

## Health Care Reform Panel at Bryn Mawr College

# The Right to Health: Increasing Access to Health Care in America

*with guest lecturers*

**Walter Tsou, MD, MPH**, former Health Commissioner of Philadelphia  
**Carla Willis, Ph.D.**, Senior Economist of the American Medical Association

Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Park rm. 180

Is health care a basic human right or a privilege? The UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that

“ [every human being] has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including ... **medical care and necessary social services.** ”

What kind of job is America doing in protecting this basic right? How can we ensure that all Americans are afforded the right to medical care?

- America ranks number 12 in life expectancy among the nations of the world—many of those countries have socialized healthcare systems
- America’s healthcare system offers the highest quality medical care in the world—for those who can afford it

What’s right and what’s wrong with the current system? What do proponents of a single-payer system have to say about it, and what are the benefits of a market-based approach to healthcare? What do recent state-level initiatives in Massachusetts and California mean for the future of healthcare in America?

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