

Catholic Candle

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Dress for Success ... in Getting to Heaven

What a long and sad and unfortunate road we have traveled to arrive at this profligate state of mind today, regarding modesty in women's clothes. Our Blessed Mother warned us of this danger when she appeared at Fatima and said unambiguously that more souls go to hell because of sins of the flesh than any other sin.

The standards of modesty in women's clothes have been challenged for many decades, in the beginning by a relatively few filmmakers and other exploiters. However, people in those arguably simpler times recognized these challenges for what they were – deliberate titillation by evil people. And this defiance of traditional norms was always (rightfully) considered as sinful and unacceptable to public morality.

The entertainment industry was possibly the greatest promoter of the slide into public immodesty. The shockingly revealing gowns that actresses wore were viewed with a wink and a nod; but of course, no decent woman would have thought of wearing them.

Possibly as a sop to mild disapproval of this trend, Hollywood created a Censor's department, called the Hays Office, which was charged with overseeing costumes and dialogues and situations that might offend public decency. It would be hard to pinpoint exactly when the Hays Office gave up on enforcing its mandate, but the standards of modesty were relaxed, probably in the '40s and '50s, and then all but done away with in the following decades.

The Catholic Church's *Legion of Decency* held on and held out a little longer. This organization was responsible for directing Catholics to avoid certain movies, whether for immodest costumes or for plots that contained issues contrary to Catholic doctrine, e.g., approval of divorce, suicide, abortion.

At this point, there were still some who were trying to stem the tide of liberalism. For example, in the early '50s, the good nuns in the Catholic high schools were trying to hold the line and protect young girls from veering off the road of virtue by wearing more revealing prom dresses. The nuns actually stood at the doorways of gyms decorated for proms and checked the girls as they entered with their dates. If a dress was too bare, they were given a little (frilly or lacy) jacket to wear. Or at least a stole.

But sensitivity to virtue and morality was allowed to fade out of existence, presumably because the conciliar church itself was less interested in holding the line against the rising tide of immorality. As our society, in general, became more licentious, it was easier for the church to relax its vigilance than to have to fight the popular trend – toward more daring women’s clothes, for example.

This disturbing trend persisted into the ‘60s (roughly the onset of Vatican II), when those standards began to nose-dive. Women were encouraged to “express themselves” and taught that short skirts and abbreviated clothing were the best way to get men’s attention, and a short-cut to a date, a job, or whatever. (And the “whatever” was not necessarily a stroll through the park.)

In today’s world these aberrations occur at every turn, not only in the media, the entertainment industry, the fashion world, and advertising in general, but also in the grocery store, the high school football game, the girl next door walking to the mailbox, the waitress in the restaurant, the teller at the bank – pretty much everywhere. A person is hard pressed to avoid it. That is a sad indication of how far society has left commonsense and moral standards behind.

Another major player in furthering this disintegration of morality has been the media. In its many diverse forms, the media reaches into the homes and minds of millions of people every day, not the least of which are the young people who tried to emulate what they saw on the old MTV shows, or *Dancing With the Stars*, or even the pretend “athletes’ competitions” (which are mere excuses to show the scantily-clads).

The advertising industry, too, must share the blame for its creating more and more explicit ads, with clever ways to attract people, particularly young impressionable teens. They have no shame when it comes to appealing to prurient interests. (Many years ago, I walked in the door of a Penney’s store and was faced with a manikin dressed only in skimpy bikini underwear. [Is there any other kind of bikini?]. I thought sadly of any young boys [or worse, older ones!] who would unavoidably face this model when merely trying to buy some athletic socks. I went to the Manager and told him how strongly I objected to this – it wasn’t even as if it were in the Lingerie Dept.—but money speaks louder than morals, and it accomplished nothing. However, we must try, right?)

Another point to be considered is that our society has been brainwashed in so many ways that beliefs held not so long ago have softened to the point that people no longer object to things that our common sense tells us are of course wrong, (read immoral). For example: People generally understood that there was a direct correlation between how you were dressed and how you were treated. If you were dressed like a tramp, you might be treated like a tramp. But along came the Feminists who stridently insist that women have a right to dress as they want, and are not to blame if men see their tight, low-cut dresses as a come-on. They demanded that foolish men who succumb to their temptations be held to account for acting on these weaknesses and be subject to the law. Well, of course they

must be accountable to the law! But oh, what hypocrisy to pretend that women are innocent in this little charade!

One of the saddest parts of this is that society has allowed itself to be bullied into accepting this situation. By loudly demanding the “right” to wear what they want to wear, the Feminists shout down anyone who objects, and the mainstream media tamely goes along with this. And worse, the conciliar church fails to mount any sort of effective opposition.

So, it is clear that Catholic parents can no longer look to society’s fading standards to help instill the virtue of modesty in their children, nor to the human element of the Church for forceful support in inculcating purity into their sons’ and daughters’ hearts and minds. Even the N-SSPX is not very vigilant in insisting on modest skirt lengths on their girls’ uniforms. The idea of uniforms is a good one, but the Society fails to demand that hems be universally set at a modest length.

Short skirts can easily lead to other compromises with modesty; for example: skirts that seem to be at a modest length but that ride up when the girl is seated. Or skirts that might be long enough but that are too tight. These can be a step toward off-the-shoulder and see-through blouses, low necklines, and too-tight knits.

These styles are so common and our senses so dulled that people must be reminded that they are *sinful* styles. People have become so conditioned by television and movies and the print media to accept them. And almost nobody is stressing to women and girls that whether or not *they* are affected by what they are wearing, males definitely are. Which leads to the unavoidable point that such immodesty may be a mortal sin not only for the girl/woman, but may be responsible for mortal sins of any and all boys/men who succumb to impure thoughts or actions because of them.

So, we can see that immoral dressing is sinful on multiple levels:

- It leads to other sins, *e.g.*, pride, vanity.
- It could very likely be the cause of sin for boys who witness her sinful dress.
- It most certainly can cause scandal.
- It sets a very bad example for others, particularly younger siblings and/or classmates.

Often a girl begins to dress immodestly because she thinks everyone is dressing like that, and she wants to be popular. Her parents must help her to understand that no matter how other girls dress, and no matter what other people do, she must be true to her Faith and to herself. She couldn’t do better than to model herself after Our Blessed Mother.

If parents are consistent in their rules and requirements, and these are presented with obvious love and the best intentions, children are much more apt to accept them. Resignedly perhaps, but trusting that their parents know better.

One of the most important words in that paragraph is the word *consistent*. It cannot be stressed enough that parents must be consistent. They must be true to the directions, rules, and restrictions that they have laid down for the family. They can't discipline a son for missing his deadline one time and then let it slide the next.

They can't guide a daughter to modesty by letting her buy the shorter skirt "just this one time" because "it's such a cute pattern and it looks so cute on her." Children aren't ignorant; they can easily see through the inconsistency in the rules, and it merely sets the stage for next time getting away with it. This, not so incidentally, will eventually lead to the demise of family rules. It is merely the first step into the liberal quicksand.

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Therefore, the single most important point of this article is that **parents must re-claim the role of defender of modesty, arbiter of "fashion," and guardian of purity.**

Catholic Candle note: *Catholic Candle* normally examines particular issues thoroughly, at length, using the teachings of St. Thomas Aquinas and the other Doctors of the Church. By contrast, our feature *CC in brief*, gives an extremely short answer to a reader's question. We invite readers to submit their own questions.

CC in brief

Q. There are various groups, *e.g.*, PETA (which stands for "People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals") that seem to condemn as wrong the killing of animals. Can we sin by being cruel to animals?

