

Catholic Candle

☛ December 2020 ☛ catholiccandle.org ☛ catholiccandle@gmail.com

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: A Catholic friend (who considers herself conservative) told me that “we should not do penance during Advent because it is a time for rejoicing”. Is she correct?

A: There is a grain of truth in what your friend says, but she is “more wrong than right”. Advent is a time of anticipation (and preparation) for the joyful time of Christmas. We see this in the Church's hymns: Advent is the time of *Oh Come, oh Come Emmanuel*, not the time of *Joy to the World*.

So, there is an element of spiritual longing and a **spiritual** joy prominent on *Gaudete Sunday*. However, Advent is a time of penance to prepare for the coming of Our Infant King. Purple, the color of penance, is the liturgical color. In Her liturgy, the Church emphasizes St. John the Baptist, with his calls for penance and preparing our hearts.

Like the secular world, the conciliar church seeks feasting with no fasting. All of us, Traditional Catholics included, do much less penance than we should. So, although Lent is a more penitential time than Advent, we should generously embrace Advent's penitential spirit.

Lastly, we note that it is unfitting to have our Christmas parties during Advent instead of Christmastide, or to put our Christmas decorations up well before the Christ Child comes.

How Ready Are You For Your Daily Test?

Oh yes, we are all tested daily to determine if we are part of the current church crisis, or fighting against it. We all, in turn, are graded daily, with our final grade a big part of our personal judgment after death.

What are we tested on?

1. Are you fighting hard against the liberalism and modernism of the Second Vatican Council?
2. Do you stand silent about liberalism in the New SSPX? Or do you speak up against it?
3. Are you doing your best to fight for Christ the King every chance you get?
4. Are you ready to speak up against the heresy coming from Rome?
5. Do you speak up against immodest dress and the evil use of God's name in vain?
6. Do you go to Mass and the Sacraments often (when available for uncompromising Catholics)?
7. Do you challenge a priest or bishop who, in a sermon or retreat, leans liberal?
8. Do you *go along to get along* with others when you're away from home, rather than speak up against the many evils so common in society today?
9. Are you also willing to stand alone against the majority when they accept the idea that the parish priest always knows best, and one has to follow him regardless of where he leads?
10. Are you unwilling to accept a compromising bishop or priest and their Sacraments or sacramentals?
11. Do you always speak up against liberal gradualism, which is the downfall of many?

Above is a partial list of the “test questions” asked daily of everyone for the salvation of his soul. In most cases, one would feel alone because so few are in the fight as uncompromising traditional Catholics. But for sure you should never feel alone, for your “Champion” is Christ Himself, Who tells us simply:

Follow Me. I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Without the Way, there is no going. Without the Truth, there is no knowing. Without the Life, there is no living. I am the Way which you must follow, the Truth which you must believe, the Life for which you must hope. I am the inviolable Way, the infallible Truth, the unending Life.¹

¹ *The Imitation of Christ*, by Thomas à Kempis, Book III, Chapter 56.

With Christ to lean on, how can you feel alone? From experience, I can assure you that is so.

You might ask what you can do to improve your test score? You can study the Catholic Faith and inform your conscience, along with strengthening your prayer life.

Be advised that most people, rather than fight, go along with the crowd; it is easier that way. But this leads down the treacherous path of believing that whatever the majority believes is always right. Not true, not true!

Speaking up and speaking out for Christ the King has additional benefits other than just your salvation. It is certain to help timid Catholics gather strength to join the fight.

I believe the downfall for most Catholics just after Vatican Council II in the '60s and '70s was accepting a little liberalism from their parish priest and local bishop. As the floodgates of liberalism opened, because people had little knowledge of the Catholic Faith and studied their Faith little, most of them lost the Faith and joined the conciliar church.

If you are confronted with a questionable situation, then just seek light from our Lord. What would He say to your informed conscience?

God is very much aware of your efforts to stand up for Him. He can read your heart. He is always ready to help and console, according to His Will. So be confident that you will prevail in the end because He helps those who suffer abuse in His defense.

