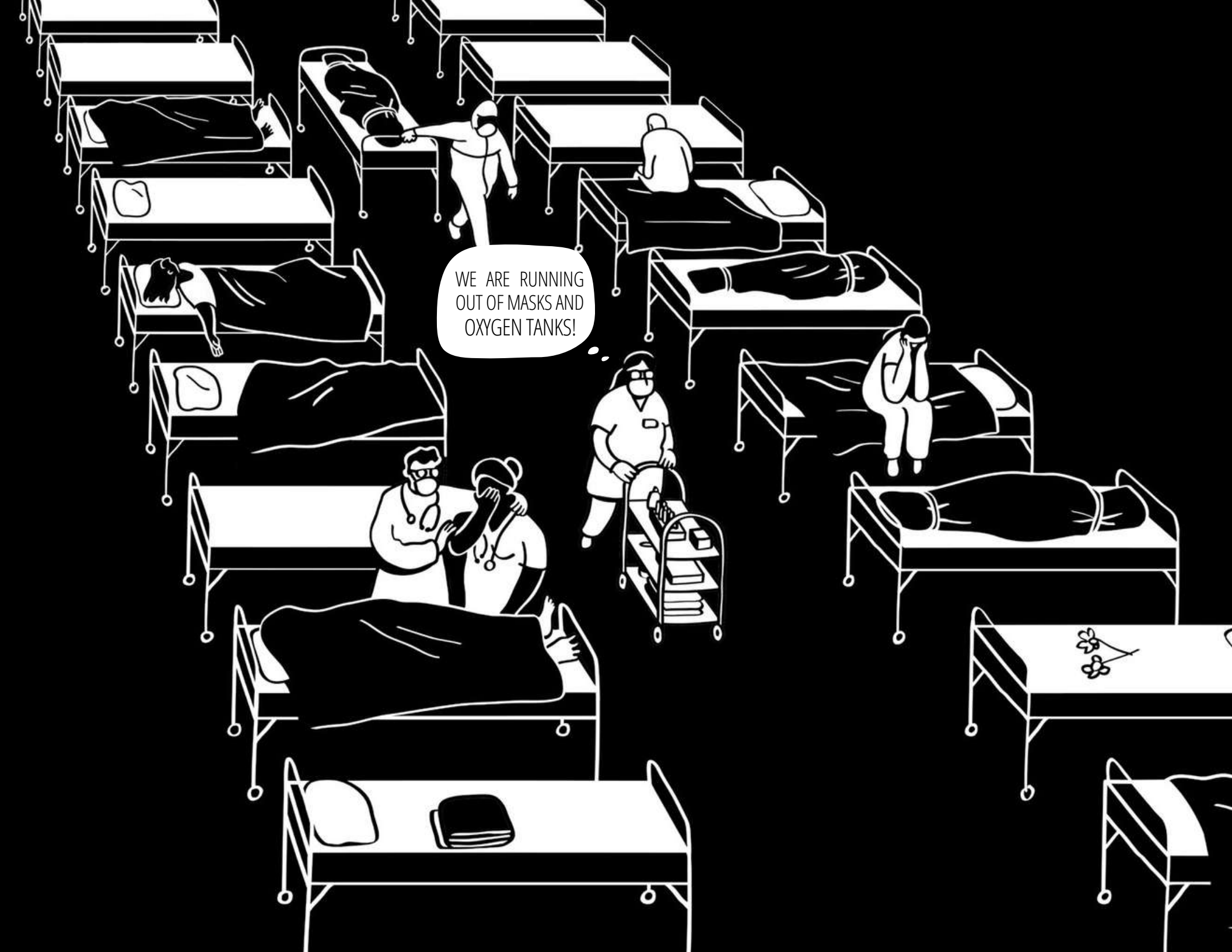


**THE POWER OF THE 99%  
TO STOP CORPORATE CAPTURE  
OF OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS**

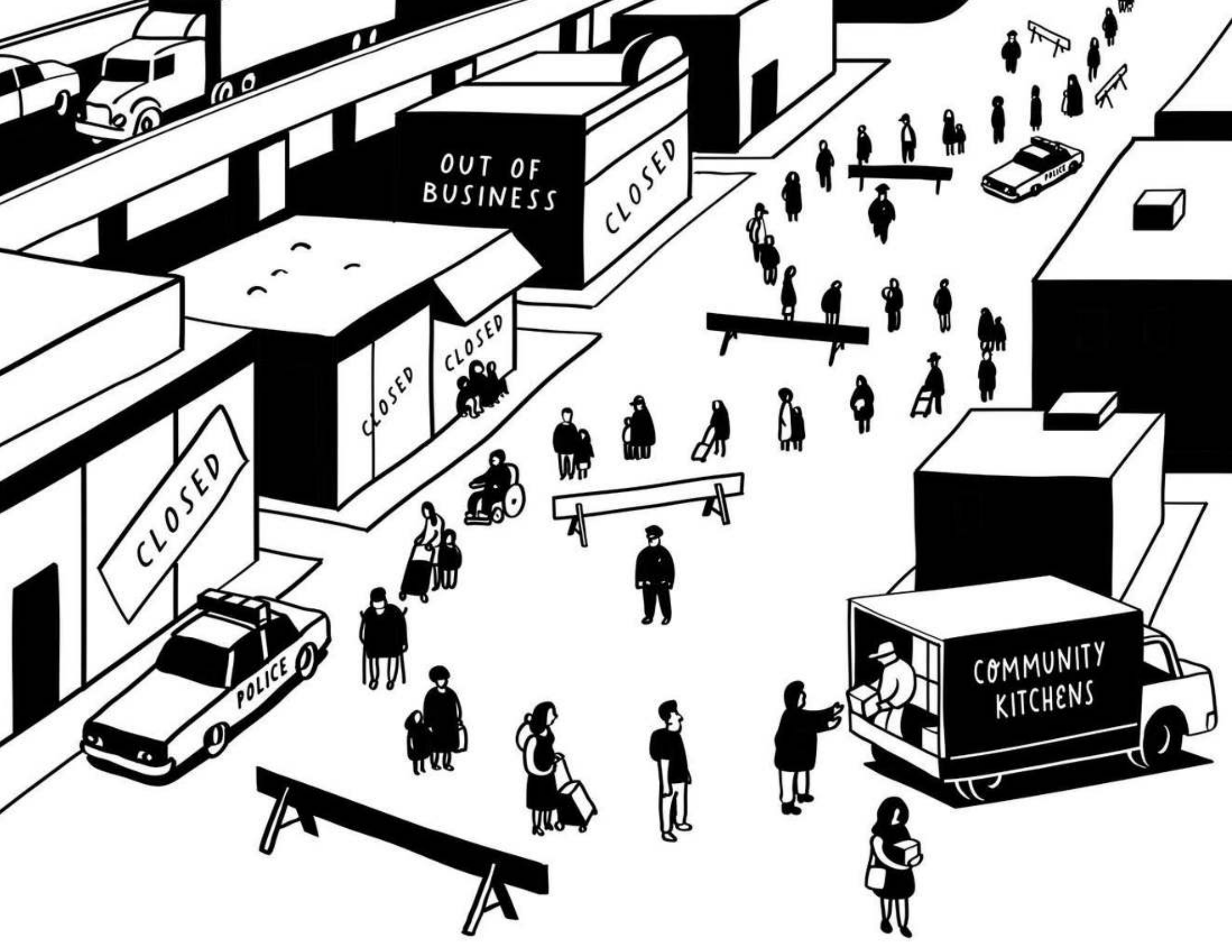




WE ARE RUNNING  
OUT OF MASKS AND  
OXYGEN TANKS!

**THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS SHOWN THAT  
OUR RIGHT TO HEALTH IS PARAMOUNT.**





OUT OF BUSINESS

CLOSED

CLOSED

CLOSED

CLOSED

POLICE

COMMUNITY KITCHENS

FOR MANY, THIS PANDEMIC ADDED TO DAILY  
HARDSHIPS IN DIFFERENT WAYS.



ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE  
LIVING IN CONFLICT-  
AFFECTED AREAS...