A. We can only sin against a person, not directly against property. Animals (*i.e.*, brute beasts) are property, usually belonging to a particular person. We can no more sin against an animal than we could sin against other kinds of property, *viz.*, a plant or a non-living body. However, if we mistreat any kind of property this can be a sin against its owner. For example, if we cut down the tree in our neighbor's yard, this can be a sin against him.

Further, any harm we do to any kind of property can be a sin against God, the Creator, in two ways:

1. It can be a sin of wasting the good gifts of God, if we unreasonably destroy them.
2. If we *needlessly* cause an animal (even a pest) to suffer, not for the purpose of killing it, but *purely for the sake of causing that animal to suffer*, e.g., to torture a housefly simply because we want it to suffer, that is a sin of showing contempt for their Creator and is a sin against God.

The Conciliar Church is Anti-God and is a Cult of Man

All religions – with the notable exception of the Catholic religion – are man-made. The Catholic Faith was established by God to give grace for the salvation of souls. This salvation is accomplished mainly through Our Lord’s Passion and Death, renewed in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The Second Vatican Council’s conciliar church has an anti-God Cult-of-Man service which they deceptively call “the mass” but which gives no grace. Without grace, one loses the Faith.

Webster’s Dictionary tells us a cult is a faddish devotion. It is the faddish devotion of man in the conciliar church service. Speaking for the council, at its close, Pope Paul VI addressed the “modern humanists” (an anti-God movement) and told them that “we too, in fact, we more than others, honor mankind.”

Below is a partial list of facts of the Catholic Tridentine Sacrifice of the Mass and Sacraments, along with the Faith-destroying changes made by the conciliar church to their anti-God Cult-of-Man service and sacraments.

- ❖ **Fact #1:** The Mass is the Sacrifice of the New Law in which Christ, through the ministry of the priest, offers Himself to God in an unbloody manner under the appearance of bread and wine.¹ St. Paul implies this when he says, “We have an altar (*i.e.*, not a table) from which they (*i.e.*, the Jews) have no right to eat”.²

Faith-destroying Change #1: The conciliar “mass” is not a sacrifice but a meal on a table, not an altar. It is an occasion to socialize, *i.e.*, shake hands, hug and

¹ *My Catholic Faith*, Bishop Louis Morrow, ©1949, page 268, article: *What is the Mass?*.

² *Hebrews*, 13:10.

kiss, and be entertained. It sometimes features dancing girls or clowns, for example. The priest is “the presider.”

- ❖ **Fact #2:** In a Catholic church, the Tabernacle – which holds the Body and Blood of Our Lord – is in the center of the altar, at the front of the church, for maximum attention and worship.

Faith-destroying Change #2: In a conciliar church they moved the Tabernacle to one side, almost out of sight and all but forgotten. This clears the table and refocuses attention on the meal.

- ❖ **Fact #3:** The main purposes of the priesthood are “to offer (the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass), bless, preach, and baptize”³ (*i.e.*, all Sacraments).

Faith-destroying Change #3: In the conciliar church meal, the “cook” is called the presider and sits on a “throne” in place of the Tabernacle that was moved off to the side. Almost anyone can preach from the pulpit, male or female. Diversity is all-important. You can be certain that the sermons will be liberal and modernist.

- ❖ **Fact #4:** For a Tridentine Mass, there is always strict silence in order to move the mind and heart to worship and pray.

Faith-destroying Change #4: Silence at the meal is not necessary for those in attendance. Instead they are asked to shake hands, hug, or kiss to promote friendliness.

- ❖ **Fact #5:** Mass attendance is required every Sunday and Holy Day for all baptized Catholics, especially those who are 7 years old or older.

Faith-destroying Change #5: Attendance at their “mass” is treated as not obligatory – you are “required” to attend only if you really want to. Or as they say, if it’s “meaningful to you”. You’re not obliged to go if you really want to do other things instead. However, conciliar leaders start to push for attendance if the collection basket runs too low.

- ❖ **Fact #6:** You always dress for Mass in clothes that demonstrate your respect for Christ the King, Whom you will receive in Holy Communion.

Faith-destroying Change #6: Dress as you wish, for comfort or according to the latest fad. Anything goes; modesty is irrelevant.

³ *Catholic Dictionary*, Addis & Arnold, Catholic Publication Society, 3rd ed., New York, 1884, article: *Priest, Christian*, page 691.

- ❖ **Fact #7:** Only devout, holy, and religious music is allowed in order to ensure that the best that man has to offer is presented to our Creator. It is designed to be prayerful and to lift hearts and minds to God. It is principally a cappella or is accompanied by an organ.

Faith-destroying Change #7: The musical instrument of choice at their “meal” is the guitar, playing the latest fad tunes. Worship and prayer are not involved, so the latest tune is best for entertainment.

- ❖ **Fact #8:** In the Sacrament of Confession, we accuse ourselves of our sins to a priest who has the authority to give absolution.⁴ The penitent must accept and complete the penance given.

Faith-destroying Change #8: One “has a discussion with” a priest to help the person to reconcile with his fellow man (not with Our Lord). Because the conciliar church teaches that no one goes to hell (*i.e.*, universal salvation), God is not involved.

- ❖ **Fact #9:** The priesthood is reserved specifically for male persons because Our Lord decreed this while on earth, when founding His Church. This includes restricting servers and acolytes to boys.

Faith-destroying Change #9: In the conciliar church females serve, preach, and distribute communion. (!) In some dioceses, there are women priests (undercover for now, but not for much longer). And as for the communion they distribute in conciliar churches, it is an interesting fact that those who promote the black mass do not want conciliar hosts because they don’t think they are really the Body and Blood of Our Lord. They want Hosts from a valid Tridentine Mass.

The conciliar church, without grace, has lost the Faith and destroyed the human element of the Catholic Church, along with all its affiliated religious organizations (*e.g.*, the missions, the schools, the seminaries, the convents). Without grace and with the resultant loss of faith, don’t expect anything but faith-destroying liberalism, modernism, and heresies from the hierarchy in Rome until the triumph of the Immaculate Heart, after the consecration of Russia.

Isn’t it amazing (really shocking) how the devil and church leaders in Rome were able to convince the vast majority of Catholics to give up the teachings of their Catholic Faith and join the conciliar church with all those faith-destroying changes? It is even more painful that the now-liberal N-SSPX wants very much to be “recognized” and accepted as

⁴ *Catholic Dictionary*, Addis & Arnold, Catholic Publication Society, 3rd ed., New York, 1884, article: *Confession, Sacramental*, page 206.

part of this evil Cult-of-Man conciliar church. How can they possibly want to make a deal with them? But they do.

We must pray and do penance to offset such evil! We must also fight against the conciliar church wherever possible for it is an evil new church from the Second Vatican Council, deceptively called “Catholic,” but which it is so in name only.

God Simplifies the Truth and We Can Delight in It

Objective truth series Reflection #16

In our most recent reflections, we have considered how we use our reason to come to conclusions and acquire knowledge of the truth. God fills us with the hunger and thirst for more truth. Furthermore, He gives us satisfaction when we use our reason. This satisfaction makes it easier to fulfill our moral obligation to *use* our reason.

Yet the term *satisfaction* does not seem to go far enough in describing a further benefit that God bestows on us. This benefit is, namely, that He simplifies the truth and then we can take delight in seeing the truth simplified.

Our use of reason is a remarkable thing. As was explained in *Reflection #14*, we gather information and have a sort of mental discussion about the facts. We then draw conclusions and acquire knowledge of the truth. Over time, as we ponder truths, these truths sink more deeply into us. They get absorbed slowly like successive drops of water into a sponge. In this way, the truths become more and more a part of us and are like second nature. Hence, we acquire a greater love of these truths which have become part of us.

