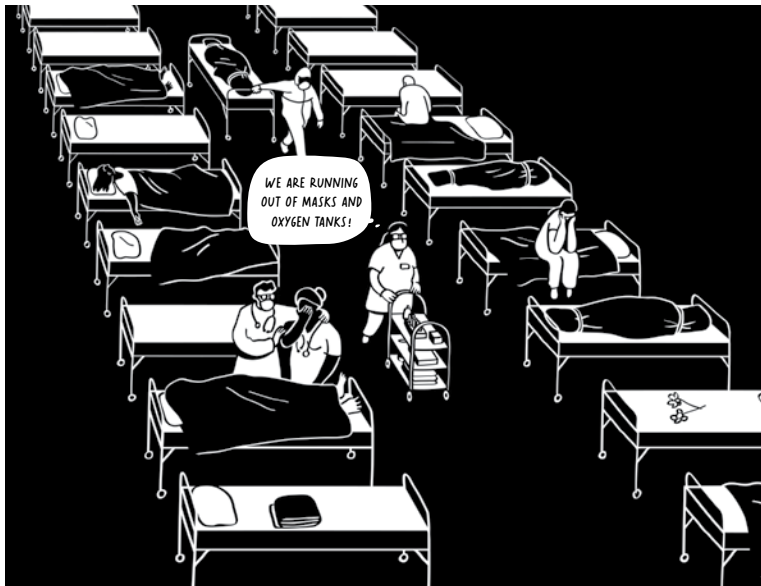


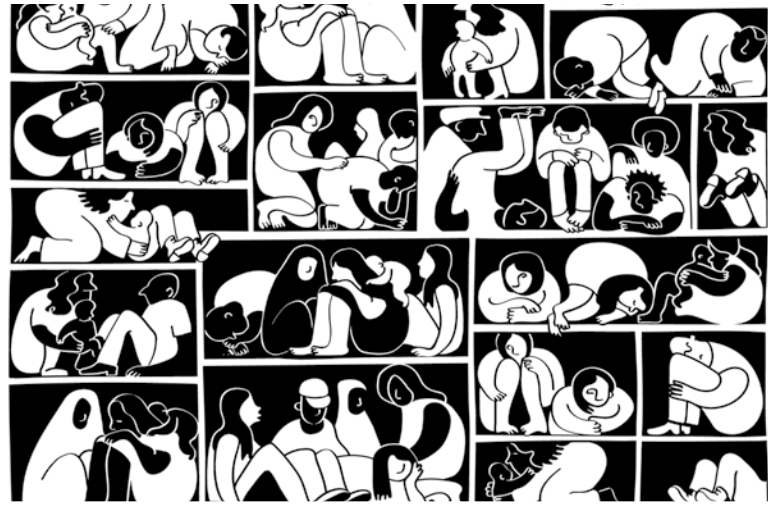
THE POWER OF THE 99% TO STOP CORPORATE CAPTURE

A COMIC SERIES ON THE GROWING INFLUENCE OF CORPORATE ELITES OVER GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND HOW PEOPLE ARE BUILDING COLLECTIVE POWER TO RESIST GLOBALLY.

THE POWER
OF THE 99% TO
STOP CORPORATE
CAPTURE OF OUR
**HEALTHCARE
SYSTEMS**



ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE LIVING IN
CONFLICT-AFFECTED AREAS...