WASH  
HANDS

ONE LITER  
PER FAMILY

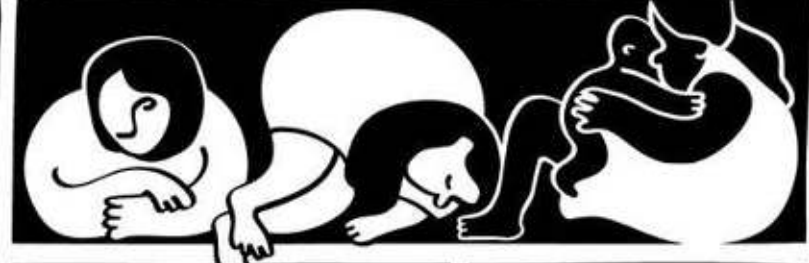
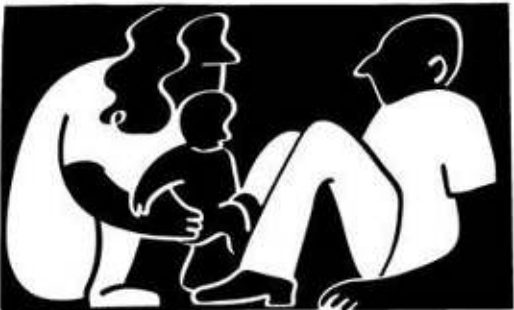
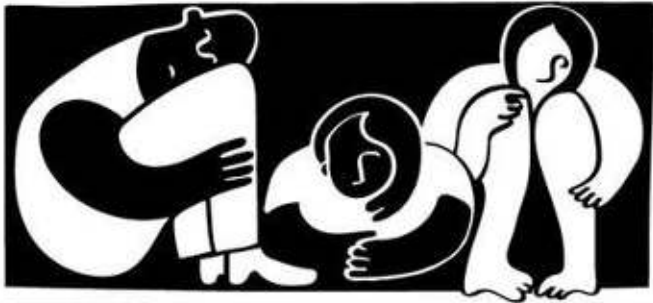
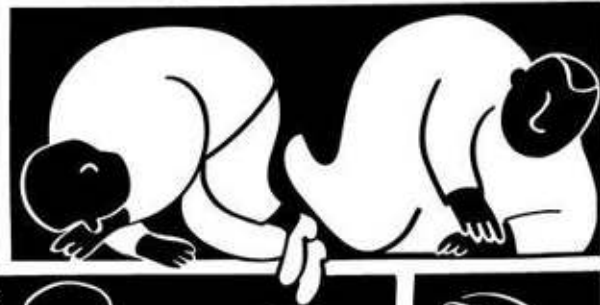
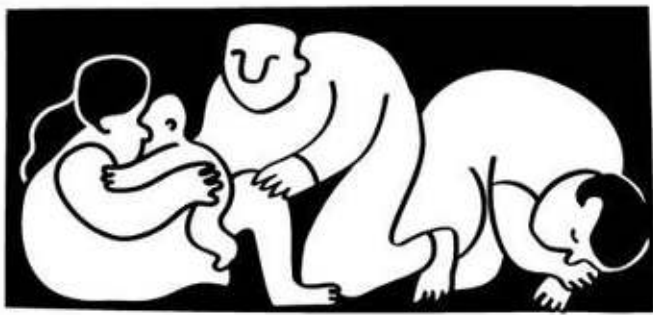
WEAR A  
MASK

MAKE TIME  
TO UNWIND

MAINTAIN  
SOCIAL  
DISTANCE

KEEP  
SIX FEET  
A PART

COVID-19  
PLEASE  
STAY AT  
HOME





**...AND FOR THOSE MOST AFFECTED BY STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES.**





**FOR THE 99% OF US, OUR HEALTH IS A COMMON GOOD -  
A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT BELONGING TO ALL!**