Also, gradually, as we draw more and more conclusions, we can see connections and relationships between things which we never realized were connected before. We come to see a bigger picture. Hence, we acquire a more objective view.

In this way, we become more like God and the angels because they see things all at once. Yet, for us, because we come to know things by reasoning in steps, when we get a more objective view, we have a pleasing enjoyment in our newfound knowledge.

To illustrate this, let us consider what it is like to be in a hot air balloon. When the balloon is still on the ground before it lifts, everything around us looks large and complex. As the balloon lifts and pulls away from the earth, the objects from this vertical position appear to be sinking lower and lower. They also look like they are shrinking and getting stunted. From our angle peering over the side of the balloon basket, everything becomes smaller and smaller and things take on a fore-shortened appearance.

As the flight upwards continues, the objects and the landscapes below now look like a patchwork quilt. They become less distinct and defined as they diminish in size, but the relationships between things becomes clearer. Hence, our view becomes simpler. We have a sense of amazement and delight in seeing how many things are brought together in a simple and orderly fashion.

As a consequence of this astounding simplification, the soul sees the wonder of God's Providence in creating man to be the type of creature able to use reason and come to know things objectively. The more objective a man's view is, the more he appreciates the omniscience and omnipotence of God. Hence, the result is delight, as well as an increase in the love of God. Even though words cannot express our delight fully, our hearts still ache to capture it in words – such as the following:

Use of reason for man is this,
His highest, most powerful tool,
By use of it brings man much bliss,
Without it, he becomes a fool.

So, when facts are pondered, one finds,
They draw one, to a proper end,
Bringing him to truths, of all kinds,
Showing reason—a *precious* friend!

O'er time with practice of using,
The intellect e'er, more and more,
Connections 'tween things start fusing,
Making things simpler than afore.

Just as an air-balloon lifting,
May make things around look askew,
The mind as it were things sifting,
Brings on a more *objective* view.

The soul has this, to now enjoy,
Of seeing things, in a new way,
And thankful is man, to employ,
His reasoning, from day to day.

How great God is, to give us such,
A wonderful gift, of our soul,
Which should remind us, oh so much,
That heaven is our, *one* true goal.

This would make us, ever exclaim,
Keep lifting me, O Lord I pray,
I do aspire to, have the aim,
To seek heaven, every day.

Though unworthy, I know I be
To ask now, such a bold request,
I want to dwell, e'er with Thee,
To become, Thy eternal guest.

Oh, grant Lord, my lowly prayer,
And make me, more like Thee,
To see the truth, that looks so fair,
When with, objective view, I see.

Gratitude can, have no bound,
For such a grand gift, bestowed,
Of seeing links, which so astound,
And to Thee, all my love, is owed!

***Words to Live by* – from Catholic Tradition**

If we tried to stand as brave men in battle, the help of the Lord from heaven would surely sustain us. For He Who gives us the opportunity of fighting for victory, is ready to help those who carry on and trust in His grace.

The Imitation of Christ, by Thomas à Kempis, Book I, Ch. 2.

(The following note was also published in the October 2020 issue of *Catholic Candle*.) We usually focus directly on Faith and morals. However, sometimes issues in society have a severe indirect impact on Faith and morals and should be addressed. Below, we examine one of those issues which has a severe indirect impact on Faith and morals, *viz.*, the overblown corona-scare. We put COVID-19 in perspective, to help readers face this challenge in which Providence placed us, for the glory of God and for our good.

In our current corona-crazy world, people are acting strangely because they are frightened by (supposed) imminent death from COVID-19, or they are intimidated by abusive governmental lockdown orders.

People have been coerced into failing to gather to sanctify the Sunday together (which is important, even in the present Great Apostasy, when we have no Masses and no uncompromising priests, at least in most places in the world). People have been bludgeoned into letting go of their humanity and are fearfully acting as if their fellow

man was a threatening virus-culture rather than a fellow child of God and fellow soldier in the Church Militant.

Lastly, another reason to examine the corona lockdowns is because it is a prominent example showing (for anyone who needs further proof) that the mainstream media is unreliable as a source of the truth concerning what is going on in the world. It is *Catholic Candle's* hope that this present article is a helpful reminder to our readers that they should distrust the mainstream media because it lies and “spins” the truth.

This article uses the statistics which were current when the article was written in September and October, 2020. The article mostly uses data from the U.S. because there is so much of this data available. For the most part, we do not include the data from the rest of the world because that information is less available to us and also in order to avoid this article becoming too cumbersome.

However, the data we have from other countries supports the theses of this article. That support makes sense because human nature is the same in all countries, COVID-19 is (apparently) the same everywhere, and the lockdowns are broadly similar, although more severe and abusive in some places than in others.

Lockdowns are for controlling the people, not controlling the virus

In a previous article,⁵ we saw that there are many reasons why the corona-scare is overblown. We saw the reality is that:

- ❖ COVID-19 is in the same “ballpark” (and has the same fatality profile) as a bad annual flu, even if the inflated COVID-19 death toll were the true one;
- ❖ The collateral deaths caused by the government lockdowns likely far exceed the deaths directly caused by COVID-19, even if the inflated COVID-19 death toll were the true one; and
- ❖ The COVID-19 death numbers are unreliable and inflated.

But looking at what we have seen so far, a person might suppose that our proofs don't show the whole story because (he might think) the lockdowns *prevented* the COVID-19 death tolls from being much worse. That supposition is false, as we show below. The truth is:

⁵ <http://www.catholiccandle.org/2020/10/01/the-overblown-corona-scare/>

1. COVID-19 lockdowns did *not* reduce COVID-19 deaths because death trends are largely similar everywhere, whether there was a lockdown or not; and
2. Lockdowns are for controlling people, not controlling a virus.

Below, we examine both of these points.

1. COVID-19 lockdowns did *not* reduce COVID-19 deaths because death trends are largely similar everywhere, whether there was a lockdown or not.

An August 2020 study conducted by the *National Bureau of Economic Research* (NBER) focused on all countries and U.S. states which had more than 1,000 “COVID deaths” as of late July. In other words, it focused on all of the so-called COVID-19 “hotspots” in the world. In all, the study included 25 U.S. states and 23 countries.⁶

Here is what the researchers conclude examining the data:

- Lockdowns and masks don’t help. Why do the researchers say that? Because the virus’s progression was basically the same *everywhere*, whether there was a lockdown or not, whether there was mask-wearing or not, and where there was “social distancing” or not.
- The researchers analyzed the data in each country and U.S. state, beginning when the COVID-19 contagion became clearly established. Because this occurred beginning in different weeks in different places, the researchers defined the beginning of the contagion in the particular locale (*viz.*, for the purpose of when to start their study) as being when that location reached 25 total “COVID-19 deaths”.⁷
- The researchers found that COVID-19 progressed in a similar way in every place, regardless of lockdowns, mask-wearing and “social distancing”. In each instance, within a month the growth rate in deaths per day fell to approximately zero. In other words, no matter the country or state and its policies, deaths per day stop increasing within 20-30 days of passing the threshold of 25 deaths.⁸

