You gotta pay to play!

Advocacy in EMS
All Politics Is Thymotic

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CORRECTION APPENDED

Let me tell you what men want. Let me tell you why some middle-age men wear the sports jerseys of semilliterate behemoths half their age while others customize their cars with so many speakers they sound like the hip-hop version of the San Francisco earthquake as they roll down the street.

Recognition. Men want others to recognize their significance. They want to feel important and part of something important.

Some people believe men are motivated by greed for money or lust for power. But money and power are means to get recognition. They are markers of success, and success makes men feel important and causes others to pay attention when they walk in the room.

Plato famously divided the soul into three parts: reason, eros (desire) and thymos (the hunger for recognition). Thymos is what motivates the best and worst things men do. It drives them to seek glory and assert themselves aggressively for noble causes. It drives them to rage if others don’t recognize their worth. Sometimes it even causes them to kill over a trifle if they feel disrespected.

Plato went on to point out that people are not only sensitive about their own self-worth, they are also sensitive about the dignity of their group, and the dignity of others. If a group is denied the dignity it deserves, we call that injustice. Thymotic people mobilize to assert their group’s significance if they feel they are being made or invisible by society. Thymotic
Why?

• Impact
• Direct results
• Effect change
How

- Contact with your legislator
  - Email
  - Phone
  - In person

- Often the staffer has the biggest impact
Stakeholders

• Coalitions provide strength
• Broad based support
• Identify roadblocks

• ACEP/NAEMSP/NAEMT/AHA/AAA/IAFF/IAFC and many others
Lobbyist

- Current system
- Hate the game not the player
17 restaurants where Washington, DC's elite go for a power lunch
Advantages

- Patient/provider orientated discussion
- Public safety – Public trust
- If you are not asking for money, much better chance of success
Protecting Patients Access to Emergency Medications Act

• HR 304
  • Passed House by unanimous consent

• Senate
  • Last year
  • Current status
  • Language modifications
  • Process
EMS Highlights for 2017

• Strengthen EMS Act
  • Language is being reworked based on stakeholder feedback
  • Planned introduction this year

• Payment Reform
  • Partnering with AAA /NAEMT
  • Initiatives to improve reimbursement to ems agencies

• EMS Memorial
  • Reintroduced this year
• EMS Caucus
  • Increase participation of congressional members

• Mission Zero (trauma)
  • HR 88o
  • Zero preventable deaths goal
  • Grants for trauma centers
Thank you!
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