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Ezekiel Emanuel's Incorrect Premise

Ezekiel Emanuel who helped President Obama craft Obamacare, has co-written an article saying individuals have a duty to be insured. He says doctors have a duty to rescue, requiring them to care for people even if uninsured. He claims this duty generates “a corresponding duty” on you and me to reduce the cost of that rescue.

Thus, he says we have an enforceable moral duty to buy enough insurance to cover the costs of acute and emergency care – regardless of the cost. He also claims that this duty under force of law maintains our liberty. His premise is incorrect. Doctors do not have a duty to rescue. That would infringe on their liberty.