⁶ <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>

⁸ <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>

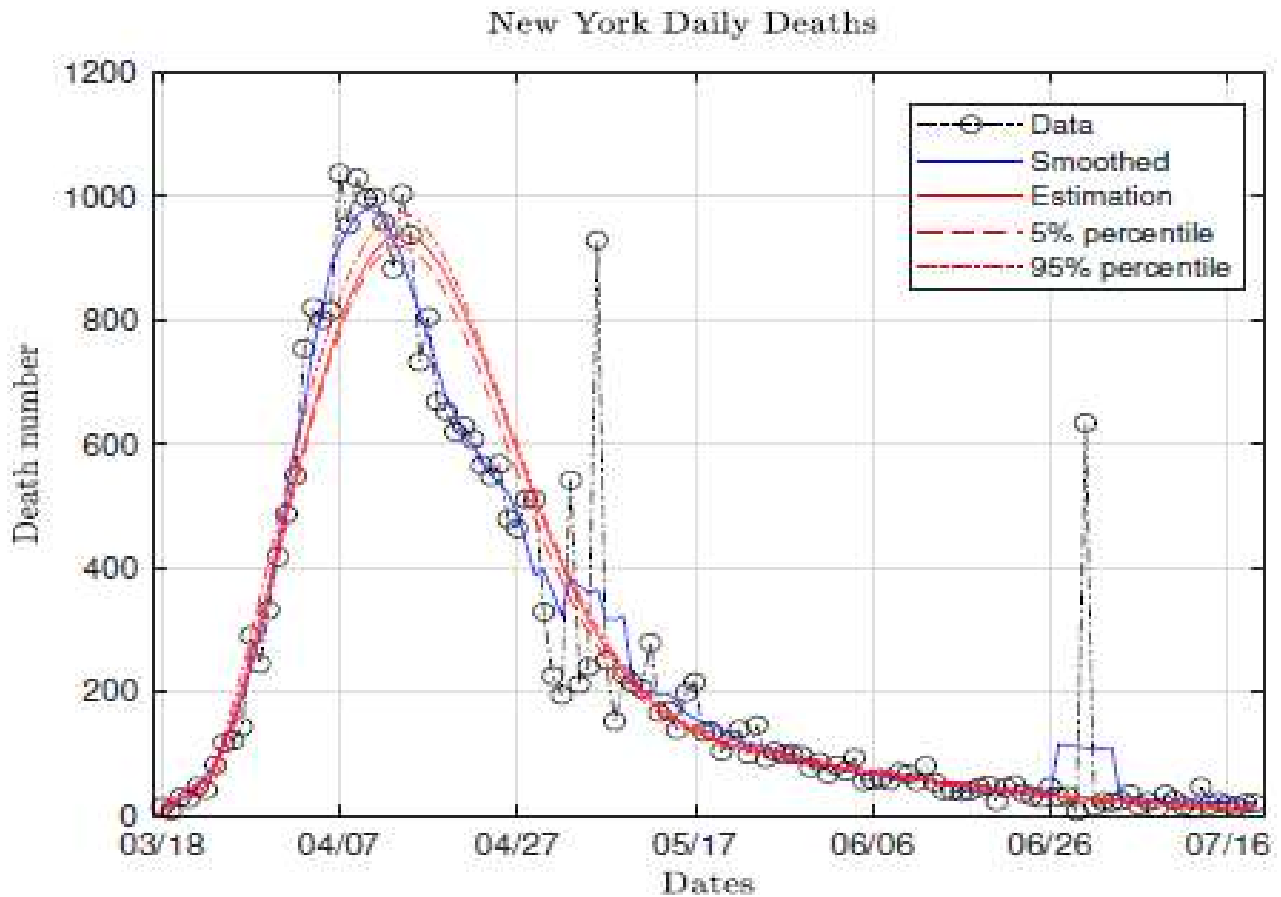
- The researchers found that, once that happened, the pattern was that the deaths per day either began to fall or the trend remained flat.⁹
- The variability in death trends across regions has fallen sharply since the beginning of the epidemic and remains low. All states and countries studied have become more similar in their trends and have remained so.¹⁰
- The effective virus reproduction number, R , has hovered around one worldwide after the first 30 days of the epidemic regardless of whether there was a lockdown, mask-wearing and “social distancing” or not.¹¹ (The letter “ R ” represents the transmission, *i.e.*, spread, rate for infecting other people. An “ R ” rate of 1 means that, on average, each person spreads the infection to one other person.)

The researchers pointed to this graph of the slope of deaths in one of the world’s most locked-down places, New York:

⁹ <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>

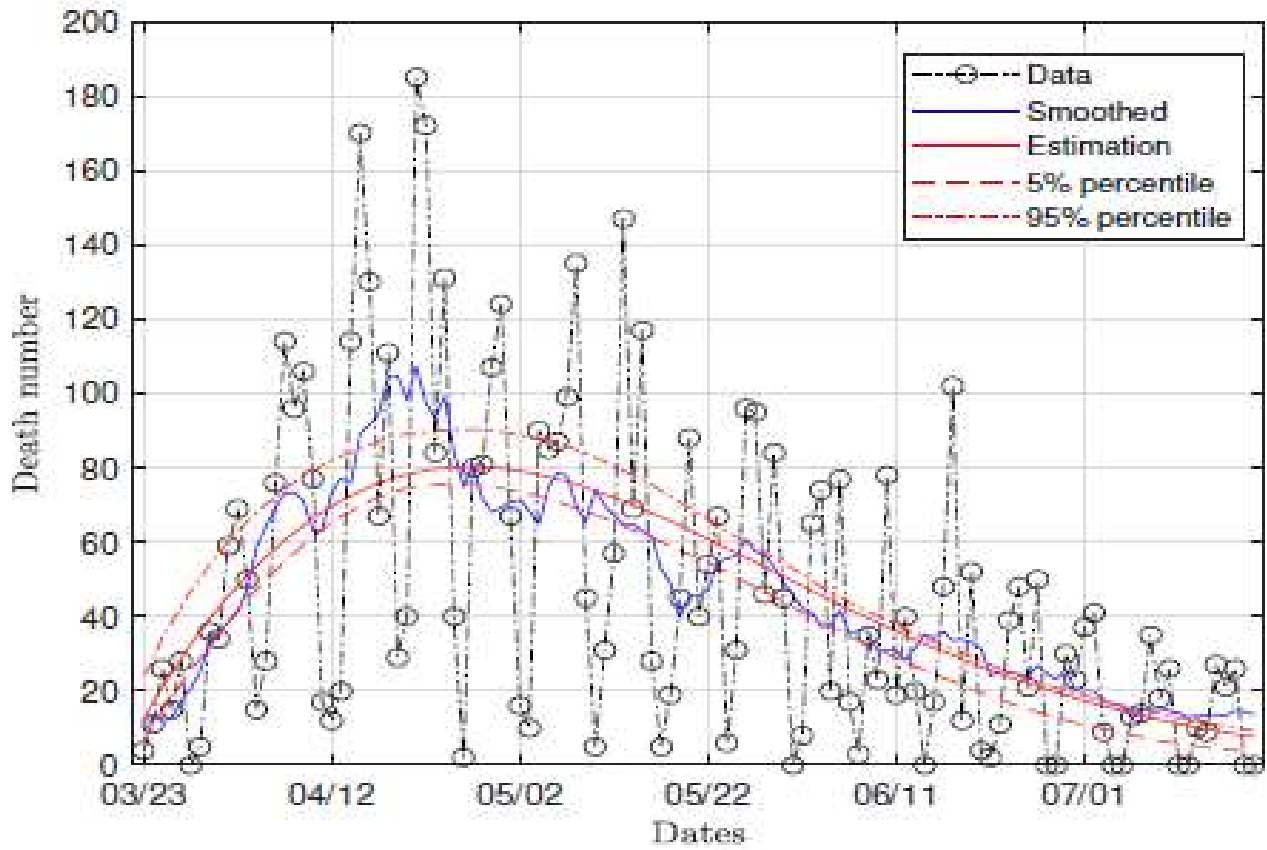
¹¹ <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>