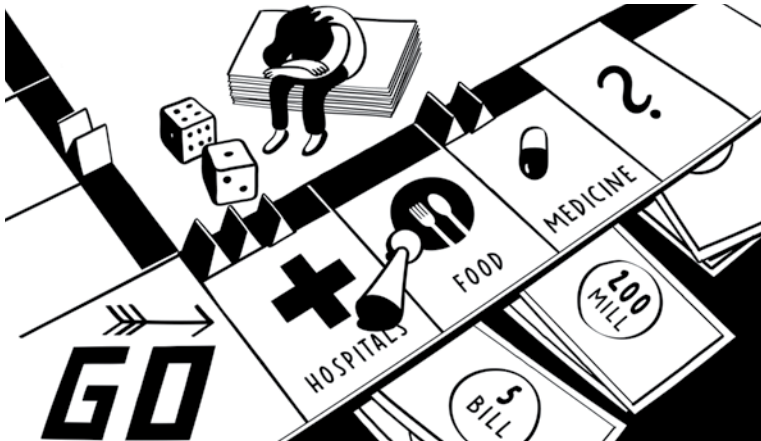
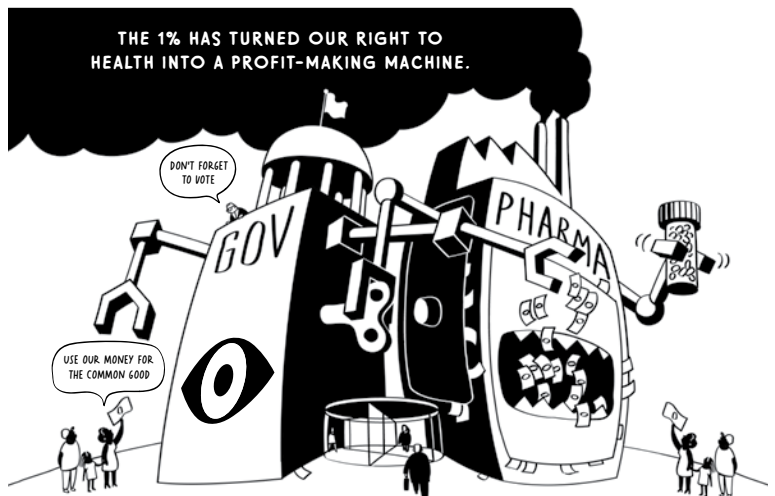
...AND FOR THOSE MOST AFFECTED BY STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES.



FOR THE 99% OF US, OUR HEALTH IS A COMMON GOOD -
A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT BELONGING TO ALL!



HOWEVER, FOR A FEW: OUR HEALTH IS A COMMODITY.

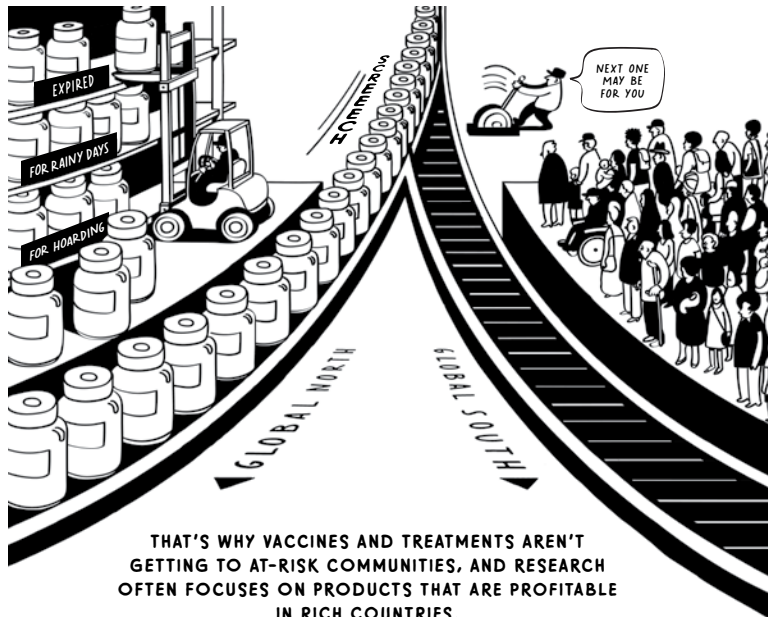
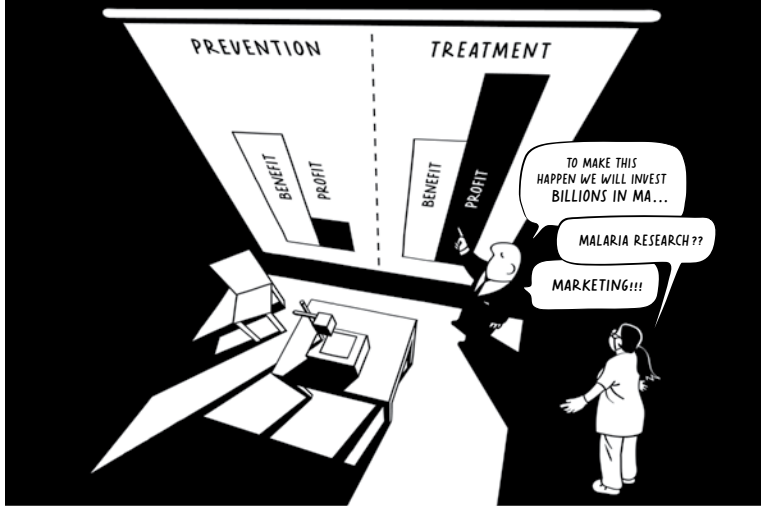