Take courage, brethren, let us go forward together and Jesus will be with us. For Jesus' sake we have taken this cross. For Jesus' sake let us persevere with it. He will be our help as He is also our Leader and Guide. Behold, our King goes before us and will fight for us. Let us follow like men.²

It is Amazing How God Uses Us as His Instruments

Objective truth series – Reflection #17

In our last reflection we discussed how delightful it is to see the simplification of the truth when one sees profound connections and acquires a more objective view. This delightful experience of the soul fills us with wonder at God's Goodness. This is God's marvelous way of working in a soul. "The ways of God are unsearchable". *Ecclesiastes*, 8:1.

² *The Imitation of Christ*, by Thomas à Kempis, Book III, Chapter 57.

Likewise, God in His Goodness often lets us get a view of ourselves in hindsight. This hindsight view includes things in the spiritual life that He has been teaching us, and habits we have formed which we didn't notice before, and He has us come to notice.

Thus, He sometimes gives us a glimpse of what He has done in our souls. We then see how God has a wonderful way of working quietly behind the scenes. We see His Patience with us and we find ourselves then counting our blessings anew *and* appreciating God's mercy to us all the more.

Another amazing thing God does is to use us poor creatures as His instruments in helping other souls. For example, sometimes, when we are trying to help someone come to understand a Catholic teaching, we find ourselves saying things that we didn't plan to say. If we reflect back on the conversation where we were planting the seeds of the Faith, we can sense truly that God was working in us. Because we can see that we didn't plan what we were going to say, we are amazed how just the right concepts, facts, and wording came to our minds and in the smooth way our words came out. We can then say that truly the Holy Ghost inspired it all. This makes it is easier to be detached from any credit that one could be tempted to take for the work. We ponder at God's Goodness again and praise Him for what He is doing through us unworthy creatures.

St. Thomas Aquinas explains that it is a mark of a higher being to work through lower beings. Some examples of this are God using His angels to control the forces of nature and using the guardian angels to protect us. Likewise, He uses us to spread the truth and plant seeds in souls. He strictly doesn't need us, yet God gives us the dignity to be His instruments though we are so unworthy.

However, Our Lord does not want us to be worried about what we will say when we are confronted by the unreasonable people in the world. Our Lord has assured us, "And when they shall bring you into the synagogues, and to magistrates and powers, be not solicitous how or what you shall answer, or what you shall say. For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what you must say." *St. Luke* 12:11-12. And, again, Our Lord says, "But the Paraclete, the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring all things to your mind, whatsoever I shall have said to you." *St. John* 14:26.

So, with astonishment we find that we can help souls in these apostate times of confusion. We are called to be apostles of Christ. Indeed, the spiritual works of mercy—to instruct the ignorant, council the doubtful, and even admonish the sinner are crucial in our days. In these times of so much hatred against Jesus Christ, His Church, and Catholic Morality, we can truly be soldiers of Christ defending Catholic Faith and Morality. How great God is to let us be His helpers especially when uncompromising priests cannot be found in most places! He will supply the help we need to accomplish what He wills for souls.

So, with all our hearts for love of God and our neighbor for His sake, let us try with all our might to sow the seeds of our Holy Catholic Faith in our neighbor. We cannot thank God enough for the precious pearl of the Faith, yet working for Him is one way to show Him gratitude for all He has done, is doing, and will do for us.

And we will most likely find more gratitude growing in our hearts when we realize that, though we are most unworthy, God is using us to pass on the truth. We could find ourselves saying with heartfelt words something like the following:

I, unworthy, how can it be?
The Holy Faith, to others spread?
Be I, a tool, for God's Glory?
How through me, can poor sheep be fed?

Gardening the soil of souls?
Or be a fisher of men?
To instruct of eternal goals?
Things beyond, the modern mind's ken?

In these times, where all's up-side-down,
Each day a new battle to fight,
And lies are spreading all around,
People confused, on left and right.

God's wants to use us, as His tools,
To teach, by examples, and words,
Even though, most may, think us fools,
'Cause we are not part, of their herds.