Graph found here: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>

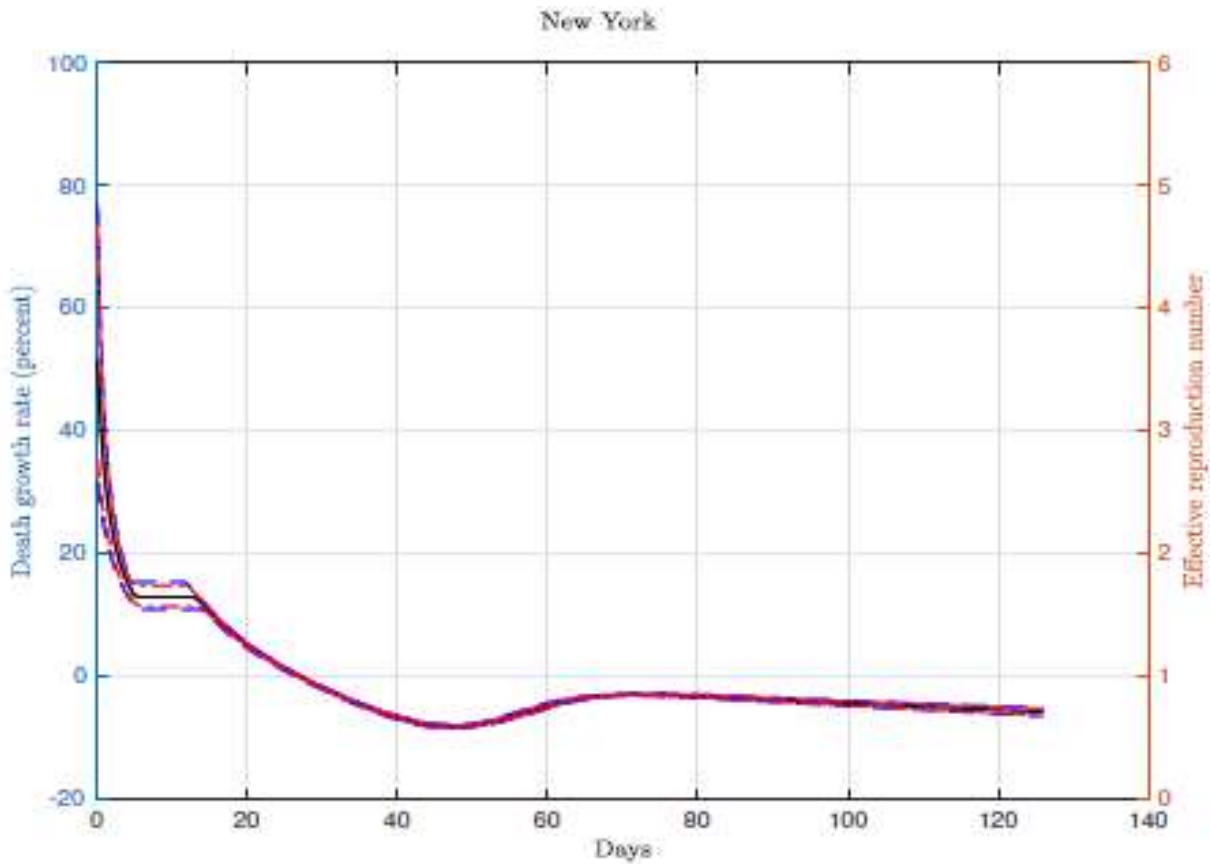
Compare New York's slope (above) to the slope of deaths in the entirely unlocked-down, non-mask-wearing Sweden:

Sweden Daily Deaths



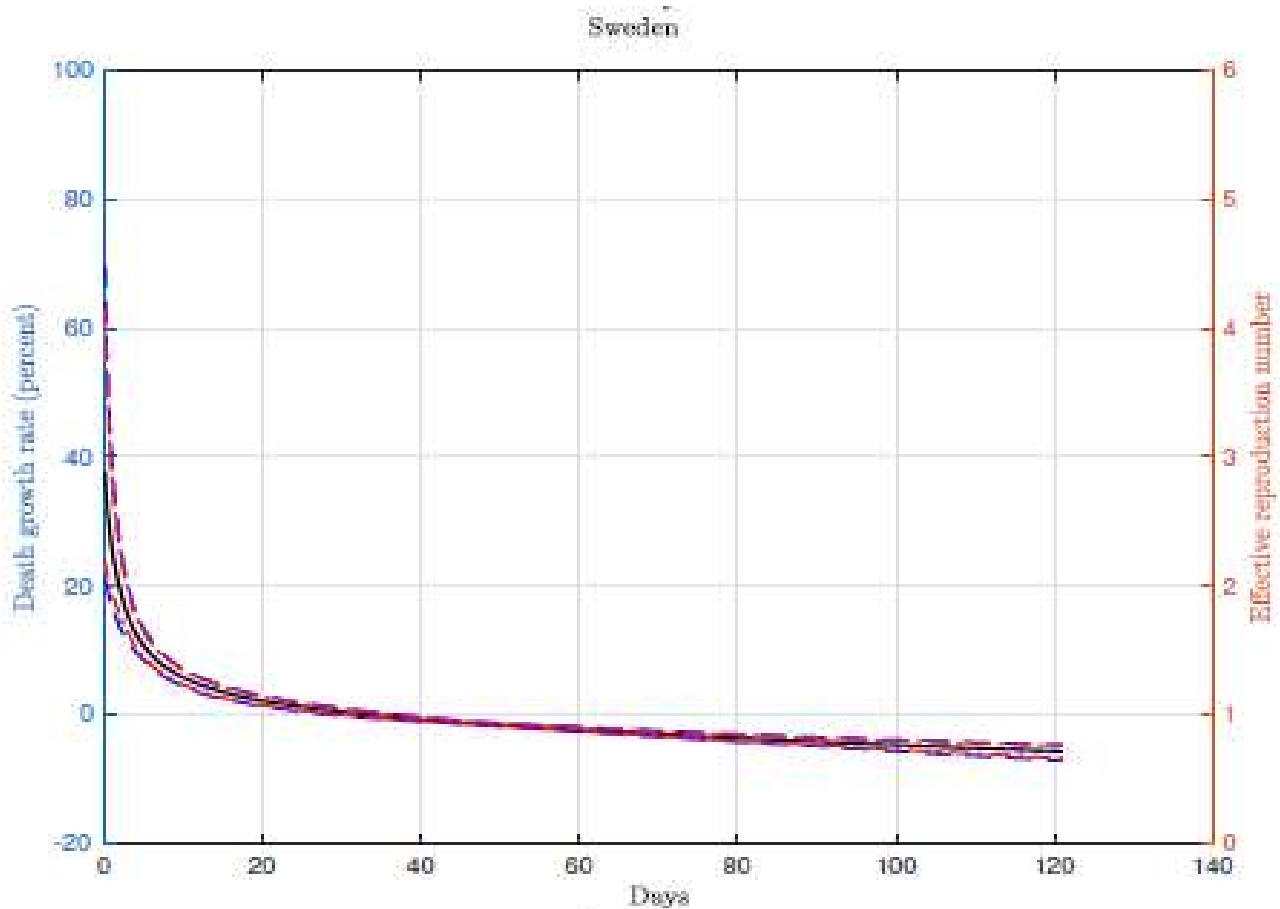
Graph found here: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>

Here is the slope of daily growth in the death rate in tightly locked-down New York:



Graph found here: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>

Compare New York's slope of its death growth rate (above) to the slope of daily growth in the death rate in entirely unlocked-down, non-mask-wearing Sweden:



Graph found here: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf>

There is more data as well as other, similar graphs and analysis in the full study, found here: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w27719.pdf> It all shows that the COVID-19 infection began at different times, in different places, and that, although the countries' responses to COVID-19 varied greatly, nonetheless the death trends are similar regardless of whether the government's response was a draconian lockdown (like New York) or was Laissez-faire (like Sweden).

