicaid) shall provide coverage for long term care services.**
- (3) The elderly in need of long term care shall be required to spend themselves into poverty in order to become eligible for Medicaid, at which point their needs will compete directly with those of poor women and children.**



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Section IV

- (1) The criteria of financial need and ability to pay shall not be used to determine eligibility for a public subsidy.**
- (2) The relative effectiveness of various medical interventions in producing health shall not be considered in deciding which services will be paid for by public resources.**



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Bill for an Act

Health Care Equity and Empowerment Act of 2006



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Key Steps

1. **Describing a clear vision of a new health care system**
2. **Exposing the contradictions and inequities of the current system**
3. **Creating a tension between the status quo and the vision**



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WAIVERS

Creating Pressure for Change



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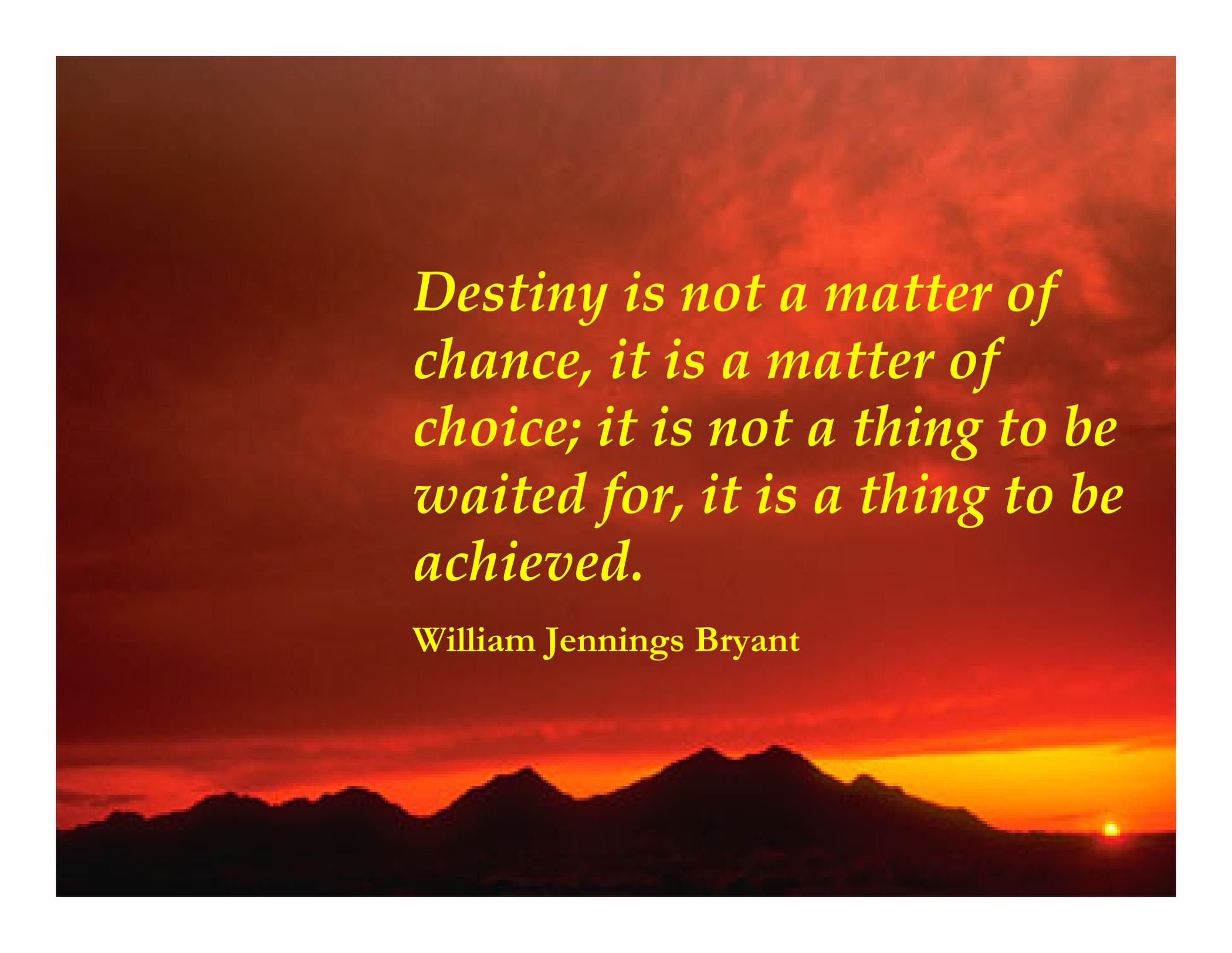


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SEIZING THE FUTURE



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*Destiny is not a matter of
chance, it is a matter of
choice; it is not a thing to be
waited for, it is a thing to be
achieved.*

William Jennings Bryant