Of those poor folks, trained not to think,
But simply go on the "easy" path
Causing their hearts, to further sink,
Deserving more of, Divine Wrath.

Just as a sign, of higher one,
Through lower beings, does his works,
So it is the Lord, gets jobs done,
With us, insignificant clerks.

Grateful are we, instruments poor,
That He blesses, the deeds we do.
He provides the souls, at our door,
Though He need not, by us work through.

Amazing movement, doth He then,
That He helps souls, through words of ours,
Like lush spring rain, in the soul's glen,
He draws forth, precious soul-flowers.

Only God with, power Supreme,
Could bring such worth, from us poor men,
As flowing forth, from wisdom's stream,
Yet from a, lowly creature's pen.

We thank the Goodness, of Our Guide,
Who sets us, sowers in *His* field,
E'er inspiring us, at our side,
Yet, *He*, brings forth, the fruitful yield.

Words to Live by – from Catholic Tradition

Let us Trust in God and not yield to Anxiety

The Disciple:

Lord, I willingly commit all things to You, for my anxiety can profit me little. But I would that I were not so concerned about the future, and instead offered myself without hesitation to Your good pleasure.

The Imitation of Christ, by Thomas à Kempis, Book III, Chapter 39.

**The note below was previously published in the
October and November 2020 issues 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 has lovingly 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 and mask-wearing orders. 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 abusive mask mandates is because they are a prominent example showing (for anyone who needs further proof) that the mainstream media and the liberal “deep state” establishment (which is entrenched in the government), are unreliable as sources 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 and entrenched liberals in government because they lie and “spin” the truth.

This article was up to date when it was written in October and November, 2020. The article mostly uses evidence from the U.S. because there is so much of it available. However, the evidence we have from other countries supports the theses of this article. Such support makes sense because human nature is the same in all countries, COVID-19 is (apparently) the same everywhere, and the effects of mask-wearing are the same.

Face masks present grave health risks & are to control people, not a virus

We previously saw the COVID-19 scare is overblown.³ We also saw that lockdowns don’t work, and that their real purpose is to control the population, not the virus.⁴

In this present article, we will see that:

1. masking everybody is not effective to protect people from COVID-19;
2. it is a health hazard for healthy people to wear masks; and
3. the real purpose of imposing masks is to dehumanize and control the population.

Below, we examine each of these points.

³ <http://www.catholiccandle.org/2020/10/01/the-overblown-corona-scare/>

⁴ <http://www.catholiccandle.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/lockdowns-are-to-control-people-not-a-virus-2.pdf>

1. Masking everybody is not effective to protect people from COVID-19.

Before we examine medical studies and medical authorities, let's start by using common sense.

- If masking everybody in a pandemic is such a good idea, why has it never been done before, in the history of the world? Masks are not new and are “low tech”. They have been available for thousands of years.
- If masking everybody is such a good idea, why is it promoted and required by those who are most hostile to God and to the worship of God (*viz.*, liberals)? In other words, if God's enemies promote it, why would we suppose it is good?
- If it is such a good idea, why is it that those who promote masking everybody “even if it only saves one life” (as they say), are the same people who promote murdering innocent babies (abortion and infanticide) and killing the elderly (euthanasia)?
- If everybody should wear a mask because simply breathing near someone can infect him with a virus, why do the (supposedly more reliable) COVID-19 tests require sticking a long rod/swab up your nose, into your skull (popularly called a “brain-poke”) in order to get a good test sample? Why couldn't the test be done by breathing into a bottle or onto a swab or at most supplying a drop of saliva?
- If masking everybody is such a good idea, why is it promoted through emotion but not reason? For example, when Georgia opened back up (after a briefer and less-abusive lockdown than in many other states) the liberals attacked the state and called it “Georgia's Experiment in Human Sacrifice”.⁵
- The liberals and mainstream media continually talk about following “science” but their position is not supported by science and they don't cite any supporting science.

Masking everybody is not supported by any science.