FOR DECADES, CORPORATIONS HAVE POURED BILLIONS OF DOLLARS
INTO INFLUENCING REGULATIONS AND PUBLIC POLICIES TO PRIVATIZE
ESSENTIAL PUBLIC SERVICES.



DUE TO CORPORATE CAPTURE OF OUR GOVERNMENT DECISION-MAKING,
OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS ARE BECOMING MORE AND MORE FRAGILE.

SINCE HEALTHCARE IS BEING RUN AS A PROFIT-MAKING MACHINE, PHARMACEUTICAL CORPORATIONS OPERATE UNDER THE FREE MARKET. ECONOMY LOGIC: NO PROFIT = NO INVESTMENT.



THAT'S WHY VACCINES AND TREATMENTS AREN'T GETTING TO AT-RISK COMMUNITIES, AND RESEARCH OFTEN FOCUSES ON PRODUCTS THAT ARE PROFITABLE IN RICH COUNTRIES.



DECADES AGO, CORPORATE CAPTURE WAS DESIGNED UNDER THE GUISE OF "LIBERALISATION" TO MONOPOLIZE AND MAXIMIZE PROFIT THROUGH FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS, STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMS, THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND, AND OTHER MULTI-STAKEHOLDER BODIES.



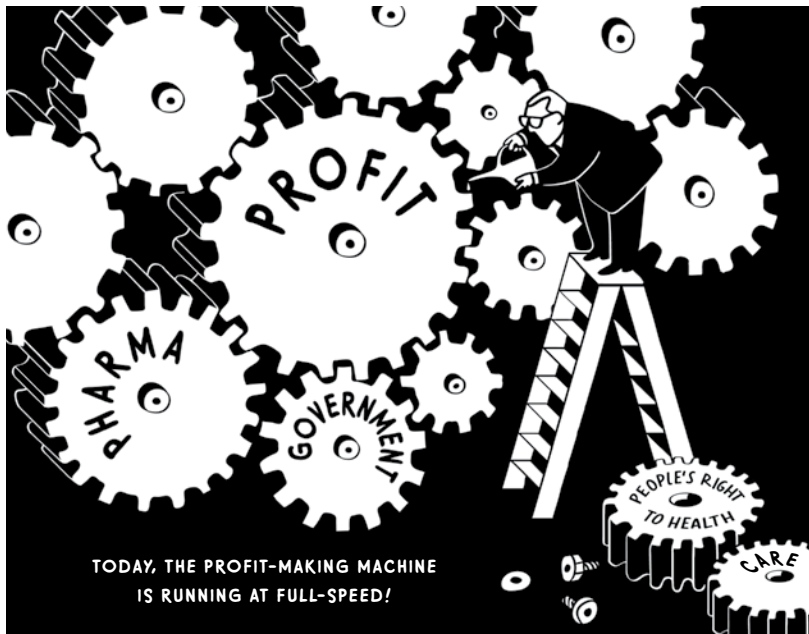
* TRADE-RELATED ASPECTS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