Side note: Sweden made one mistake in common with New York: not protecting its elderly

We have previously seen that COVID-19 mostly affects elderly people who have multiple co-morbidities.¹² Sweden did the right thing by not locking down the younger, healthier

¹² <http://www.catholiccandle.org/2020/10/01/the-overblown-corona-scare/>

general population – which is good – but there was a heavy death toll early on in Sweden’s sick elderly (though perhaps, less than New York’s own nursing homes).

This early death toll was in Sweden’s poorly-run nursing homes, which are part of the country’s socialized healthcare system.¹³ ***Those Swedish nursing homes are bad places to live in any year during the annual flu***, and they were bad places to be during the early COVID-19 outbreak.¹⁴

So, again, Sweden did the right thing by not locking down the younger, healthier general population and the country benefitted greatly from that. But its government-run, socialized nursing home system ***never*** does a good job of protecting its frail and sick elderly population and did not do a good job with COVID-19 either. As Sweden’s Health and Social Affairs Minister, Lena Hallengren, recently admitted, concerning the COVID-19 death toll in nursing homes:

We failed to protect our elderly.¹⁵

Thus, COVID-19 should be treated like the annual flu and the frail, sick, and elderly population should be carefully protected, while the rest of the population continues its normal life. Sweden did not do a good job of protecting those elderly from COVID-19, just as it does not do a good job protecting them from the annual flu.

Readers, take the test below

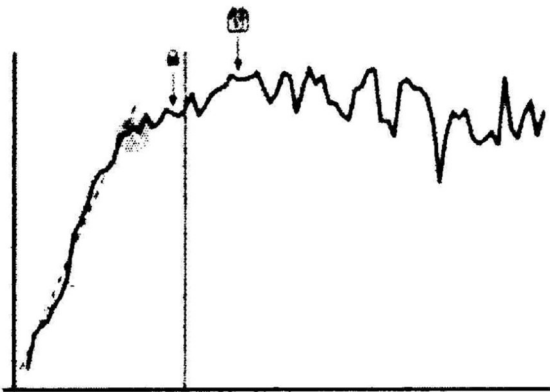
Below are five graphs of daily COVID-19 cases from five U.S. states. These graphs include states with extreme lockdowns and entirely unlocked-down states. Can you guess which states were locked down? (The answers are below.)

¹³ <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/the-crisis-in-sweden-s-care-homes>

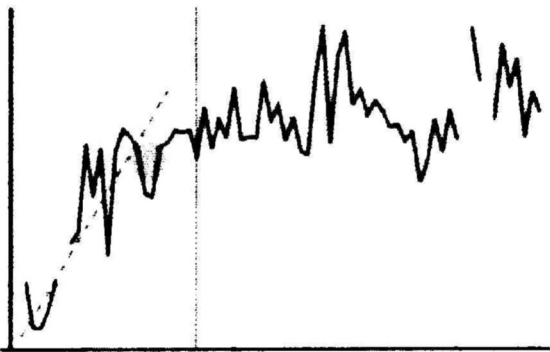
¹⁴ <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/the-crisis-in-sweden-s-care-homes>

¹⁵ <https://www.barrons.com/articles/sweden-has-developed-herd-immunity-after-refusing-to-lock-down-experts-claim-51598291136>

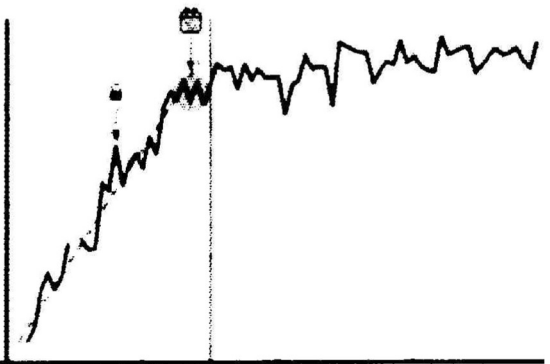
1.



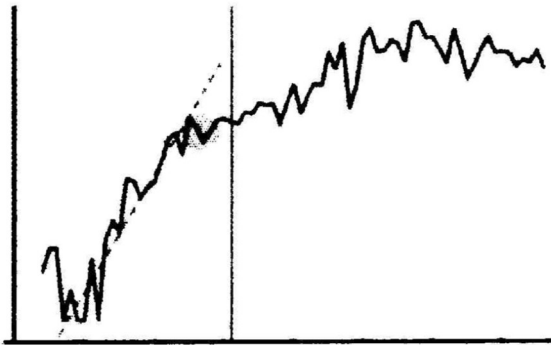
2.



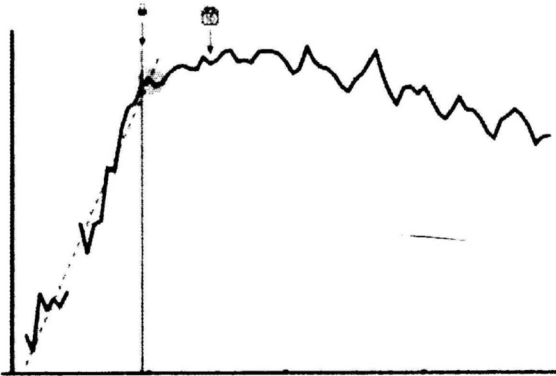
3.



4.



5.



The answers are that graphs 1, 3 & 5 are Michigan, California and New York, among the most heavily locked down places in the world. Graphs 2 & 4 are Arkansas and Iowa, which were not locked down at all.

These graphs and more, similar graphs as well as other information are contained here: <https://www.nationalreview.com/2020/10/stats-hold-a-surprise-lockdowns-may-have-had-little-effect-on-covid-19-spread/> Any breaks in the graph lines are because the states did not make data available for those dates. *Id.*

It is plain that lockdowns did not help, although they destroyed the nation's life and economy. Those lockdowns caused great harm to health and life – part of which is shown in section two of the article found here: <http://www.catholiccandle.org/2020/10/01/the-over-blown-corona-scare/>

New York's governor (Andrew Cuomo) revealed the ineffectiveness of his own lockdowns, when he disclosed that two-thirds (66%) of all new COVID-19 cases are among those New

Yorkers who are locked-down and staying home.¹⁶ Despite this, Cuomo continued to order his abusive lock-downs.

It should not surprise anyone that these irrational, unprecedented, abusive lockdowns did not work, when we learn that the idea was a theoretical experiment (a computer simulation) concocted by a 15-year-old high school girl for her science fair. Her dad was a government worker who was “well positioned” to polish up his daughter’s idea and “sell” it to the CDC.¹⁷ The girl’s science fair experiment (locking down society) was never tried until this year.

This rash and stupid idea of locking down healthy people was rejected by *Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security* because “forced isolation and quarantine are ineffective and impractical” and that “no historical observations or scientific studies support the confinement by quarantine of groups of possibly infected people for extended periods in order to slow the spread of influenza”.¹⁸

There is now a problem for the Democrats and mainstream media who want to keep people locked down. The death toll has plummeted – not only deaths **caused by** COVID-19 but even the death toll of persons who die **with** COVID-19 but who die of some other cause.¹⁹ (Keep in mind, the U.S. is a nation of 330 million people, where millions of people die in an average year.) So, the Democrats and mainstream media had a problem: *how can they keep people scared enough to obey their abusive orders?*

Their solution? Turn the focus onto COVID-19 “case” totals, instead of COVID-19 death totals. The mainstream media has quietly segued from breathlessly reporting the crisis of daily COVID-19 **deaths** (which often had been the lead story of the newscast), to instead reporting the crisis of the daily COVID-19 “**case**” totals (reported just as breathlessly).

