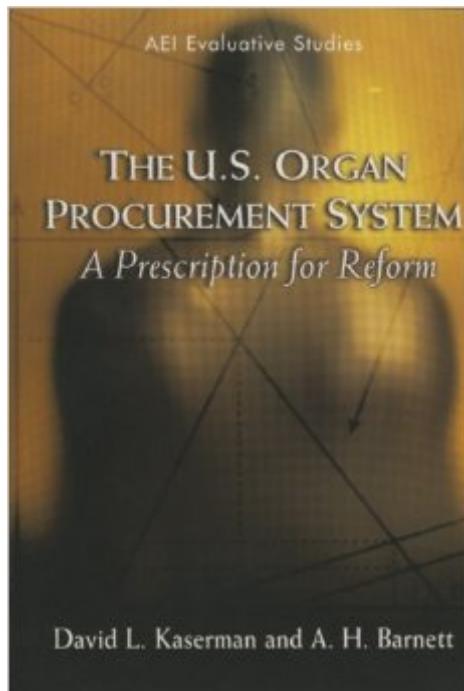


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The U.S. Organ Procurement System: A Prescription For Reform (Evaluative Studies)



Synopsis

Experts make a compelling and persuasive case for markets in human organs.

Book Information

Series: Evaluative Studies

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Customer Reviews

This was a book discussed in an economics class I took at Auburn University and I was fortunate enough to have Dr. Kaserman come and give a lecture on the topics covered in this book before he passed away due to the kidney problems he suffered. His lecture and this book changed my way of thinking and really opened my eyes to the way organ donation is conducted in America. After reading this book I went directly to the DMV and registered as a donor.

Collaboratively written by David L. Kaserman (Torchmark Professor and Chairman of the Department of Economics, Auburn University) and A. H. Barnett (Professor and Chairman of the Department of Economics, International Studies, and Public Administration, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates), The U.S. Organ Procurement System: A Prescription For Reform is a close and compelling look at the problems in America's current policies regarding the distribution of human organs for transplants. Extensive surveys, facts, research, and mathematical analysis of data and trends point to a very clear picture: the system as is (which relies on human altruism alone to provide needed organs), suffers from an extreme and severe shortage that would not exist if every possible donor and family were registered. The results arising from current policies are

waiting lists, suffering, and death among those who need transplants the most. A wide variety of alternatives, and changes to the current system are discussed at great and detailed length, including the offering health insurance discounts to those who agree to donate their organs. A sober and thought-provoking book on a hotly-debated and emotionally charged topic, The U.S. Organ Procurement System is strongly recommended reading for health reform activists, as well as governmental and health industry policy makers.

A quite complicated book...I'm not sure that I agree with the message, but something should be done to obtain organ donors. I agree that altruism does not work in America for the reason that people are generally ignorant to what being a donor entails, or just don't care as is shown in the England studies. My feeling is that general rules and rights need to be changed to make up for the huge deficit. For one thing, obtaining a drivers license should guarantee the person as a donor unless there is a definite objection. It works in Spain and Austria and Belgium.

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