UNTIL CIVIL SOCIETY CHALLENGED CORPORATE ELITES TO PUT ACCESS TO TREATMENT FOR HIV/AIDS ON THE GLOBAL POLITICAL AGENDA

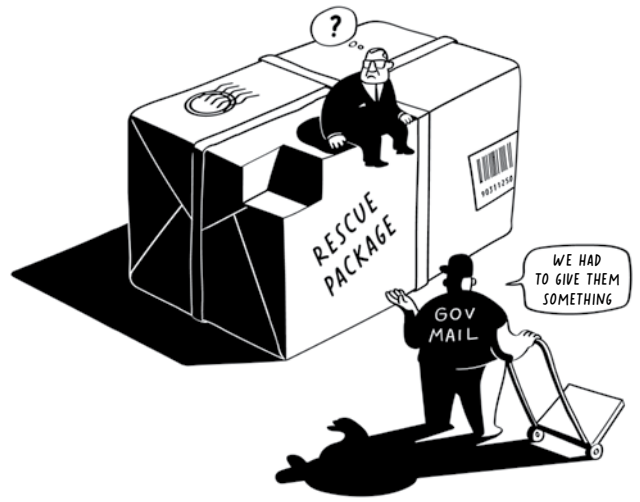


AS A RESULT, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PATENT PROTECTION POLICIES STARTED COSTING US OUR HEALTH. DURING THE HIV/AIDS CRISIS, FOR EXAMPLE, BIG PHARMA CAPTURED THE WTO AND BLOCKED THE RELEASE OF PATENTS FOR LIFE-SAVING ANTIRETROVIRAL MEDICATIONS, DEVASTATING MANY AT-RISK COMMUNITIES.