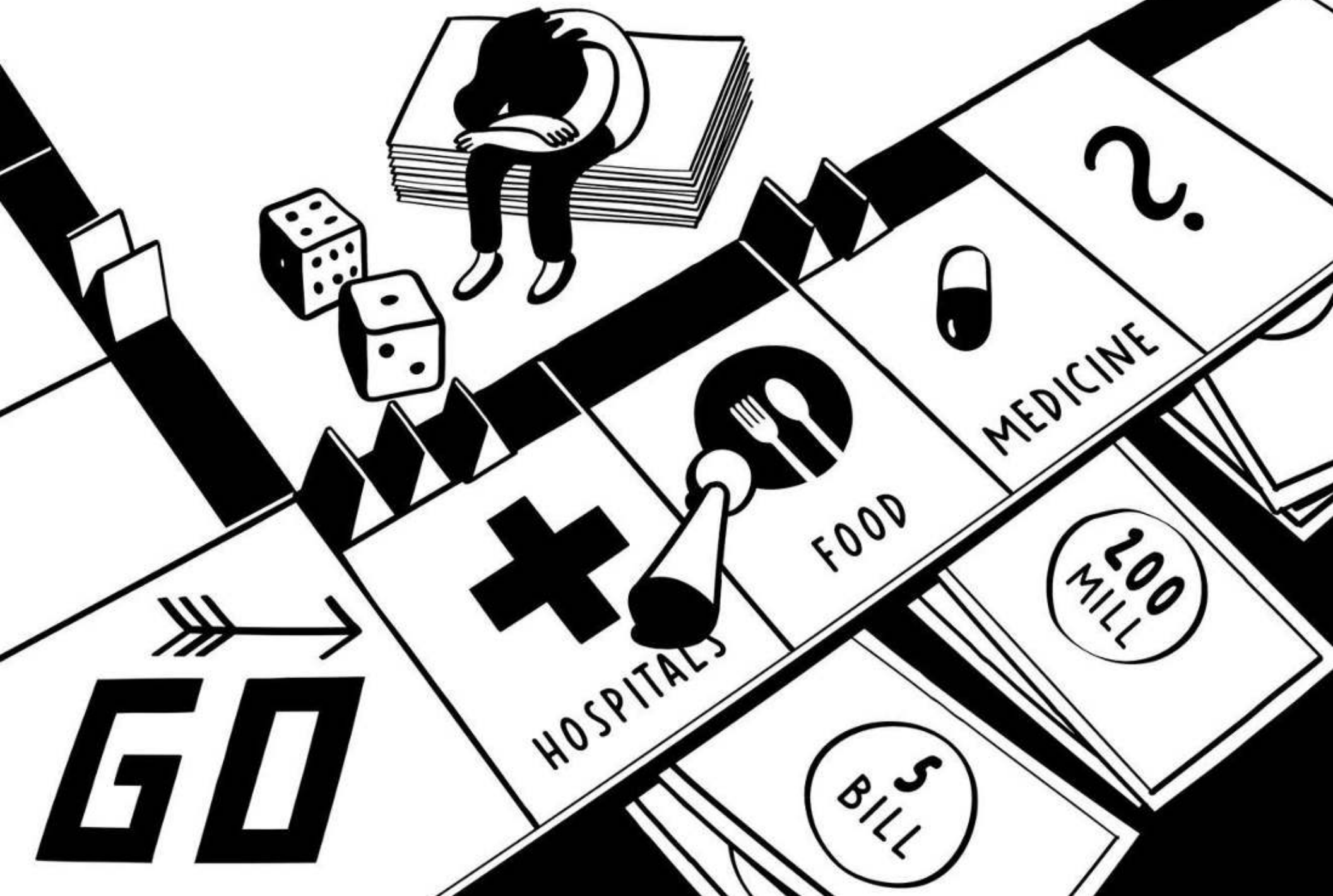


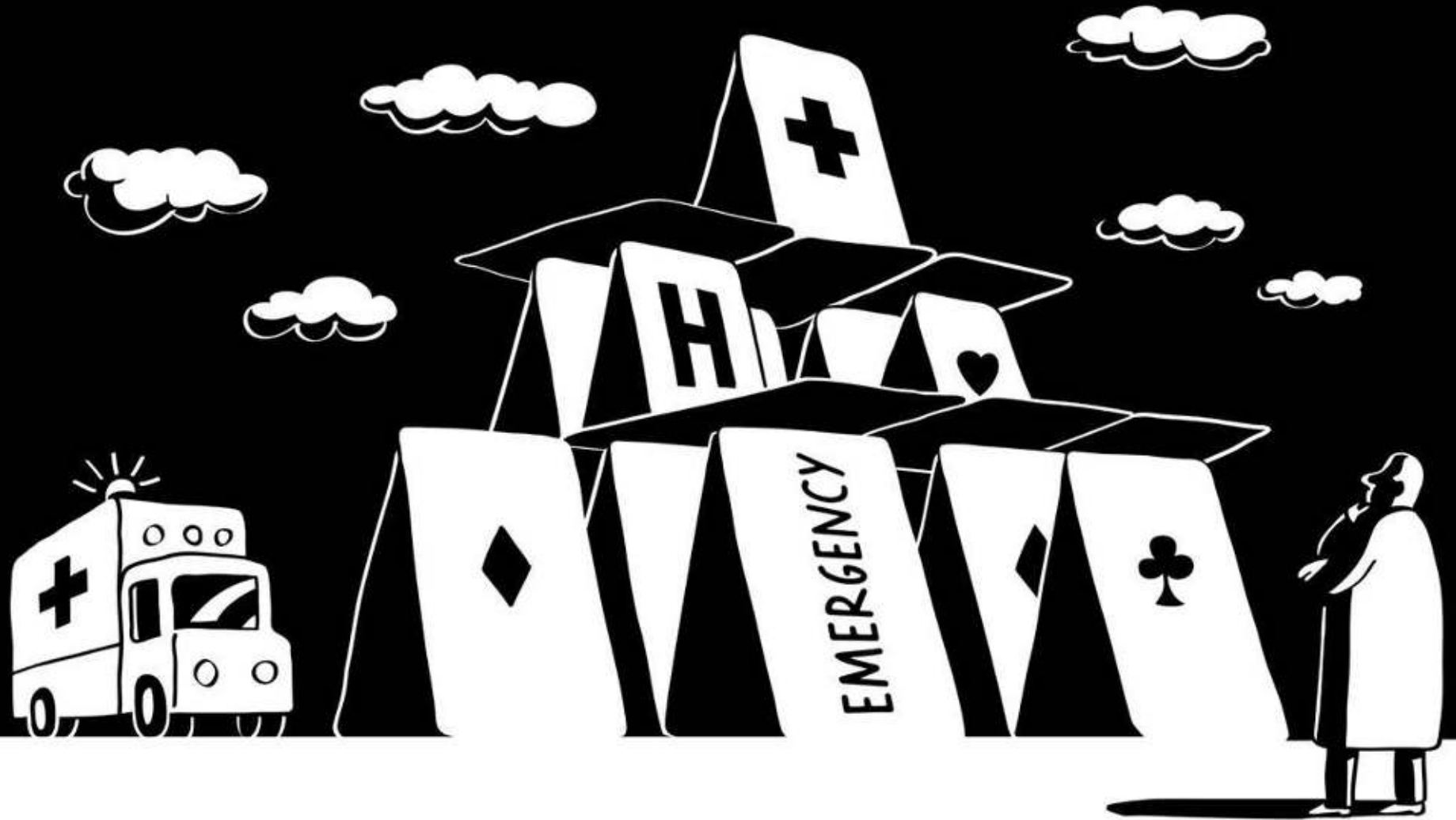
**HOWEVER, FOR A FEW: OUR HEALTH IS A COMMODITY.**



**THE 1% HAS TURNED OUR RIGHT TO HEALTH INTO A PROFIT-MAKING MACHINE.**

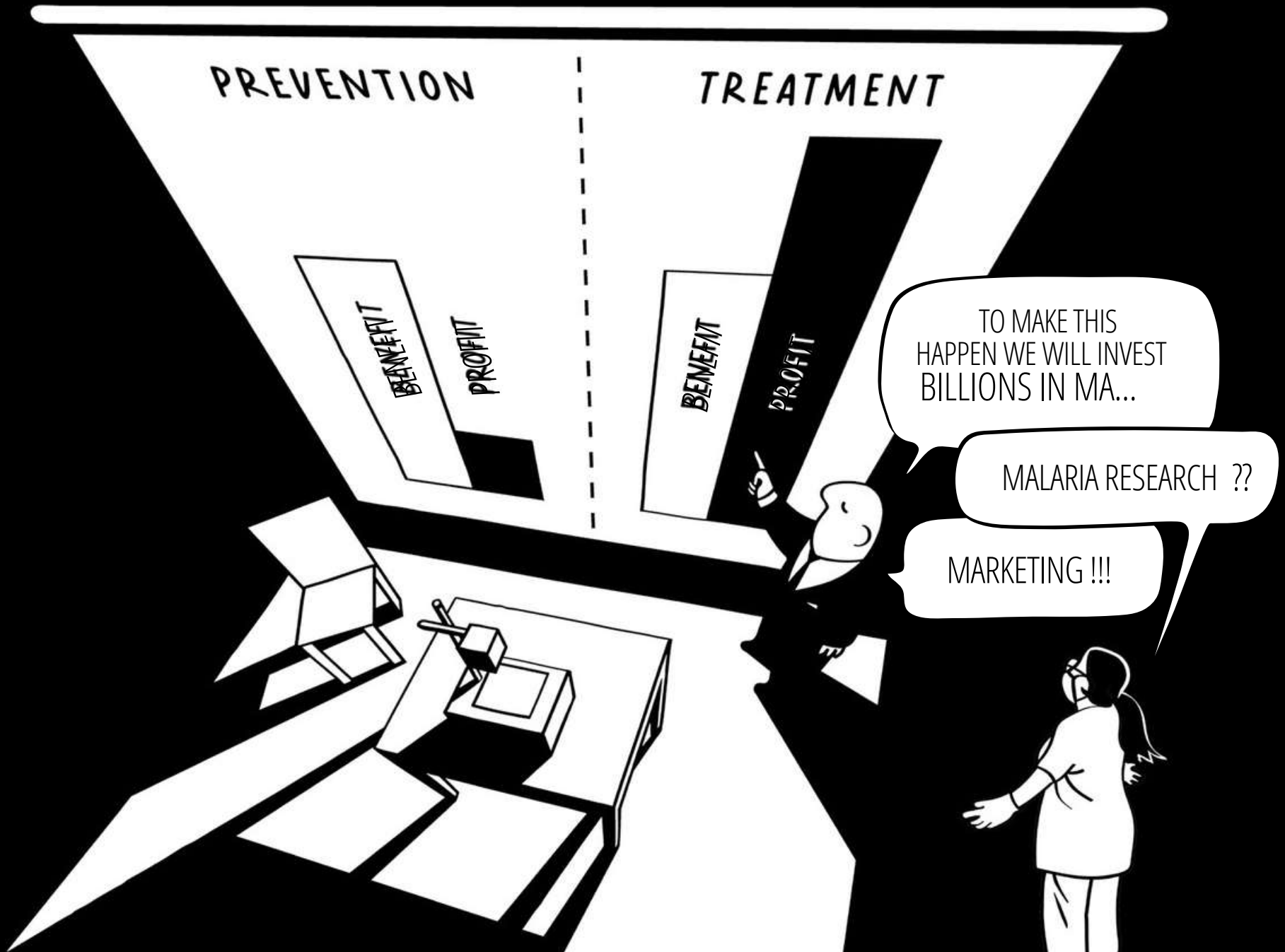
FOR DECADES, CORPORATIONS HAVE Poured BILLIONS OF DOLLARS INTO INFLUENCING REGULATIONS AND PUBLIC POLICIES TO PRIVATIZE ESSENTIAL PUBLIC SERVICES.

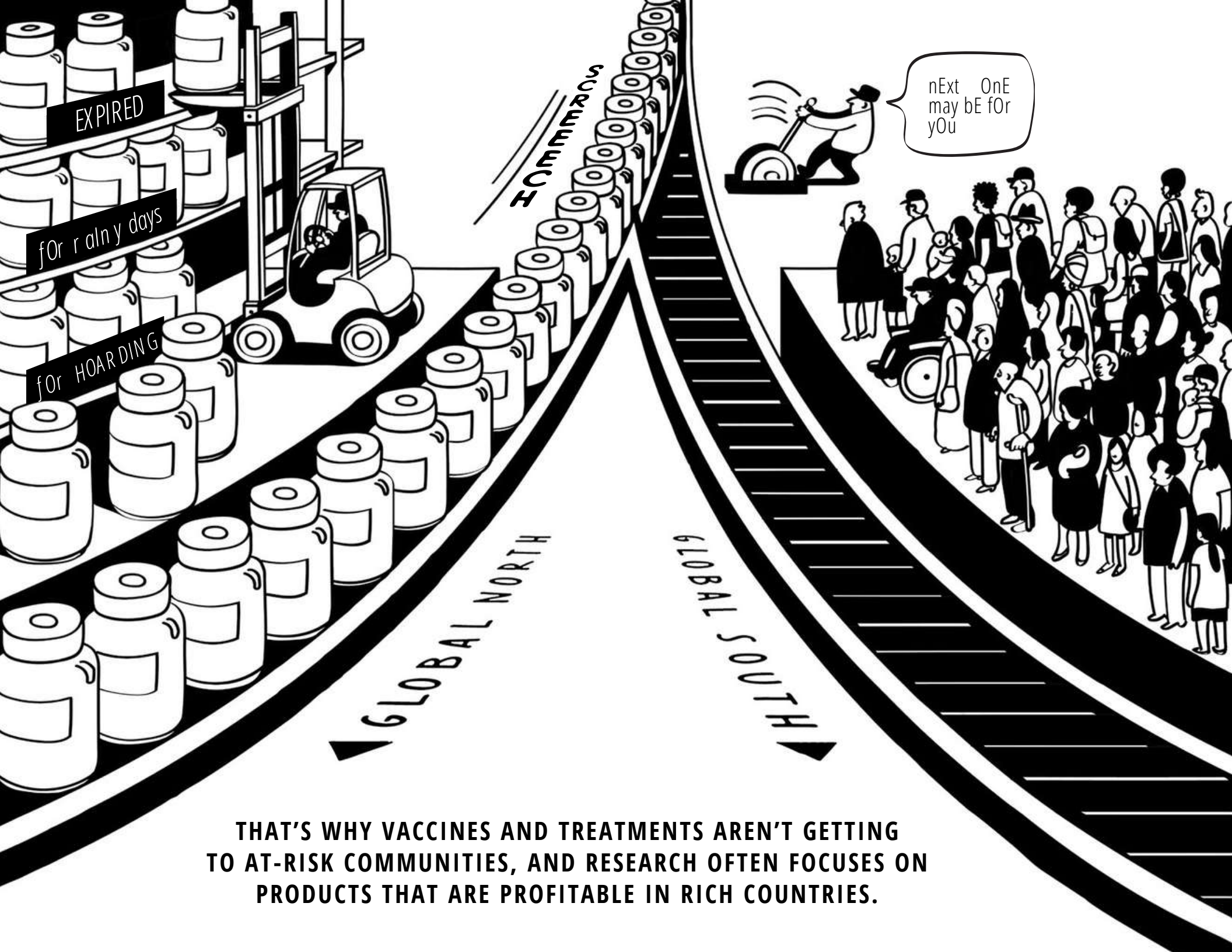




**DUE TO CORPORATE CAPTURE OF OUR GOVERNMENT DECISION-MAKING,  
OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS ARE BECOMING MORE AND MORE FRAGILE.**

SINCE HEALTHCARE IS BEING RUN AS A PROFIT-MAKING MACHINE,  
PHARMACEUTICAL CORPORATIONS OPERATE UNDER THE FREE MARKET.  
ECONOMY LOGIC: NO PROFIT = NO INVESTMENT.





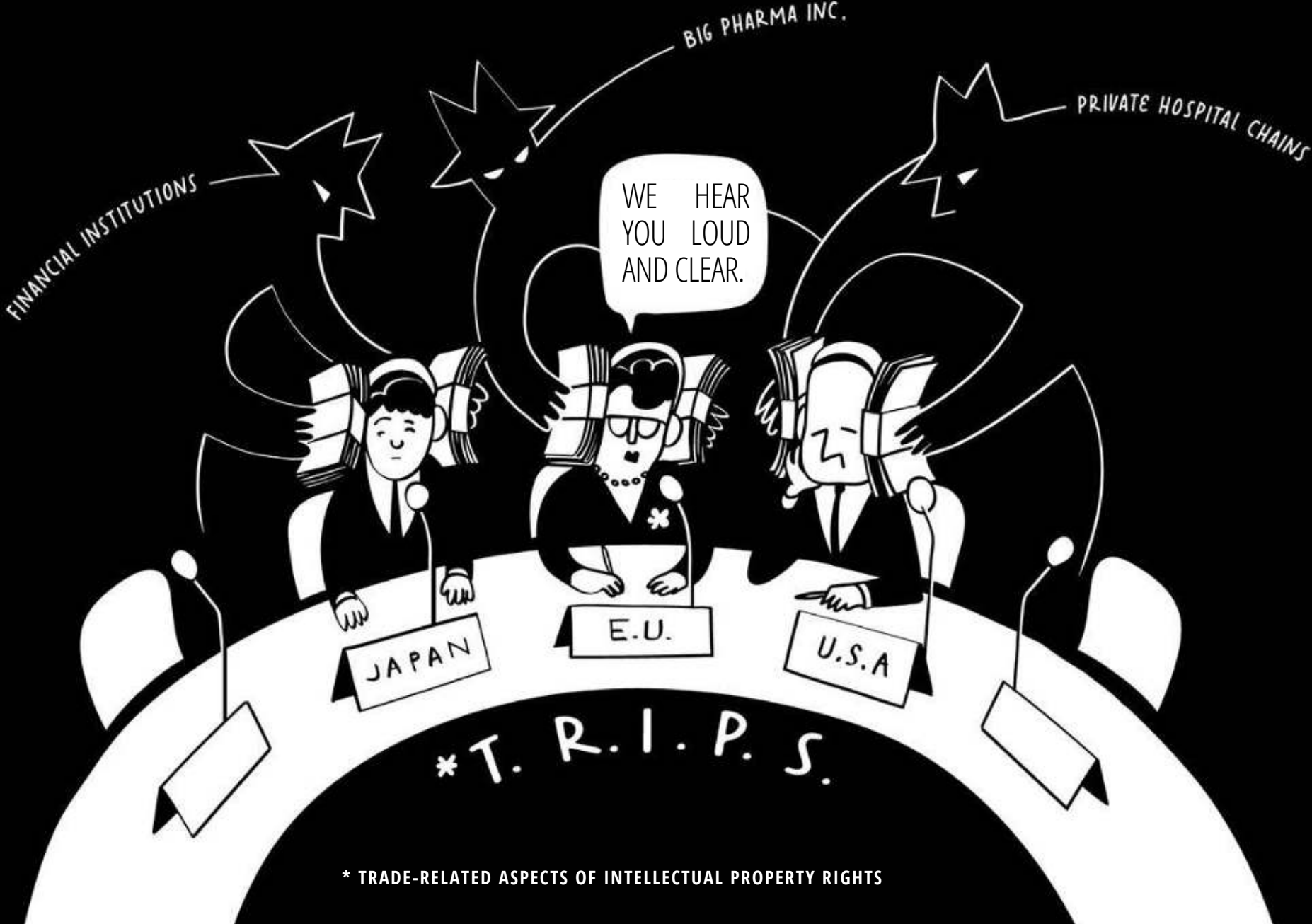
**THAT'S WHY VACCINES AND TREATMENTS AREN'T GETTING TO AT-RISK COMMUNITIES, AND RESEARCH OFTEN FOCUSES ON PRODUCTS THAT ARE PROFITABLE IN RICH COUNTRIES.**



**DECADES AGO, CORPORATE CAPTURE WAS DESIGNED UNDER THE GUISE OF  
“LIBERALISATION” TO MONOPOLIZE AND MAXIMIZE PROFIT THROUGH FREE TRADE  
AGREEMENTS, STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMS, THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY  
FUND, AND OTHER MULTI-STAKEHOLDER BODIES.**



FOR INSTANCE, TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO PFIZER AGGRESSIVELY LOBBIED RICHER GOVERNMENTS TO PUT IN PLACE REGULATIONS TO PROTECT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND PATENTS AT THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO).



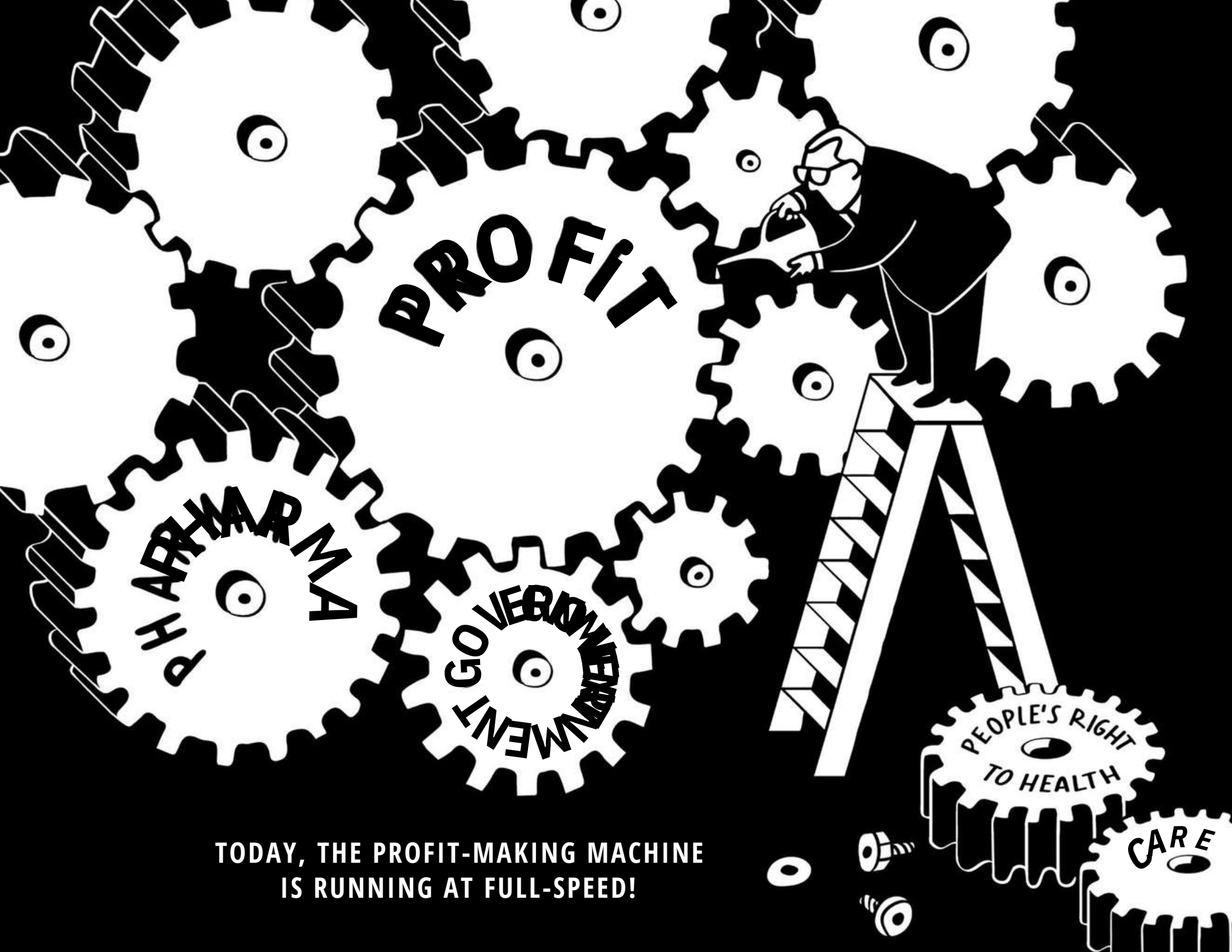
\* TRADE-RELATED ASPECTS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS



AS A RESULT, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PATENT PROTECTION POLICIES STARTED COSTING US OUR HEALTH. DURING THE HIV/AIDS CRISIS, **FOR EXAMPLE**, BIG PHARMA CAPTURED THE WTO AND BLOCKED THE RELEASE OF PATENTS FOR LIFE-SAVING ANTIRETROVIRAL MEDICATIONS, DEVASTATING MANY AT-RISK COMMUNITIES.

UNTIL CIVIL SOCIETY CHALLENGED CORPORATE ELITES TO PUT ACCESS TO TREATMENT FOR HIV/AIDS ON THE GLOBAL POLITICAL AGENDA





**PROFIT**

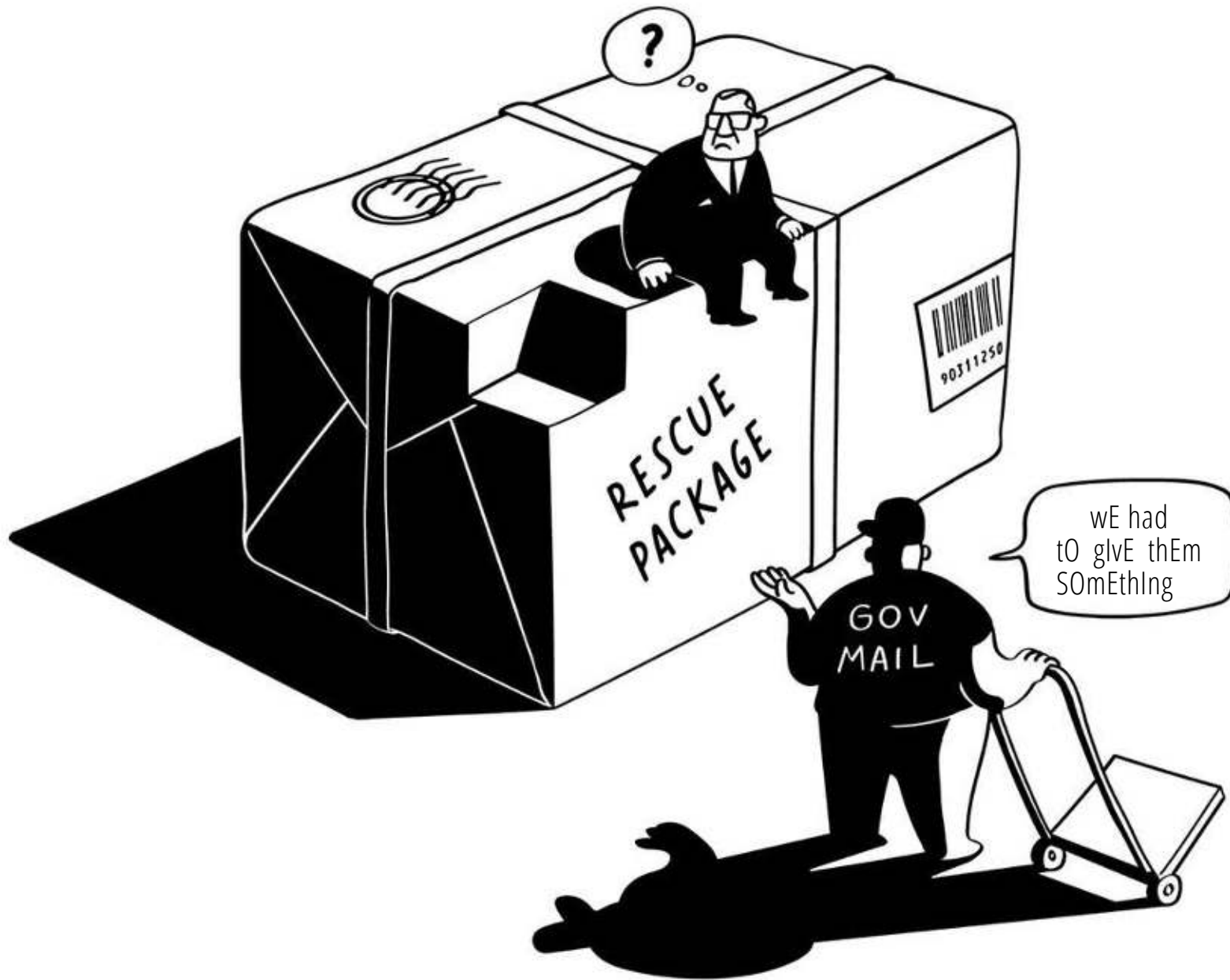
**PHARMACEUTICALS**

**GOVERNMENT**

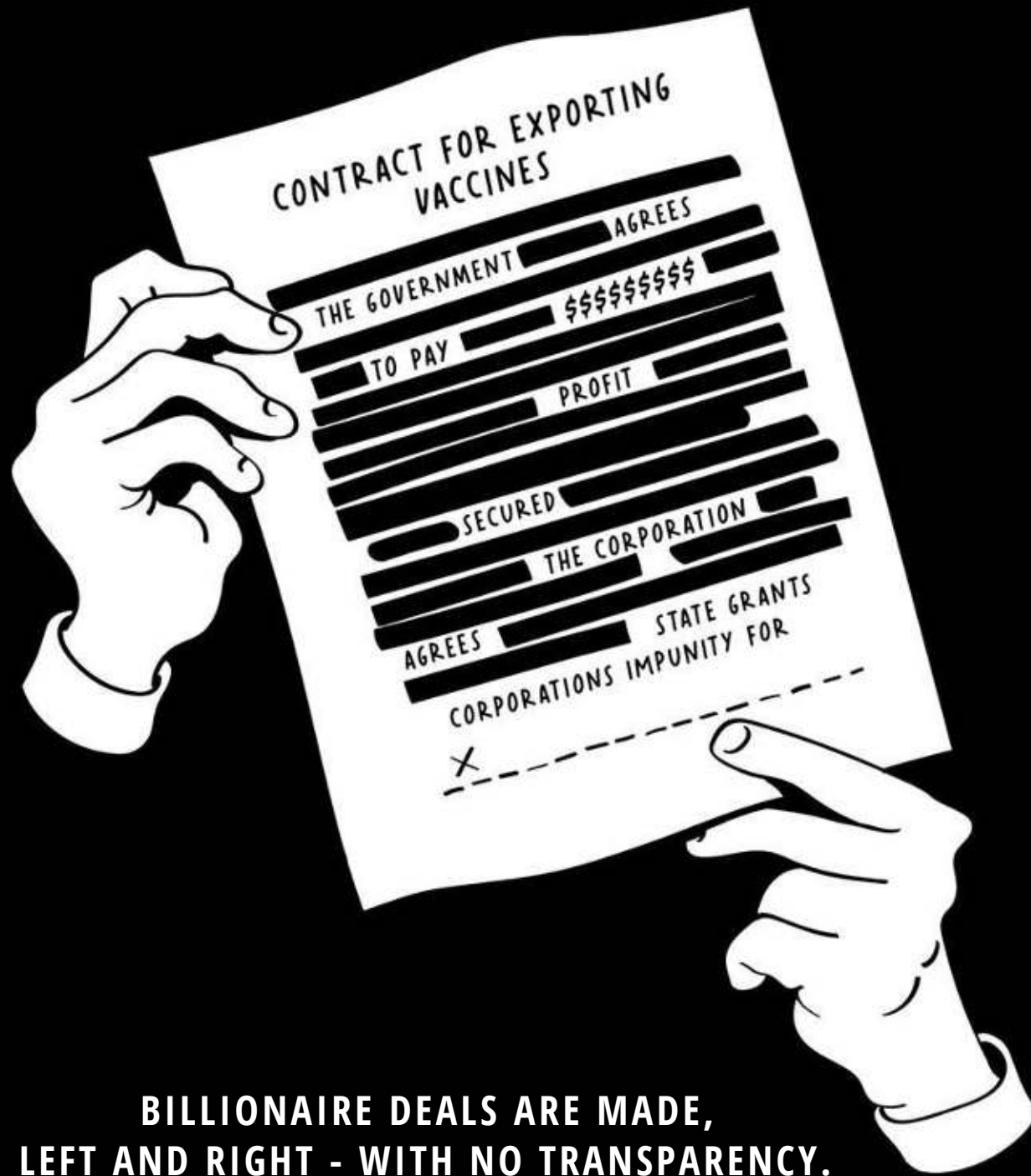
**PEOPLE'S RIGHT  
TO HEALTH**

**CARE**

**TODAY, THE PROFIT-MAKING MACHINE  
IS RUNNING AT FULL-SPEED!**



**AT TIMES OF CRISIS, PUBLIC EMERGENCY FUNDING IS PRIMARILY ALLOCATED TO CORPORATE ELITES WHILE PUBLIC SERVICES REMAIN UNDERFUNDED IN VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS!**



**BILLIONAIRE DEALS ARE MADE,  
LEFT AND RIGHT - WITH NO TRANSPARENCY.**



NO TO

GENERIC DRUG  
DEVELOPMENT

NO TO

SHARING  
TECHNOLOGY

AND  
KNOW-HOW

T

R

I

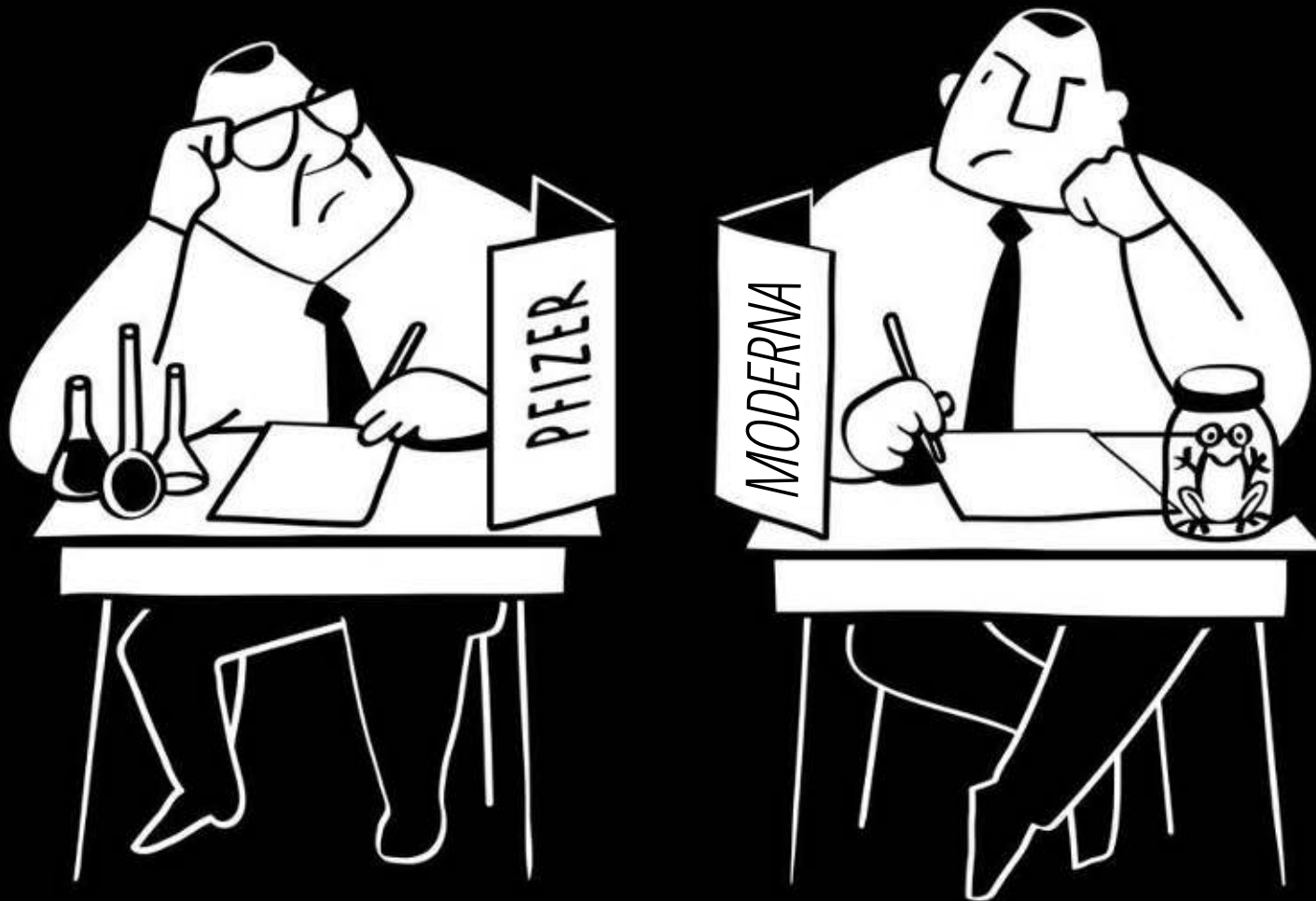
P

S

WTO  
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

AND ONCE AGAIN, CORPORATIONS DEPLOYED THEIR  
ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY ARTILLERY AT THE WTO,  
IGNORING GLOBAL CALLS TO WAIVE  
ACTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS  
VACCINES

**...REFUSING TO VOLUNTARILY SHARE THEIR KNOW-HOW AND TECHNOLOGY THAT COULD EXPEDITE VACCINE MANUFACTURING.**





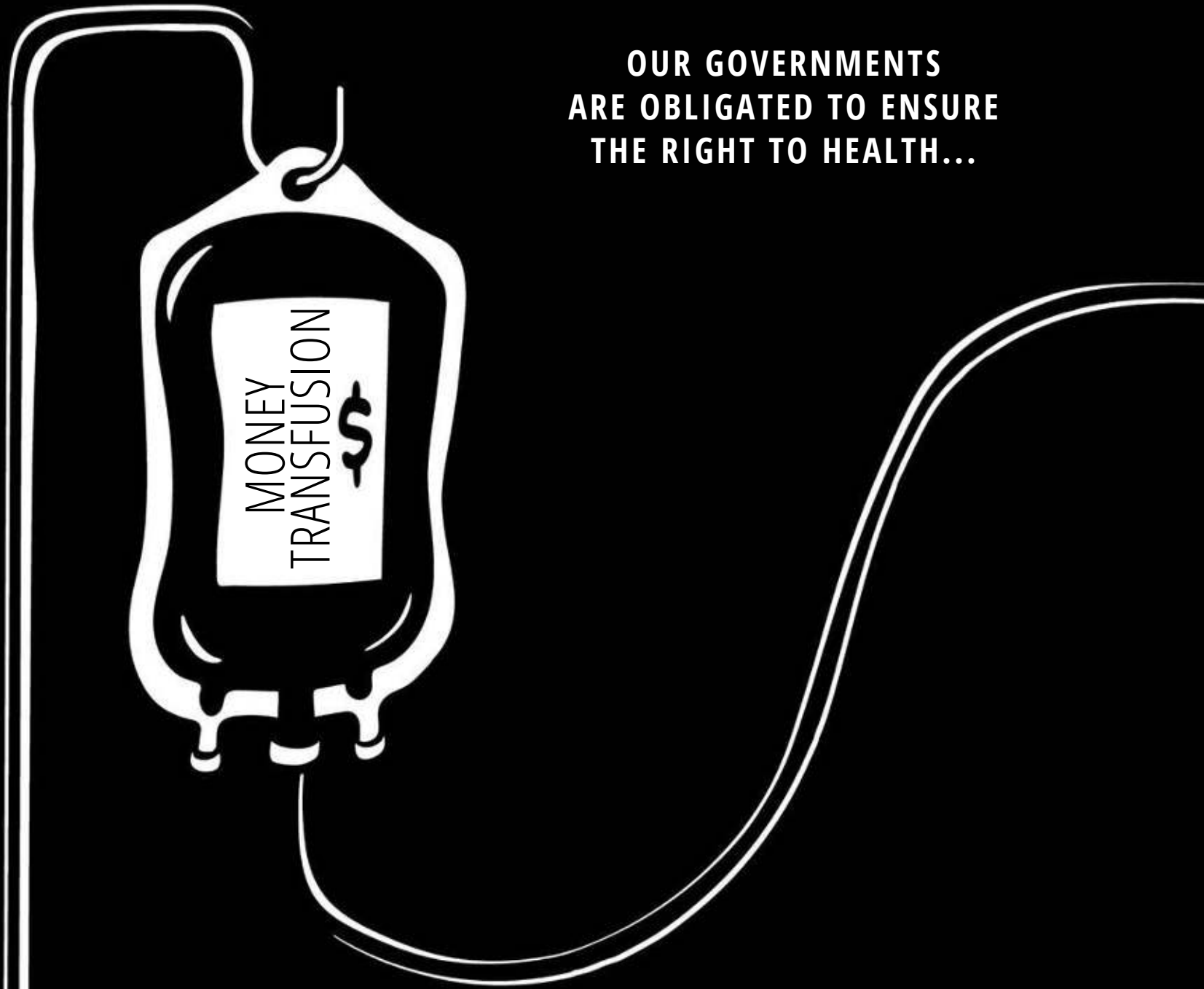
THE GRIM TRUTH IS THAT IF GOVERNMENTS  
CONTINUE TO PRIORITIZE PROFIT OVER PEOPLE,  
MANY AT-RISK COMMUNITIES MAY NEVER  
BE VACCINATED

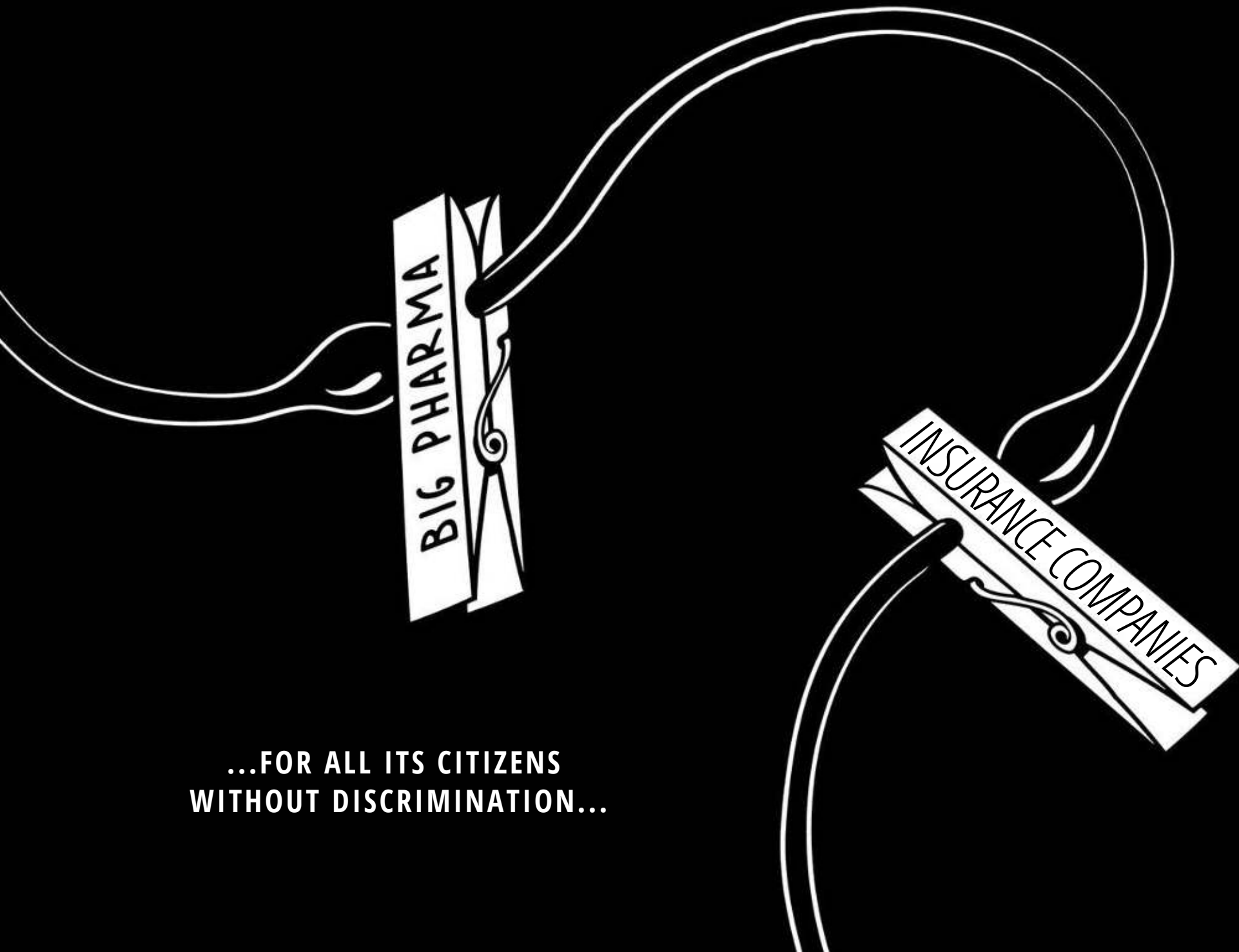


ANYTHING

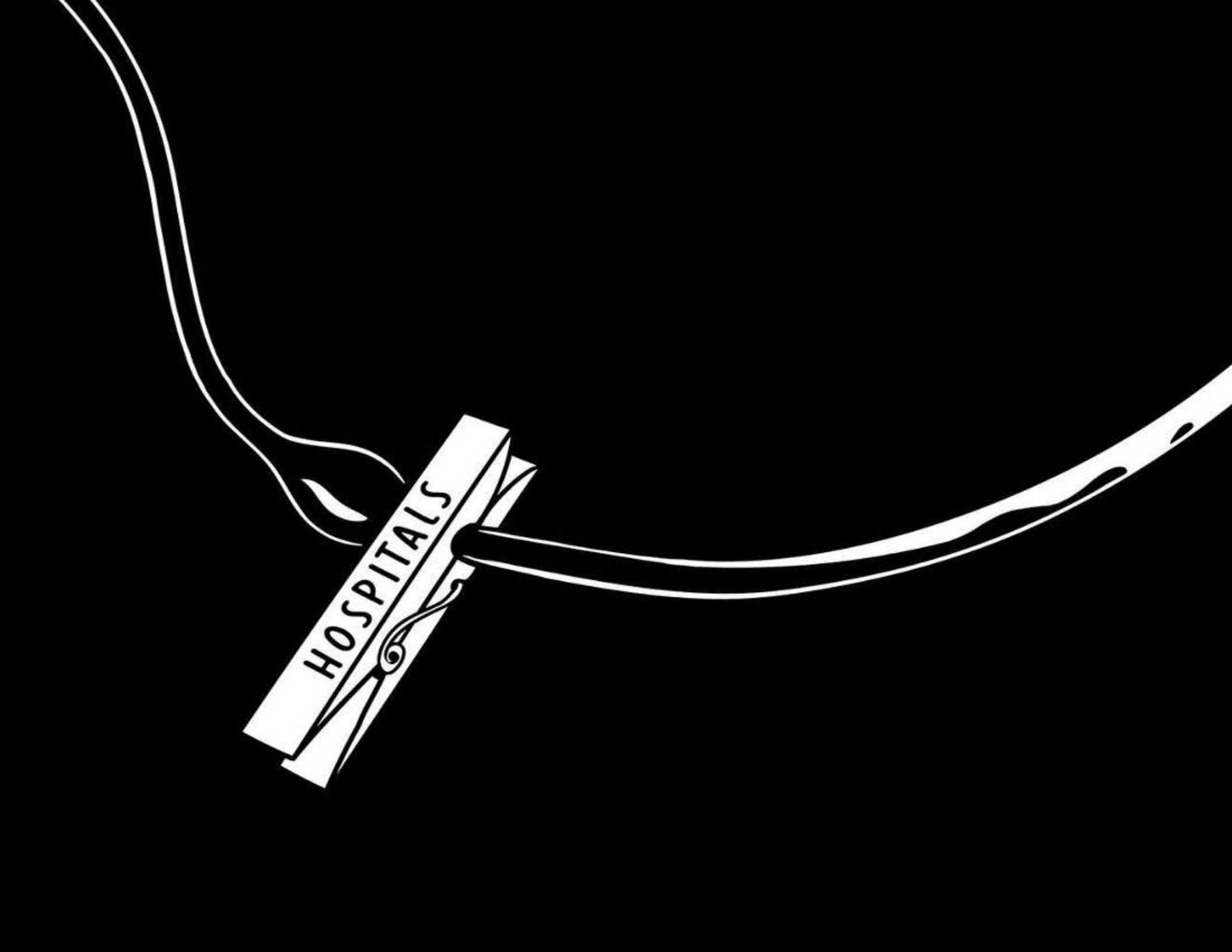
NOPE,  
NOTHING

**OUR GOVERNMENTS  
ARE OBLIGATED TO ENSURE  
THE RIGHT TO HEALTH...**





**...FOR ALL ITS CITIZENS  
WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION...**



HOSPITALS

**BUT BECAUSE  
OF CORPORATE  
CAPTURE...**

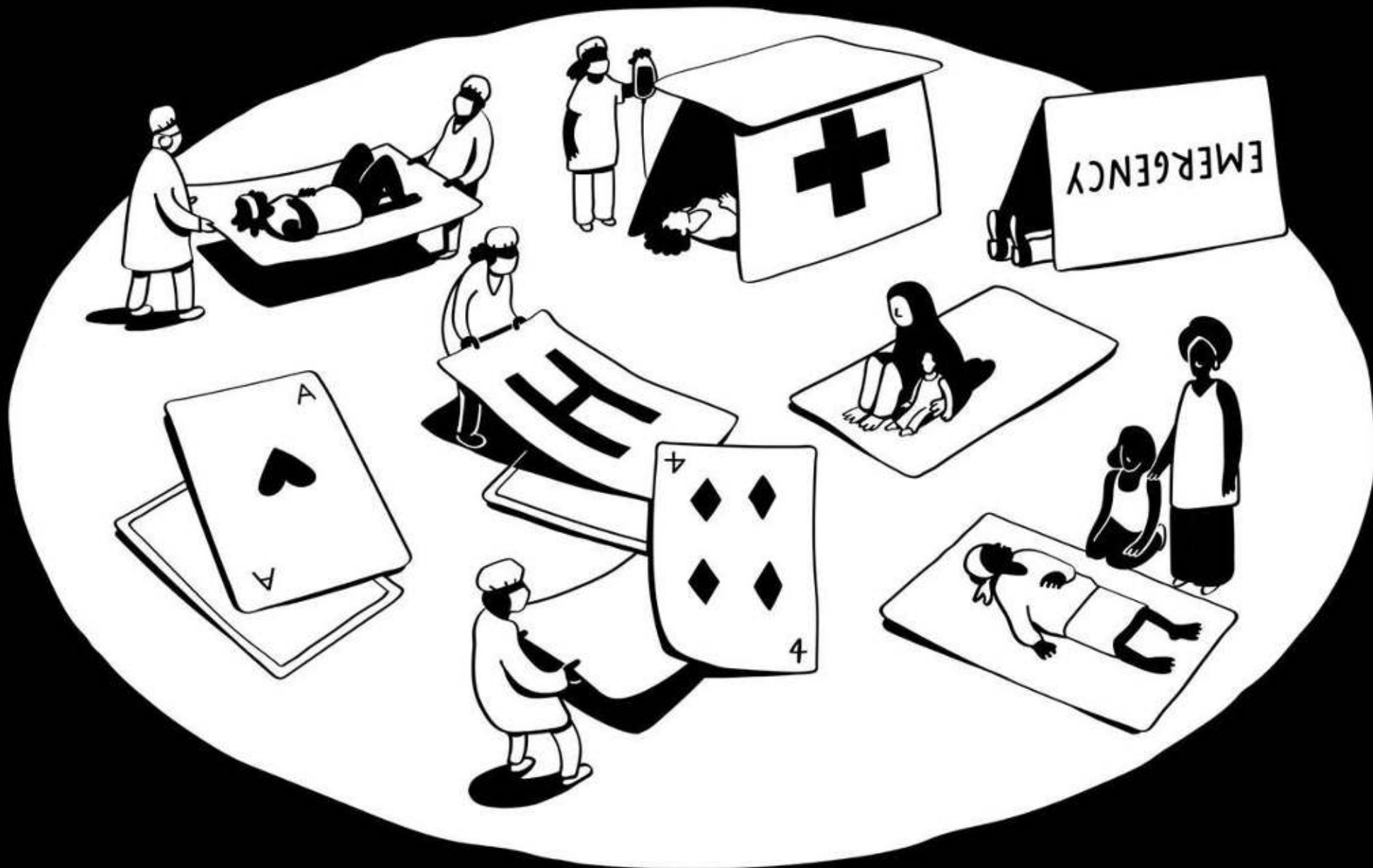




**...THEY HAVE ALLOWED CORPORATIONS TO BECOME POWERFUL ACTORS MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT OUR HEALTH.**



**MEANWHILE, THE INEQUALITY IN HEALTHCARE KEEPS  
WIDENING AND SEGREGATING CITIZENS INTO THOSE WHO CAN  
AFFORD HEALTH AND THOSE WHO CANNOT.**



**AROUND THE WORLD, THOSE MOST AFFECTED BY STRUCTURAL ECONOMIC, RACIAL, AND GENDER INEQUALITIES, ARE EVEN MORE VULNERABLE TO THE DEVASTATING HEALTH EFFECTS OF FRAGILE HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS, ESPECIALLY DURING A PANDEMIC.**






**BUT GLOBALLY, GROWING VOICES ARE DEMANDING  
THAT WE ARE RIGHTS-HOLDERS, NOT CUSTOMERS...**



**...AND ARE ORGANIZING TO BUILD THE FOUNDATION FOR A SOCIETY IN WHICH THE WELL-BEING OF THE 99% IS AT THE CENTER OF PUBLIC POLICIES AND OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.**



IF YOU TOO ARE FEELING  
SICK OF CORPORATIONS  
TURNING HEALTH  
INTO A COMMODITY  
JOIN US TO...



STOP  
CORPORATE  
CAPTURE

OUR  
HEALTH-  
CARE  
IS NOT  
FOR SALE!

HEALTH  
OVER  
PROFIT

RIGHT  
TO HEALTH

HEALTH  
CARE  
NOT FOR  
SALE

RIGHT  
TO  
HEALTH

STAY TUNED FOR OUR NEXT EPISODES  
ON CORPORATE CAPTURE AND VISIT  
ESCR-NET.ORG TO LEARN MORE.

THANK YOU TO ESCR-NET MEMBERS CHALLENGING CAPTURE AROUND THE  
WORLD, WHOSE COLLECTIVE ANALYSIS AND ACTIONS INFORM THIS COMIC.

الشبكة العالمية  
للحقوق الاقتصادية  
والاجتماعية والثقافية



ESCR-Net  
Red-DESC  
Réseau-DESC