There are no studies showing that masking everybody works to prevent viral infection. The closest thing we could find is a hamster study. This study is a *non-peer-reviewed* study of hamsters in Asia, in which a fan blew air from COVID-infected hamsters into a cage of healthy hamsters. The study concluded that there was a reduction in infection of healthy hamsters when there was a cloth barrier erected between the cages, preventing the continual blowing of the air – day and night, for weeks – from the infected hamsters,

⁵ See, e.g., <https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/04/why-georgia-reopening-coronavirus-pandemic/610882/>

into the cage of healthy hamsters. The researchers concluded that this study “implied” that masking everybody would help humans.⁶

The fact, of course, is that the hamsters were not wearing masks and the study does not show what the mainstream media says it does. The study merely indicates what we already know: erecting a barrier/wall to separate sick animals from healthy ones is a good thing and that it is a bad idea to blow the air from sick animals – for weeks at a time, day and night – into the living space of healthy animals. That study’s result is neither surprising nor particularly helpful. The liberals and mainstream media tout this study because they have no relevant science to support their policy of masking everybody. *Id.*

Before masking everybody became a liberal political cause, all medical authorities declared that masks are ineffective to prevent a viral infection.

Before we see what real medical studies say, let’s look at what all medical authorities recommended all of the way up to last spring, on the issue of whether the healthy public should wear masks to prevent infections.

In March 2020, the CDC was still following the infectious disease protocols in place through earlier this year – before the liberals began to use masks as a political tool. The CDC stated it “***does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask*** to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19”.⁷

The CDC’s own journal, *Emerging infectious Diseases*, published a May 2020 meta-analysis of masking in “non-healthcare settings”. This analysis of prior *randomized controlled trials* (undertaken between 1946 and 2017) concluded:

Our systematic review found no significant effect of face masks on transmission of laboratory-confirmed influenza.⁸

The CDC’s infectious disease expert, Dr. Anthony Fauci, stated:

⁶ Here is where to find the report promoting this study as important “proof” that masks work as disease control: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/19/coronavirus-wearing-a-mask-can-reduce-transmission-by-75percent-new-study-claims.html>

⁷ <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/coronavirus-prevention-face-mask-not-helpful-wash-hands/>

⁸ This report can be found here: <https://t.co/6EpifQ80cb>

No, right now, people should not be wearing – there’s no reason to be walking around with a mask.⁹

Fauci is a liberal. It is not that he was conservative in March 2020 and then became a liberal. Liberals (and everyone else) agreed last March that masking everybody is not effective against a virus. Fauci changed his position when the liberals began using masks as a political tool.

On February 29, 2020, before *masking everyone* became a political tool, the U.S. Surgeon General, Jerome Adams, MD, did his best to *discourage* the public from wearing masks. He stated:

Seriously people – STOP BUYING MASKS! They are NOT effective in preventing general public from catching #Coronavirus.¹⁰

In a May, 2020 study entitled: *Universal Masking in Hospitals in the Covid-19 Era*, *The New England Journal of Medicine* stated:

We *know* that wearing a mask outside health care facilities offers little, if any, protection from infection.¹¹

California’s OSHA regulations state:

Cloth face covers are not protective equipment and do not protect the person wearing a cloth face cover from COVID-19.¹²

In March 2020, Dr. Mike Ryan, executive director of the United Nation’s WHO (World Health Organization) health emergencies program, stated:

⁹ CBS’s 60 Minutes on March 8, 2020, quoted from here: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/preventing-coronavirus-facemask-60-minutes-2020-03-08/>

¹⁰ https://twitter.com/Surgeon_General/status/1233725785283932160 (emphasis in the original).

¹¹ <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp2006372> (emphasis added).

¹² This California’s *Occupation Safety and Health Administration* regulation can be found here: <https://dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/COVID-19-Infection-Prevention-in-Logistics.pdf> (accessed October 28, 2020).