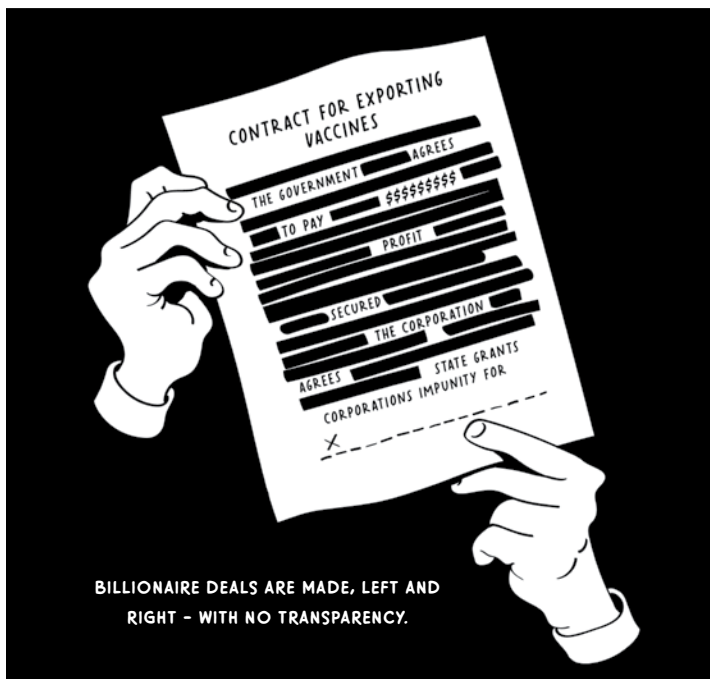




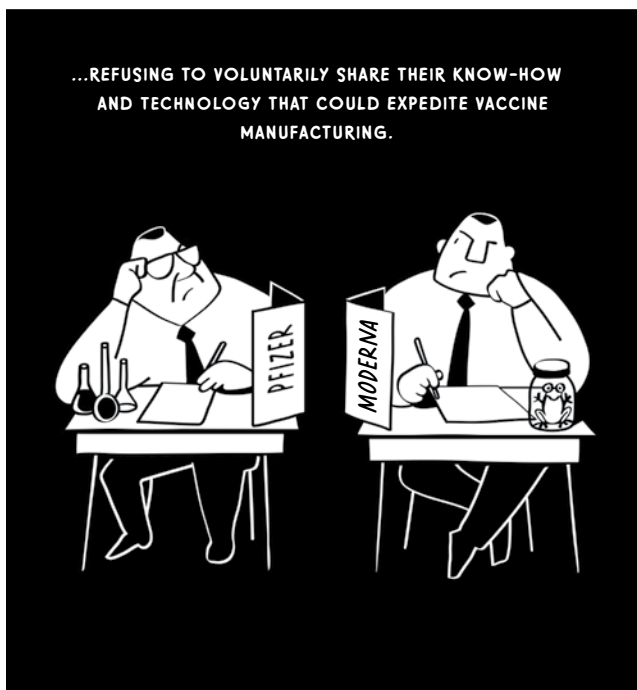
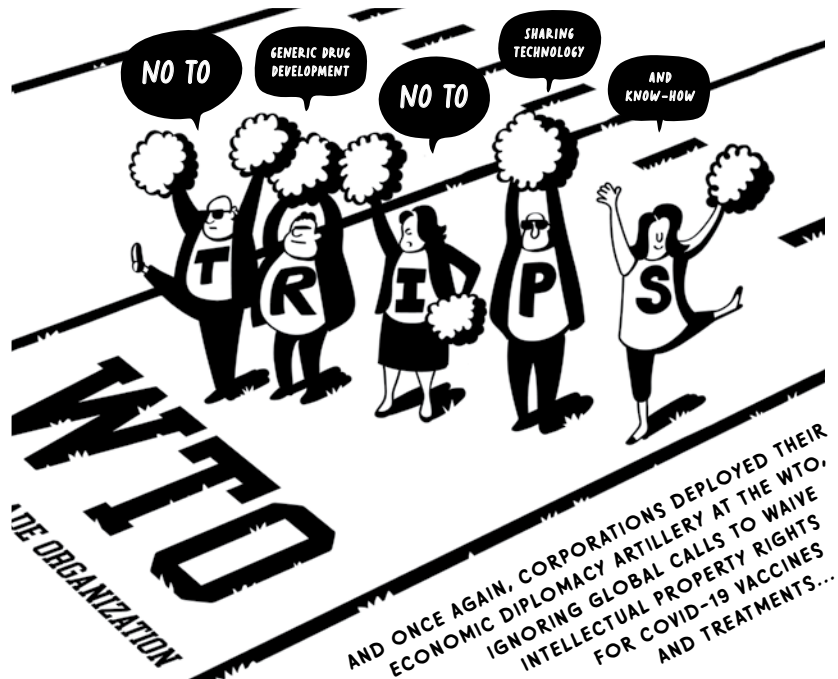
TODAY, THE PROFIT-MAKING MACHINE IS RUNNING AT FULL-SPEED!



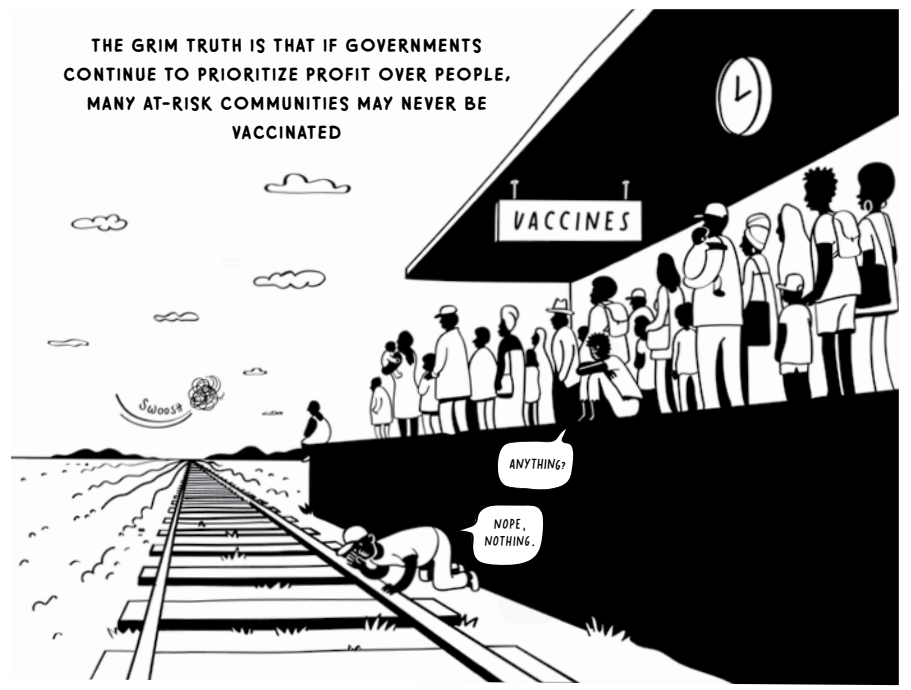
AT TIMES OF CRISIS, PUBLIC EMERGENCY FUNDING IS PRIMARILY ALLOCATED TO CORPORATE ELITES WHILE PUBLIC SERVICES REMAIN UNDERFUNDED IN VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS!



