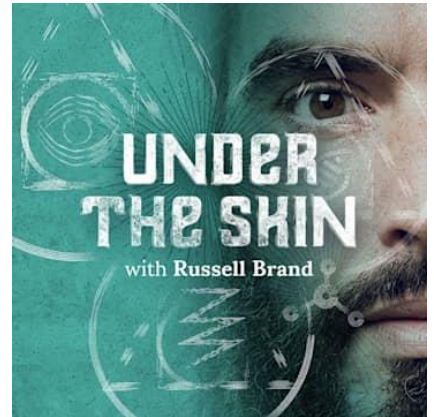




the new religion?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGwR-Xne3rw>



After you have watched the clip from Russell Brand. Whether you agree with him or not what do you think of his idea that the NHS has taken over the role of religion.:

<https://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/comment/2020/03/27/clapping-for-the-nhs-our-new-religion>

Reflection questions:

Does clapping for the NHS bring people to a collective understanding? How is this similar to religion?

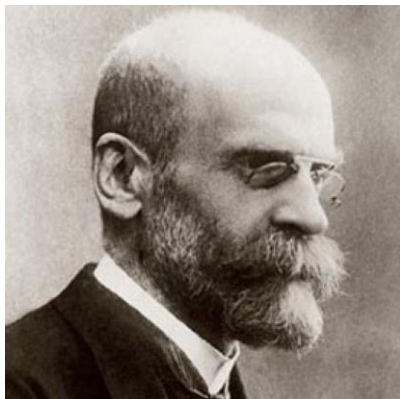
The writer says that it could be creeping towards idolatry, how could this link to Russel Brands idea that the NHS is akin to the Virgin Mary?



<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/03/nhs-religion-tories-health-service>

Reflection question:

Remember the anti Tory bias of the writer. What does Nigel Lawson calling the NHS “the closest thing the English people have to a religion” mean to the way people view it and its privatisation? Russell Brand suggests the NHS is powered by love.



Durkheim argues that religion is created to bring about social cohesion :

<https://www.iep.utm.edu/durkheim/#H4>

Reflection question:

How far could this idea be applied to the NHS in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic?

<https://religionmediacentre.org.uk/news-comment/the-nhs-our-national-religion-2/>

Reflection:

However much we may invoke the prestige of medical science, what we are really dealing with is faith.” How true do you think this statement about the NHS is, is it more about faith or ‘the science’?