People in America have been dealing with the reality of having no health insurance more and more each year. Some people may think the health care system in America is screwed up while others mostly the C.E.O’s and government, the ones who make profit from it, would say it’s great. Other countries like Cuba and France have completely free health care, people in America believe it does not work and they pay too much in taxes but Michael Moore shows otherwise. Is the government just telling people this so that they won’t protest or want it that way? The system we have in America is supposed to be there to help us but it really seems like the companies are only trying to make a profit off of us. In the movie, Sicko, director Michael Moore questions both the quality and moral obligations of the health care system In America today with the use of documenting and interviews with insiders and also people that have been affected by the health care system.

Michael Moore uses several different rhetorical techniques in his film. Creating a documentary was the best option for Moore to advertise the health care problem in America. Stating shocking claims and facts really make an impact on you, it makes you wish that you could do something to help. The way Moore arranges his documentary is convincing, even though he jumps around a lot, the way he pulls you into the claim really sparks an interest. Michael appeals to the audience, anyone in America whether they have health insurance or not, by showing what it could be like if everyone had free health insurance. Although, he does not appeal to those who think that the health care system is good and should stay the way it is. Moore uses historical context as well to help you better understand why the system is the way it is and what needs to be done to improve it. For example, he talks about Hilary Clinton’s proposal to have universal health care, even though she was one of the top health care contributors, Ronald Regan spent millions of dollars to get her proposal dropped. Moore does an excellent job of getting an insider’s view.

The use of facts and information also helps you understand how corrupt this health care system is. “18,000 people will die in America this year because they do not have health insurance” (Moore). This shows how real the problems are in the government and health care systems. He also shows a list of conditions, which is very long, that if you have, insurance companies will mostly likely deny you. He talks to people who have been denied from insurance companies, saying they were too fat or too thin. He also states that 50 million Americans do not have health insurance (Moore). Also, in the film, Moore posted a note on the internet asking people to send them there horror stories about the health care system, within 24 hours he had over 25,000 responses (Moore). Talking about this makes you realize what is really going on within health insurance companies.

He shows he knows what he is talking about through the use of direct contact with people that are insiders with the health insurance companies. Moore shows a clip with Linda Peeno, former medical reviewer, admitting to denying a claim that would have saved a man’s life. All of the interviews done with people who had worked for health insurance companies show that people do not like working for the companies because of the enforcements they have. Like in the interview with Becky Malke, she started crying when she was talking about a couple that was so excited to have health insurance only to get turned down a few weeks later. This really makes you feel for the people who can’t afford health insurance and even those who do, but have poor quality health insurance. It makes you think that people will do anything to make money, even if it means turning down a surgery that would save a life. He also shows the particular lawsuit that was filed against one of the insurance companies and in it the medical director clearly says that his signature is stamped and he does not see the denial letters before they are sent out. Michael Moore compares the system in America to other countries around the world to show you that you can’t believe everything you hear from the American government and should consider what the health insurance companies are really there for.

He conducts many interviews by different types of people, people who work for the health insurance companies and people who had been affected by them. Moore uses the technique of emotional appeal again when he interviews the wife (Julie Pierce) of a husband who had died because the health insurance companies denied his claim for getting a bone marrow transplant to save his life. Moore also interviews a few women that had cancer or tumors, after the interviews he states that two of them had died, one had her cancer spread throughout her body, and one of them went back to Japan and got the necessary procedures to remove her brain tumor. These shocking facts and claims really make you believe that our health care system is shady and we need to do something about it.

Just to tell you a little bit about Michael Moore to better understand his claim in the movie, he has created several different documentaries on widely argumented views in America. He has also written books and has an online blog on which he voices his opinions on many different topics. Even though he had dropped out of University of Michigan after his freshman year, he is very successful (Michael Moore). Some people love Michael Moore and some people hate him. Saying he leaves things out and does not tell the whole truth. But it’s no surprise that he has so many people who are disgusted with him with the way he bashes America. For instance, there are many websites or blogs made by people who dislike Moore, they criticize everything he says or does. I personally think that he is great for being the only one to actually do something about the issues in America and letting people know what is really going on. Before I viewed this movie, I didn’t realize how bad the health care system was and now I think we should all listen to him. The way he is very intent on getting through to those who can actually do something is solid, it made me realize that someone needs to do something about the system.

Not much in the system has changed since then; maybe more people need to see this film. They now have organizations that are trying to get the government to do something about it. But other than that, they health care system remains the same, if not worse. Moore’s argument and claim is very strong, he makes you really visualize what health care is like in other countries and what it could be like here if we had universal health care. Through the use of interviewing lots of different people who live in America, it really shows that a lot of people feel this way. He claims that insurance companies are just trying to make a profit and he does a great job of proving it. In creating this movie, I think Moore hopes to get the attention of health insurance companies and help everyone in America understand that we need a change in the health care system because of the decayed economy.

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