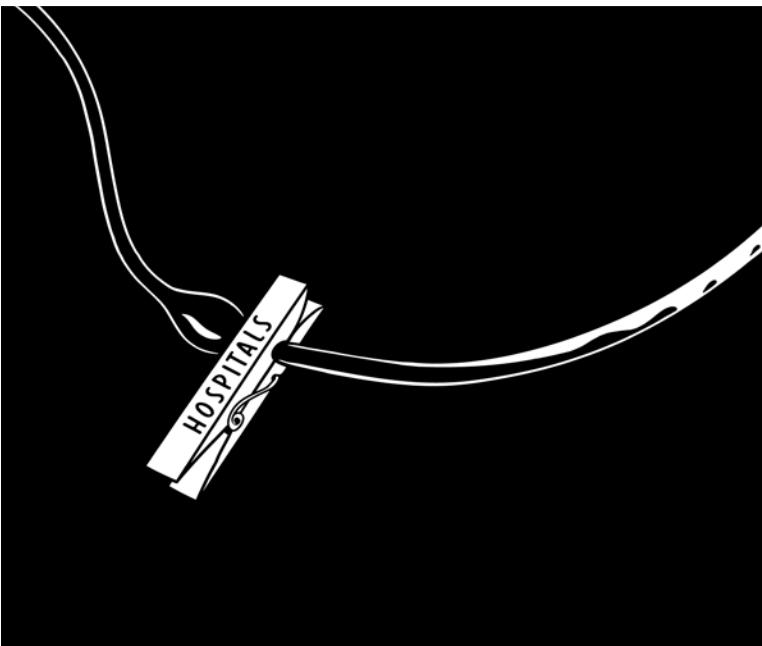
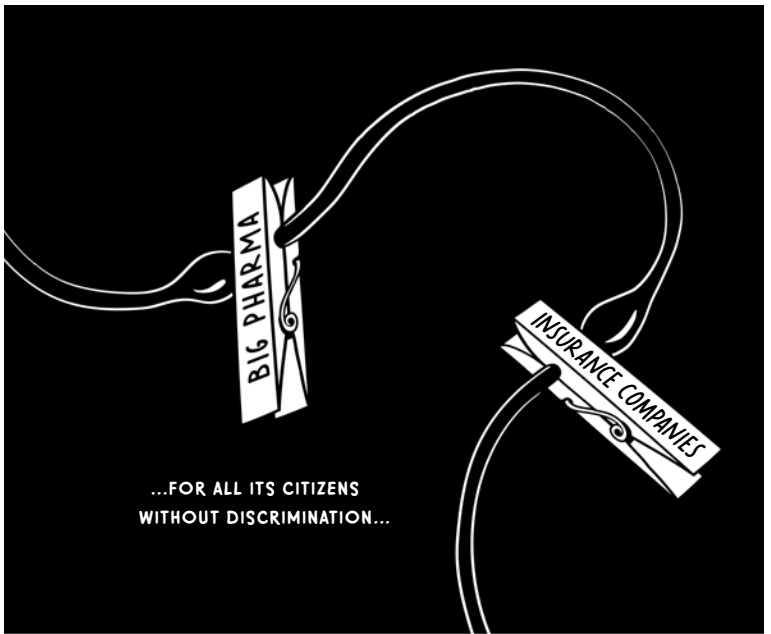
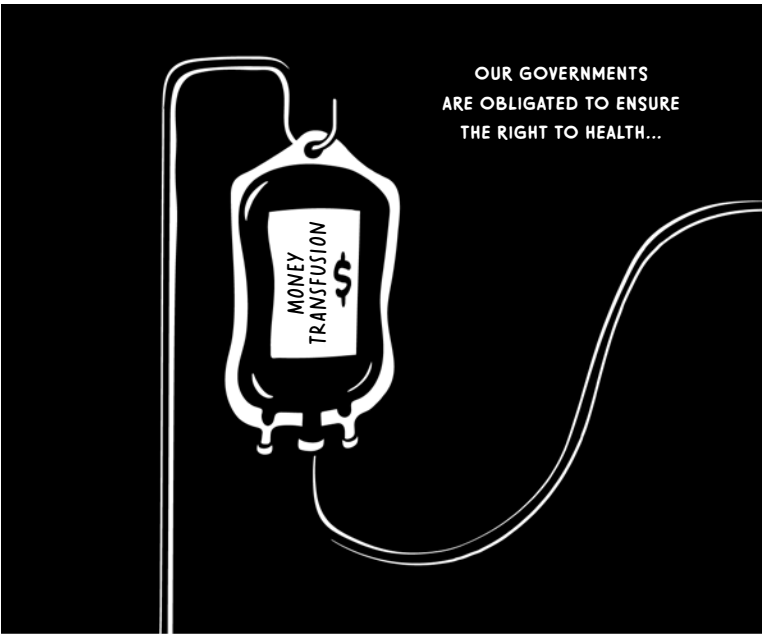
BILLIONAIRE DEALS ARE MADE, LEFT AND RIGHT - WITH NO TRANSPARENCY.



