has removed “the art” from the “art and science of medicine,” such that the human-relationship component is being replaced by computers. The opening of records has also, besides enslaving physicians, enabled the law to target doctors as a primary source of income for attorneys. The law here is more corrupt than in anyplace else. Even replacing it with high-tech computer game problem/conflict resolution would produce more truth and justice than current procedures.

The biggest corruption is in third-party administration of medicine. More money than is spent on the U.S. defense budget is stolen by third parties to administer medicine. All third-party subscribers should demand information from every third-party entity involved in determining their medical care, every time, from CEO to clerical staff.

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I appreciate Dr. Lawrence Huntoon’s many editorials on sham peer review, especially the one on risk factors. We need to draw the attention of the public and judiciary. It’s almost unimaginable for the layman, who tends to place trust in physicians and hospital administrators, that such individuals could flagrantly betray public trust with regard to quality assurance for patient care by using “peer review” as a weapon against physicians they target as “disruptive.” The form of process shields abusive intent from legal responsibility.

The occurrence of “white-coat crime” is difficult to grasp because of the respect accorded to individuals in positions of responsibility. How is it that such individuals could engage in malice, fraud, fabrication, falsification, lying, and misrepresentation of medical care to harm another physician? Dr. Huntoon’s article reveals motivations for such behavior, most of which, though not all, is ultimately about money.

Revoking hospital privileges removes competition, and potentially destroys a physician’s career through federally required Data Bank reporting and self-reporting that affects privileges to practice in any other hospital. Despite the terrible, unjust consequences of bad-faith peer review, those engaged in the business of medicine are essentially above the law.

Hospitals enjoy enormous legal protection and immunity for whatever is said to be done in a reasonable belief that it is to improve health care. To confer immunity even when there is evidence of actual malice is, however, a flagrant abuse. It eliminates equal protection of the law for some citizens because they are physicians and care for patients. This affects all physicians and all citizens. Well-trained physicians whose practice has been found to be within the standard of care still are under threat from recurrent or continuing investigations and hearings. Such abuse needs to be exposed and corrected.

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REFERENCES

The Unregulated Sun
Huntoon Lampoon 09-13

Professor emeritus of everything known Declared his research has conclusively shown:

Unregulated warmth is great cause for alarm.
Aspersions he cast on the cows on the farm.

The icecaps are melting; conditions are stark.
Unless we act now we will all need an Ark.

Managed Gas Organizations are what we all need—
Smart fellows like him should be taking the lead.

Disruptive emissions and carbon footprints—
We must put a stop to man’s unmanaged stint.

Those tractors and cars and all engines berated;
Milk drinking, he said, was much overrated.

Civilization is harmful, my will must be done,
He said with contempt, disrespecting the sun.

Lawrence R. Huntoon, M.D., Ph.D.