These case totals are effective in continuing the corona-panic, because they are large-sounding numbers. But those “case” numbers are as meaningless as would be the

¹⁶ <https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/06/ny-gov-cuomo-says-its-shocking-most-new-coronavirus-hospitalizations-are-people-staying-home.html>

¹⁷ Read the story here: <https://www.abqjournal.com/1450579/social-distancing-born-in-abq-teens-science-project.html>

¹⁸ <http://www.upmc-biosecurity.org/website/resources/publications/2006/2006-09-15-diseasemitigationcontrolpandemicflu.html>

¹⁹ In Canada, recently, the daily death toll was **zero**, even for people who died **with** COVID-19 but died of something else. <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/covid-19-deaths-plummet-to-zero-for-the-first-time-since-spring-in-canada>

reporting the daily “pandemic” totals of persons who have the common cold. Here is how the liberal *New York Times* admitted the relative irrelevance of these “case” totals:

The standard [COVID-19] tests are diagnosing huge numbers of people who may be carrying relatively insignificant amounts of the virus. Most of these people are not likely to be contagious [U]p to 90 percent of people testing positive carried barely any virus, a review by The Times found. ... [These COVID tests] may detect not just live virus but also genetic fragments, leftovers from infection that pose no particular risk – akin to finding a hair in a room long after a person has left²⁰

Thus, the liberals and mainstream media seek to continue the corona-scare with COVID “case” totals.

2. Lockdowns are for controlling people, not controlling a virus.

In the first part of this article, we saw that the abusive lockdowns did no good (and caused great harm). The evidence shows that lockdowns are not “about the virus”. Rather, the government’s abusive locking down of its people is ***political and aimed at stealing our liberties***.

Billionaire, far-left promoter of socialism and revolution, George Soros, views the corona-scare as an opportunity to bring about the globalist change which he tirelessly works for and finances. Here are his words:

I would describe it as a revolutionary moment when the range of possibilities is much greater than in normal times What is inconceivable in normal times becomes not only possible but actually happens. People are disoriented and scared.²¹

The globalists’ upcoming annual meeting in Davos will discuss the “Great Reset” of the world’s “economic and social system” in the wake of the “global health crisis”, requiring a “new social contract” focusing on “social justice”.²²

²⁰ <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/29/health/coronavirus-testing.html> (This report was updated 9-15-20.)

²¹ <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/aug/12/george-soros-sees-revolutionary-moment-coronavirus/>

²² <https://www.weforum.org/press/2020/06/the-great-reset-a-unique-twin-summit-to-begin-2021/>

A professor funded by the Rockefeller and Soros foundations²³ is publicly promoting the position that COVID-19 is caused by climate change and that, unless the world's life and economies are radically changed away from free markets and personal choice, there must be future "climate lockdowns" – similar to the corona lockdowns except that these new lockdowns will occur to "save" the environment, the damage to which (supposedly) causes pandemics.²⁴ This connection (between the supposed "climate change crisis" and the corona-scare, is worth noting, since they both are used to support the same agenda, *viz.*, to usher in the New World Order.²⁵

Liberal Democrat, Anthony Fauci, head of infectious disease for the CDC, stated that COVID-19 shows that the world needs to make "radical changes" and requires "rebuilding the infrastructures of human existence". On September 3, 2020, Fauci called for "strengthening the United Nations" as supposedly necessary to fight disease. <https://www.cell.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0092-8674%2820%2931012-6>

Here are some of the "radical changes" which Fauci says we need to transform the world because of supposed pandemic health dangers:

In such a transformation we will need to prioritize changes in those human behaviors that constitute risks for the emergence of infectious diseases. Chief among them are reducing crowding at home, work, and in public places as well as minimizing environmental perturbations such as deforestation, intense urbanization, and intensive animal farming. Equally important are ending global poverty, improving sanitation and hygiene, and reducing unsafe exposure to animals²⁶

Think about the totalitarian regulation of our lives that Fauci calls for – this "rebuilding the infrastructures of human existence". It is obvious why Fauci calls for a strong U.N. role, because his vision requires *global* regulation and *worldwide* socialist wealth redistribution.

²³ Mariana Mazzucato is professor in the economics of innovation and public value at University College London; <https://marianamazucato.com/about/> & <https://www.irishexaminer.com/opinion/commentanalysis/arid-40052987.html>

²⁴ <https://www.irishexaminer.com/opinion/commentanalysis/arid-40052987.html>

²⁵ Read this article showing the climate change hoax being used to promote the new world order. <http://www.catholiccandle.org/2019/12/01/climate-change-serves-to-usher-in-the-new-world-order/>

²⁶ <https://www.cell.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0092-8674%2820%2931012-6>

Think about Fauci’s proposal. It requires worldwide control of all economies, control of all building and farming, where we live, what we eat, if and where we can travel, *etc.* Think of the cost of this! Think of the global police state which would be required to break the inevitable popular resistance!

Fauci also said there is “merit” to the idea of Americans being required to “carry certificates of immunity” in order to leave their homes.²⁷ This is like the internal passports required in communist countries in order to travel even in one’s own country.

This is all in the name of supposed “public health”!

Although the globalists and liberal Democrats seek to tyrannically control the people with abusive lockdowns, close churches, and forbid the normal parts of life, those tyrants only want to snuff out *normal* life, not the societal changes *they* want. For example, Dr. Fauci called for the closing of churches and cancelation of weddings and funerals. However, he approved of permitting unnaturally impure physical encounters with anonymous strangers during the supposed COVID “pandemic”. Here are his words about such anonymous [unnaturally impure] hookups:

If you’re willing to take a risk — and you know, everybody has their [sic] own tolerance for risks – you could figure out if you want to meet somebody²⁸

Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer strongly condemned the “irresponsible action” of her state’s citizens who protested her draconian lockdown orders.²⁹ Among other things, Whitmer prohibited even a mere *two* people meeting *in private*.³⁰ Whitmer has extended her abusive lockdowns five times.³¹

²⁷ <https://dailycaller.com/2020/04/10/anthony-fauci-americans-covid-19-coronavirus-immunity-papers-cnn/>

²⁸ <https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2020/04/anthony-fauci-on-new-rules-of-living-with-coronavirus>

²⁹ <https://thepoliticalinsider.com/michigan-gov-whitmer-wants-to-extend-lockdown-to-punish-protestors/>

³⁰ <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/michigan-stay-at-home-order-now-bans-visits-to-friends-relatives-governor-says>

³¹ <https://www.bizpacreview.com/2020/06/05/mich-gov-whitmer-defies-her-own-extended-lockdown-order-to-march-with-george-floyd-protesters-930388>

However, during Michigan’s lockdown in June, 2020, the leftist rioters and Black Lives Matter protesters flooded into Michigan streets, ignoring her lockdown. Whitmer broke her own lockdown to march with them.³²

Similarly, in the UK, police violently attacked a peaceful lockdown protest in the interest of “public safety” (according the police commander in charge) because the protesters were not “social distancing”.³³ By contrast, the UK police stood by while a *Black Lives Matter* group protested, also without “social distancing”. *Id.*

Plainly, the leftists, socialists and revolutionaries want to stifle **normal** life as we know it. However, they ignore all of the lockdown and “social distancing” claptrap in the name of Marxist protests and revolution.

