Healthcare is an issue of great importance to the American people. Medical costs are out of control and the average person struggles to get adequate care at an affordable price. The Affordable Care Act was passed by President Obama in 2012 in an effort to give access to health services for all Americans. It mandated that all US citizens have health insurance or be penalized, and it promised lower costs and no discrimination for pre-existing conditions. Over the last four years, many weaknesses of the law have come to the light. Instead of the prices being lowered, they have actually skyrocketed in the time that this law has been in effect. With the Affordable Care Act, businesses are required to offer healthcare to their employees, but are not compensated. They are carrying the brunt of the costs for a government mandated program.The current presidential candidates have their own ideas on how to move forward with healthcare. Donald Trump and Gary Johnson want to repeal this mandate, while Hillary Clinton wants to keep it in place.

Donald Trump plans to completely do away with Obamacare. Trump states that he wants to follow free market principles which, “ will broaden healthcare access, make healthcare more affordable and improve the quality of the care available to all Americans” (Healthcare Reform). Unlike Hillary, he believes that no individual should be forced to buy health insurance. He also believes that individuals that do have health insurance should get a tax deduction for the insurance premiums that they pay. Though Trump’s views on immigration are prominent, the media often fails to mention the health care aspects. “Providing healthcare to illegal immigrants costs us some $11 billion annually” (Health Care Reform).

Hillary Clinton wants to keep the Affordable Care Act in place and build on its principles. She has completely different views regarding healthcare for illegal immigrants. She has proposed that the United States should ignore the citizenship statuses of immigrants when it comes to their health. If she becomes president, she plans on trying to decrease the cost of medical treatments and prescriptions. “According to a Consumer Reports survey in August, “one of out every four people facing higher drug costs were also unable to afford medical bills or medications; one in five said they missed a payment on a major bill” ( Hillary Clinton’s Plan...). She said, “I want to build on the progress we’ve made. I’ll do more to bring down healthcare costs for families, ease burdens on small businesses, and make sure consumers have the choices they deserve” (Hillary on Health Care).

Gary Johnson has beliefs and plans that are very similar to Donald Trump. He feels that the government should not be involved in decisions regarding health insurance. He also wants to repeal Obamacare because he feels it is unconstitutional. If he becomes president, he plans on cutting $1.675 trillion from medicare and medicaid (On the Issues). Like Trump, he believes that the health care system should be a free market system, in which our health insurance would be more fitted to our everyday needs.

I believe that whoever becomes president should be able to come up with a better plan for health care that will fit the varying needs of Americans. Health insurance is not one size fits all. Different individuals need different benefits and some will use their insurance much more than others. I also believe that our current system of healthcare unfairly relies on those that have jobs to help subsidize the cost of insurance for low income Americans. How does that even make sense? People that work hard every day have to pay higher prices just because they have the means to do so.

Healthcare is a highly controversial issue in the United States. The candidates have totally opposite views on policies. Donald Trump will need the assistance of Congress to repeal and change the current health care system in America. On the other hand, Hillary will already have a base for the future, she just has to tweak and change certain aspects of it. The American public deserves a fair and effective system of healthcare, where needs are met and costs are under control. The health care system has evolved into what it is over many years, and it will not be an easy process to create a system that allows individuals to customize a plan to suit their needs. In order to create an effective new system, there must be cooperation between law makers, insurers, and the medical field. Hopefully our next president will do a better job at managing this colossal program and restoring faith in the healthcare system.

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