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Shame on Michael Moore!

On "Capitalism: A Love Story" by Michael Moore

This is a classic case of don't believe everything you see on film! While Moore is right to lay into the corporations, I don't believe he knows what capitalism is: that it's not an idea, but a system of society that has evolved in history. But what really and finally made me turn off with revulsion was his sickening praise of Salk the vivisector and blender of monkeys' kidneys. The viewer is left with the notion that Salk was a sainted and selfless benefactor of humanity and that vivisection, instead of being part and parcel of the exploitative capitalist system (claiming easy government money for its perpetrators – patents or not!), is a worthwhile, beneficial and useful activity! Sod the monkeys, and any other animals who need be "sacrificed"! The truth about the polio vaccine is given in Hans Ruesch's SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENT, but Moore hasn't researched this, and neither will his viewers ever bother to, and are thus left none the wiser.

«The discovery of Salk's polio vaccine was greeted with a wave of enthusiasm comparable with the enthusiasm that greeted Koch's Tuberkulin - when it was first announced. [...] But already before Salk developed his vaccine, polio had been constantly regressing: the 39 cases out of every 100,000 inhabitants registered in 1942 had gradually diminished from year to year, until they were reduced to only 15 cases in 1952, the year the vaccination went into effect [...]

But soon the Salk vaccine was regarded as dangerous, so much so that it was replaced by Sabin's, which shortly revealed new dangers [...] as they came under suspicion of containing a cancerogenic potential.

Even more confusing becomes the polio question on examination of the basic vital statistics of the New York State Office of Bio-statistics (exclusive of New York City) for the period between 1922 and 1962. The death rate per 100,000 population fluctuated only slightly throughout that period. Mass vaccination was administered from 1958 to 1962 in large centers, where polio cases were already on the decline. However, in the large rural areas, especially the Rocky Mountain states where very little vaccination took place, the case rate dropped by the same ratio as in the large centers where vaccination was common. On nationwide debates on radio and TV involving 38 American doctors, not one of them was able to offer an explanation for all this; much less for the fact that polio has almost completely vanished from Europe, where the great majority of the population was never inoculated. [...]

"Salk and Sabin vaccine [is] taken from monkeys - over a million monkeys used so far [Ruesch's book came out in 1978 - AKW]. Dr. Hayflick's human cell culture can produce enough vaccine to last the world forever; the vaccine cells reproduce themselves and can be permanently frozen until used, and every laboratory in the world has access to these cells. Yet monkeys are still used by the tens of thousands. Why? Easy government money" [quoted from Owen B. Hunt, 1975]» (*Slaughter of Innocent*, pp. 195, 340).

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