Over 1200 so-called “health experts” (CDC employees, physicians, medical organizations, and academics, as well as others described as “community stakeholders”) signed a public letter defending the breaching of those abusive “pandemic” lockdown orders in order to protest for “social justice”. Those so-called “health experts” promoted these violations of the lockdowns by claiming that “white supremacy is a lethal public health issue that predates and contributes to COVID-19”.³⁴

These supposed “experts” urged the government: “do not disband protests under the guise of maintaining public health for COVID-19 restrictions.”³⁵

The letter of the “health experts” urged people to donate money for bail for protesters who have been arrested. The “experts” also asked the public to “demand that law enforcement officials also respect infection prevention recommendations by maintaining distance from protesters and wearing masks.”³⁶

In other words, these “health experts” were fine with the protesters marching shoulder-to-shoulder (many without masks), but demanded that the police wear masks and “maintain distance” from the protesters.

³² <https://www.bizpacreview.com/2020/06/05/mich-gov-whitmer-defies-her-own-extended-lockdown-order-to-march-with-george-floyd-protesters-930388>

³³ <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/uk-police-violently-break-up-huge-london-anti-lockdown-protest>

³⁴ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Jyfn4Wd2i6bRi12ePghMHtX3ys1b7K1A/view>

³⁵ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Jyfn4Wd2i6bRi12ePghMHtX3ys1b7K1A/view>

³⁶ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Jyfn4Wd2i6bRi12ePghMHtX3ys1b7K1A/view>

From this we see that leftists consider their own causes to be more important than lockdowns and supposed COVID “emergencies”. So, when radical “civil rights activist” John Lewis died, the Georgia church was packed with Democratic leaders who cared nothing about “social distancing” and “responsible” precautions.³⁷ *Those* rules were for the “everyday man” to obey, *not* for themselves.

Again, the lockdowns are not because of a pandemic emergency, but to control the people. If the coronavirus were *truly* so threatening that the leaders *really* thought that lockdowns were necessary for health, those tyrannical leaders *themselves* would act differently and not get caught doing the following:

- ❖ Liberal Democrat Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi broke the lockdown (and the masking order) so that a salon could style her hair;³⁸
- ❖ Liberal Democrat Chicago mayor Lori Lightfoot prohibited hair salons from being open, but opened one salon for only her own use;³⁹
- ❖ Liberal Democrat New Mexico governor Lujan Grisham broke her own order closing “non-essential” businesses by having one of them (a jewelry store) open for a short time, so she could buy what she wanted;⁴⁰
- ❖ Liberal Democrat New Jersey governor Phil Murphy violated his own masking and “social distancing” order;⁴¹
- ❖ Liberal Democrat Illinois governor J. B. Pritzker had his wife and daughter visit Florida and Wisconsin in violation of his own travel ban;⁴²

³⁷ <https://www.westernjournal.com/double-standard-no-quarantines-politicians-attended-john-lewis-funeral/>

³⁸ <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/pelosi-san-francisco-hair-salon-owner-calls-it-slap-in-the-face>

³⁹ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/chicago-mayor-defends-hairstylist-visit-amid-coronavirus-outbreak-n1181546>

⁴⁰ <https://www.krqe.com/health/coronavirus-new-mexico/did-the-governor-break-her-own-rules/>

⁴¹ <https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/murphys-law-applies-to-everyone-but-not-phil-murphys-law-apparently/>

⁴² <https://www.chicagotribune.com/coronavirus/ct-coronavirus-pritzker-family-whereabouts-20200515-rx5qkabrabg67j3dfkllbowntu-story.html>

- ❖ Liberal Democrat Virginia governor Ralph Northam enjoyed a day at a crowded beach, maskless, not “social distancing”, two days before his own emergency order took effect, which commanded masking and “social distancing” for everyone because of the state of pandemic emergency?⁴³ _ (Common sense tells us that a supposed “pandemic” emergency doesn’t “turn on” like a light switch. If Northam **re-ally** thought there was an emergency, he would have avoided the crowds during his day at the beach because he had **already decided** that the pandemic was an emergency.)
- ❖ Liberal Democrat Michigan governor Gretchen Whitmer’s husband sought special boating privileges, contrary to what his wife directed the public to do;⁴⁴
- ❖ Liberal Democrat New York City mayor Bill de Blasio violated his own order shutting gyms in the city, by having a gym open only for his own use;⁴⁵
- ❖ Beaumont, Texas, mayor Becky Ames broke her own lockdown order to get her nails done;⁴⁶
- ❖ Alton, Ill., mayor Brant Walker’s wife violated his **criminal** emergency lockdown order, which prohibited people from going to taverns;⁴⁷
- ❖ *Et cetera.*

Again, lockdowns don’t work for virus control but they are a powerful tool for controlling the people. The liberal Democrats and mainstream media are using them to get people used to having their liberties stolen.

⁴³ https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/virginia-politics/gov-northam-slammed-for-mingling-in-virginia-beach-crowds-without-a-mask/2020/05/24/8e42b9b2-9dca-11ea-81bb-c2f70f01034b_story.html

⁴⁴ <https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2020/05/25/purported-northern-michigan-boat-request-fuels-controversy-gretchen-whitmer/5254889002/>

⁴⁵ <https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/public-global-health/487915-de-blasio-defends-going-to-the-gym-i-need-exercise-to>

⁴⁶ <https://nypost.com/2020/04/26/texas-mayor-broke-her-own-stay-at-home-order-to-go-to-nail-salon/>

⁴⁷ <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/07/us/illinois-mayor-wife-gathering-police-trnd/index.html>

The actions of those liberal politicians show they don't *really* think the corona-scare is a serious and dangerous health emergency. Rather, lockdowns are about social control – conditioning the population to be “good” slaves.

Afterword – Regarding the subversion of society through destruction of normalcy

During the present corona-craziness, leftist government leaders demand tyrannical powers, deceiving us by claiming that science proves that we must completely abandon normal life – because “our lives depend on it”. They tell us that if we don't obey them, we will be killed by a Chinese virus. This destruction of normalcy reminds us of a book by C.S. Lewis, *That Hideous Strength*.

In that book, the world is being taken over by a well-funded, technocratic/scientific non-governmental organization (N.G.O.) known as the N.I.C.E. The aim of the N.I.C.E. is to take control by “reeducating” people, in order to eradicate all which is most human and good from society. The following quote is the thoughts of the main character, an Englishman, who finally sees things clearly while he is in N.I.C.E. confinement. Here are his thoughts at his epiphany:

As the desert first teaches men to love water, or as absence first reveals affection, there rose up against this background of the sour and the crooked [which was all around him in confinement] some kind of vision of the sweet and the straight. Something else — something he vaguely called the “Normal” — apparently existed. He had never thought about it before. But there it was – solid, massive, with a shape of its own, almost like something you could touch, or eat, or fall in love with.

It was all mixed up with Jane [his wife] and fried eggs and soap and sunlight and the rooks cawing at Cure Hardy and the thought that, somewhere outside, daylight was going on at that moment. He was not thinking in moral terms at all; or else (what is much the same thing) he was having his first deeply moral experience. He was choosing a side: the Normal. “All that,” as he called it, was what he chose. If the scientific point of view led away from “all that,” then be damned to the scientific point of view! The vehemence of his choice almost took his breath away; he had not had such a sensation before.⁴⁸

The subversion of normalcy in society – which is depicted in *That Hideous Strength* – has its parallel now during the destruction of normalcy by lockdowns and mask-wearing orders. So-called “health experts” and leftist leaders assert that we will never again

⁴⁸ *That Hideous Strength*, by C.S. Lewis, Ch. 14 (bracketed words and the dash after the word “solid”, added for clarity).

return to normal. For example, here is a news report of Dr. Fauci's declaration that the normal is gone forever:

The world will never return to what was considered "normal" before the novel coronavirus emerged four months ago, Dr Anthony Fauci says.⁴⁹

Let us choose the Normal and tenaciously cling to it! Let us not accept tyranny disguised as science!

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⁴⁹ <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8194223/Dr-Fauci-says-world-never-normal-coronavirus-threat-remain.html>