

**Dr. [Name]**: I think one way to approach the conversation about health care, especially with someone with your expertise in theology, is to ask: what are some of the principles that ought to guide our thinking as we approach the process of health care reform? What are the basics?

**Dr. [Name]**: I think the basics for anybody working out of a Catholic tradition is the dignity of the human being as made in the image and likeness of God. A dignity that takes seriously human beings, not just as souls that are encased in bodies, but as embodied souls and as people living a mortal life who are vulnerable and can suffer.

If you think in terms of Christianity, you can see the seriousness with which our embodied life is taken and the importance of it even in the New Testament and in the very miracles that Jesus performed. His idea of holistic healing was signified by his healing of people with bodily ailments: the blind, the lame, the deaf, those with hemorrhages.

What we have to do when we think about health care reform is to situate the person as embodied at the heart of it and to branch out to see the person not just as isolated, but as living in a broader

get universal access, an attempt to have a basic benefit package covered by all, an attempt to control costs so that health care doesn't eat up all the other benefits that we need to provide. Those things are very important.

Key features in Obamacare are the exclusion of pre-existing condition requirements, so there's no discrimination against the sick; an exclusion of lifetime limits on health care costs; so that people who are facing difficult health situations aren't made worse by being kicked out of health care; an elimination of gender distinctions, so you can't charge women more than men; a constraining of age ratings, so that it can only be a maximum of three to one, so you can't charge those who are older more than those who are younger by an exorbitant amount.

But there is some room for personal responsibility. What I think is interesting is that you can charge more for people who use to

of p 16 t)3714 (t) 961)3714 (2.20.6x)7619 (6 p. 7s) 0.16 aTJT 5.2.3TJT\*21(84)531.49 (21f8g)(786)n)19.0113e)41sl5.96)1.501s0.5)146 o9)7474

i - 1 1 ( 1

membership and overload older people who are going to have more problems.

Mr. Smith: The 50-year smoker.

Mr. Smith: Yeah, the 50-year-old smoker.

Mr. Smith:

