

Media Matters scoffs at claim that insurance companies save lives

By: [J.P. Freire](#)

Associate Commentary Editor

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President Obama and Speaker Pelosi are undoubtedly better at providing people with the care they need than insurance companies, according to the hyperbolic headline of this Media Matters [blogpost](#): "Worst. Talking point. Ever."

There, they highlight a quote by the Cato Institute's Michael Cannon, in which he says: "Insurance companies save more lives in a single day than President Obama or Nancy Pelosi will save in their entire lifetimes." The video is below.



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What's wrong here? Cannon's point that insurance companies attempt to maximize care for the maximum amount of people possible under budgetary constraints is a fact, not an opinion. The claim that government-run health care will be more responsive to people ignores that it will be subject to political decision-making, government waste, and unnatural price controls.

Also, if we're going to split hairs about it, insurance companies cannot wage war. Wacky result: Obama kills more people than insurance companies. Should he be trusted with your health care? (Take that straw man!)