



**CHAPTER**  
**23**

 Section 2  
**Socialism**

With the rise of medical costs in this country, the concept of a national health care system has become a hotly debated issue. A national health care system is a medical system which is paid for by public money raised by taxes. Countries such as Great Britain and Canada already have such a plan in place, though there are mixed feelings about their effectiveness. Study the cartoon below and answer the questions that follow.



Jerry L. Barnett, Indianapolis News 1974

### Interpreting Political Cartoons

1. Who are the figures in the cartoon supposed to represent?
2. What is the implication of the caption of the cartoon?
3. What is the attitude of the cartoonist towards a national health care system?
4. **Recognizing Ideologies** National health plans are described by some as "socialized medicine," and by others as a fair system of providing health care for all. What is your opinion? Defend your point of view.