

# Summary Response Essay



As the title of the article stipulates, the issue under discussion is new in the Obamacare program. The article raises concern over the plight of millions of Americans who risk losing health insurance after their states rejected the Medicaid. The interesting point to note though is the fact that the majority of the states that rejected the Medicaid are in the Bible Belt region of the United States. As a consequence, the rejection has been thought to have a connection with religion. It is evident from the article that some of the religious leaders from the Bible Belt believe that it is the duty of the church to take care of the poor. This argument was brought forward by Rev. Phil Wages, a senior pastor at Winterville First Baptist Church.

It is clear from the article that a few pastors from the Bible Belt are willing to talk about the health insurance issue. When contacted, Joel Osteen and T.D Jakes refused to comment on the matter. Although these religious leaders are not willing to talk about the issue, it was interesting to note that Rev. Timothy McDonald's argument was for all Americans to be covered by the health insurance. The main reason why these popular pastors refuse to talk about the issue is because they believe it is a political issue, which might divide their congregation. However, according to Rev. Shane, it is a matter of justice for the poor as opposed to a political matter. He, therefore, argues that religious leaders must talk about the issue of the

coverage gap.

According to Rev. Shane, failure by these popular evangelists to speak out renders them hypocritical. He asserts that they immediately respond when their personal matters are affected by government policies. For instance, the evangelists openly speak about same-sex marriages and abortion.

In conclusion, it is evident that the coverage gap has left millions of poor Americans without health insurance by virtue of where they live. It is responsibility of all leaders, be they religious or political, to campaign for the acceptance of the Medicaid in order to cater for the poor Americans.

