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How the Tyranny of Market Forces Stunts Our Moral Imagination

Is providing healthcare for all too expensive, or is it a failure of our moral imagination to say so? What first appears as an economic reality can too quickly become an excuse for inaction.

► *6 min* — with **Nicole Hassoun**

DESCRIPTION

TRANSCRIPT

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Is providing healthcare for all too expensive, or is it a failure of our moral imagination to say so? What first appears as an economic reality can too quickly become an excuse for inaction, says Nicole Hassoun, who heads the Global Health Impact, launched at the World Health Organization in January 2015. Maintaining a radical sense of hope in the face of so-called market forces, which set too high a price on human health, spurs the human imagination. Novel healthcare solutions have been found those willing to face economic headwinds, and they provide an example to us all. **This video was filmed as part of the Los Angeles Hope Festival, a collaboration between Big Think and Hope & Optimism.**

WHO'S IN THE VIDEO

Nicole Hassoun is a residential fellow with the Hope & Optimism Project at Cornell University and an associate professor in philosophy at Binghamton University. From 2006-2012 she was an assistant[...]

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► *6 min* — with **Bryan Cranston**



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Happy New Year

It's plain to see that I'm an optimist, sometimes more than is socially comfortable. The ease with which I dismiss the disastrous economic decline above serves as one example of that. I wrote that the recession will benefit our political system, and, before I cut this line, as having “rewarded our company for methodical execution and ruthless efficiency by removing competitors from the landscape.” I make no mention of the disastrous effects on millions of people, and the great uncertainty that grips any well-briefed mind, because it truly doesn't stand in the foreground of

my mind (despite suffering personal loss of wealth). Our species is running towards a precipice with looming dangers like economic decline, political unrest, climate crisis, and more threatening to grip us as we jump off the edge, but my optimism is stronger now than ever before. On the other side of that looming gap are extraordinary breakthroughs in healthcare, communications technology, access to space, human productivity, artistic creation and literally hundreds of fields. With the right execution and a little bit of luck we'll all live to see these breakthroughs — and members of my generation will live to see dramatically lengthened life-spans, exploration and colonization of space, and more opportunity than ever to work for passion instead of simply working for pay. Instead of taking this space to regale you with the many personal and focused changes I intend to make in 2009, let me rather encourage you to spend time this year thinking, as I'm going to, more about what we can do in 2009 to positively affect the future our culture will face in 2020, 2050, 3000 and beyond.

Bessel van der Kolk: Trauma isn't the event, it's the response



"One of the largest mitigating factors against getting traumatized is who is there for you at that particular time."

► *59 min* — with **Bessel van der ...**

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