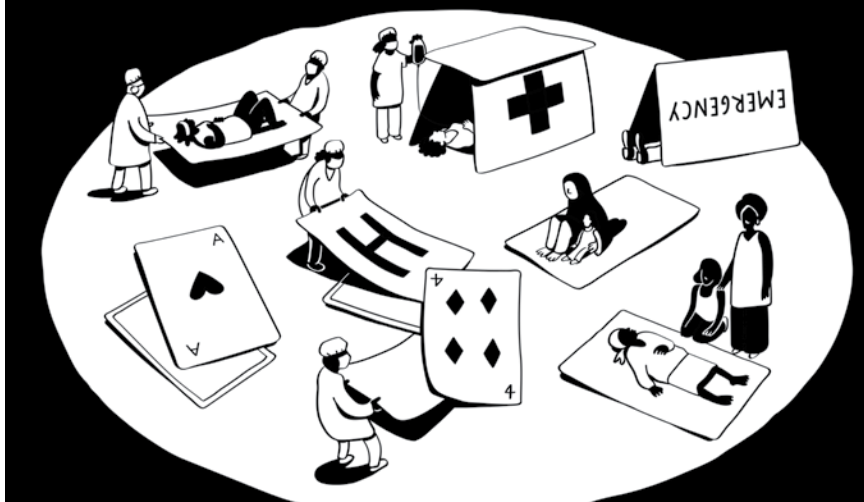
...REFUSING TO VOLUNTARILY SHARE THEIR KNOW-HOW AND TECHNOLOGY THAT COULD EXPEDITE VACCINE MANUFACTURING.



THE GRIM TRUTH IS THAT IF GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE TO PRIORITIZE PROFIT OVER PEOPLE, MANY AT-RISK COMMUNITIES MAY NEVER BE VACCINATED



AROUND THE WORLD, THOSE MOST AFFECTED BY STRUCTURAL ECONOMIC, RACIAL, AND GENDER INEQUALITIES, ARE EVEN MORE VULNERABLE TO THE DEVASTATING HEALTH EFFECTS OF FRAGILE HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS, ESPECIALLY DURING A PANDEMIC.



BUT GLOBALLY, GROWING VOICES ARE DEMANDING THAT WE ARE RIGHTS-HOLDERS, NOT CUSTOMERS...

...AND ARE ORGANIZING TO BUILD THE FOUNDATION FOR A SOCIETY IN WHICH THE WELL BEING OF THE 99%...



...IS AT THE CENTER OF PUBLIC POLICIES AND OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.



STAY TUNED FOR OUR NEXT EPISODES ON CORPORATE CAPTURE AND VISIT ESCR-NET.ORG TO LEARN MORE.

الشبكة العالمية
للحقوق الاقتصادية
والاجتماعية والثقافية



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THANK YOU TO ESCR-NET MEMBERS CHALLENGING CAPTURE AROUND THE WORLD, WHOSE COLLECTIVE ANALYSIS AND ACTIONS INFORM THIS COMIC.