There is no specific evidence to suggest that the wearing of masks by the mass population has any potential benefit.¹³

Before the liberals began using masks as a political tool, the World Health Organization advised **against** everyone wearing masks. Here is what the WHO stated:

[T]here is currently no evidence that wearing a mask (whether medical or other types) by healthy persons in the wider community setting, including universal community masking, can prevent them from infection with respiratory viruses, including COVID-19. ... [T]he wide use of masks by healthy people in the community setting is not supported by current evidence and carries uncertainties and critical risks.¹⁴

Dr. Eli Perencevich, MD, is an infection prevention specialist and a professor of medicine and epidemiology at the University of Iowa's College of Medicine. Here is how he recommended against healthy people wearing masks:

The average healthy person does not need to have a mask, and they [sic] shouldn't be wearing masks. ... There's no evidence that wearing masks on healthy people will protect them. They wear them incorrectly, and they can increase the risk of infection because they're touching their face more often.¹⁵

Before the liberals began using masks as a political tool, **everyone agreed** that masks were not effective to prevent the public from catching a virus. One of the reasons for this universal agreement is because the studies concluded this.

For example, the *Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy* published a 2020 study entitled: *Face Masks Pose Serious Risks To The Healthy*. Here are conclusions from that study:

We do not recommend requiring the general public who do not have symptoms of COVID-19-like illness to routinely wear cloth or surgical masks because there is no

¹³ <https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/30/world/coronavirus-who-masks-recommendation-trnd/index.html>

¹⁴ *Advice on the Use of Masks in the Context of COVID-19 – Guidance*, World Health Organization (April 6, 2020), found here: https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/331693/WHO-2019-nCov-IPC_Masks-2020.3-eng.pdf

¹⁵ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/tarahaelle/2020/02/29/no-you-do-not-need-face-masks-for-coronavirus-they-might-increase-your-infection-risk/#7750e219676c>

scientific evidence they are effective in reducing the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission. ...

Our review of relevant studies indicates that cloth masks will be ineffective at preventing SARS-CoV-2 transmission, whether worn as source control [*i.e.*, by a sick person] or as PPE [*i.e.*, by a healthy person]. ...

[G]iven the paucity [*i.e.*, scarcity] of information about their performance as source control in real-world settings, along with the extremely low efficiency of cloth masks as filters and their poor fit, there is no evidence to support their use by the public or healthcare workers to control the emission of particles from the wearer. ...

We were able to identify only two household studies in which surgical masks were worn by the index patient [*i.e.*, sick person] only, as source control. Neither of these found a significant impact on secondary disease transmission [*i.e.*, infecting others], although both studies had important limitations.

Clinical trials in the surgery theater have found no difference in wound infection rates with and without surgical masks. Despite these findings, it has been difficult for surgeons to give up a long-standing practice. ...¹⁶

In a meta-study of 17 earlier studies concerning wearing a mask to protect against the flu, the study concluded:

None of the studies established a conclusive relationship between mask/respirator use and protection against influenza infection.¹⁷

A 2009 study found that mask-wearers had more headaches and no benefit avoiding contraction of cold viruses.¹⁸

¹⁶ 2020 study by the University of Minnesota, entitled: *Face Masks Pose Serious Risks To The Healthy*, found at this link: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/04/commentary-masks-all-covid-19-not-based-sound-data> (bracketed words added for clarity).

¹⁷ Quoted from: *bin-Reza F et al.* study entitled *The use of mask and respirators to prevent transmission of influenza: A systematic review of the scientific evidence*. Published in: *Resp Viruses* 2012;6(4):257-67; available at this link: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1750-2659.2011.00307.x>

¹⁸ Study: *Use of surgical face masks to reduce the incidence of the common cold among health care workers in Japan: A randomized controlled trial*, published in the *American Journal of Infection Control*, Volume 37, Issue 5, 417 – 419, available at this link: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19216002>

A 2010 review of studies on mask wearing outside a hospital setting, showed that masks did no good preventing the flu. Here¹⁹ is a summary chart with the findings:

Study	Setting	Participants and follow-up	Interventions evaluated	Main outcomes	Findings
Cowling <i>et al.</i> [14]	Outpatients in Hong Kong, 2008	322 index cases and their household contacts	Surgical masks plus hand hygiene, hand hygiene, control	RT-PCR-confirmed infection	No significant difference overall; significant difference between surgical masks plus hand hygiene and control if implemented within 36 hours of illness onset in index case
Cowling <i>et al.</i> [15]	Outpatients in Hong Kong, 2007	122 index cases and their household contacts	Surgical masks, hand hygiene, control	RT-PCR-confirmed infection	No significant differences between surgical masks and control
MacIntyre <i>et al.</i> [16]	Outpatients in Australia, 2006–2007	143 index cases and their household contacts	Surgical masks, P2 (N95-type) respirators, control	Self-reported influenza-like illness	No significant difference overall; significant difference between masks and control in per-protocol analysis
Aiello <i>et al.</i> [17]	Residents of university dormitories, Michigan, 2008	1437 university students	Surgical masks plus hand hygiene, surgical masks alone, control	Clinically diagnosed and survey-reported influenza-like illness	No significant differences overall; significant reductions in influenza-like illness during weeks 4–6 between mask plus hand hygiene vs. control groups and similar, but non-significant, reductions between mask-only vs. control groups

A 2017 study conducted a meta-analysis of mask effectiveness among healthcare workers. Here²⁰ are key findings of the study:

- The meta-analysis suggested mask wearing provides a protective, but ***non-statistically significant***, effect against laboratory-confirmed viral infections.
- There is no evidence cloth masks provide protection and they might facilitate transmission of pathogens when used repeatedly without adequate sterilization; and
- There is no protective effect against SARS for disposable, cotton, or paper masks.

On November 18, 2020, a new randomized controlled study was published. It is the first study in the world to test whether face masks were effective in preventing wearers from

¹⁹ This chart came from the Cambridge University study entitled: *Face masks to prevent transmission of influenza virus: A systematic review*, published here: *Epidemiology and Infection*, 138(4), 449-456. doi:10.1017/S0950268809991658, and available at this link: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-infection/article/face-masks-to-prevent-transmission-of-influenza-virus-a-systematic-review/64D368496EBDE0AFCC6639CCC9D8BC05/core-reader>

²⁰ *Offeddu, V. et al.* (2017), in a study entitled: *Effectiveness of Masks and Respirators Against Respiratory Infections in Healthcare Workers: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis*, published in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, Volume 65, Issue 11, 1 December 2017, Pages 1934–1942, found at this link: <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/cix681>

contracting the coronavirus. The study found there was no statistically significant difference in COVID-19 cases between mask-wearers and non-mask-wearers.²¹

It is impossible for masks to be effective because viruses are far too small.

Masking everyone is not effective to prevent respiratory influenza-like illnesses, or respiratory viral illnesses believed to be transmitted by droplets and aerosol particles. This is because the principal transmission path is long-residence-time aerosol particles which are between 10 - 80 nm²² in size.²³

Trying to stop tiny virus particles with a mask is like trying to stop mosquitos with chicken wire (poultry netting). It is not effective. Virus particles are far too small to be trapped by even the oppressively uncomfortable N95 masks. Here is how one review of the research explains this fact:

[T]he filtration material itself of N95 (average pore size ~0.3–0.5 µm) does not block virion [*i.e.*, individual particles of virus] penetration, not to mention surgical masks.²⁴

This means, *e.g.*, that with a virion of 10 nm and a mask pore of 0.3 µm, 30 of those virions could fit through the same mask pore at the same time. Hence, it is roughly like 30 mosquitos going through the same hexagonal hole in the chicken wire at the same time. It is unreasonable to stop mosquitos with chicken wire and is unreasonable to stop viruses with a face mask. They are not effective and all medical authorities agreed about this before the liberals made the corona-scare political.

²¹ Henning Bundgaard, *et al.*, in a study entitled: *Effectiveness of Adding a Mask Recommendation to Other Public Health Measures to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Danish Mask Wearers*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, <https://doi.org/10.7326/M20-6817> also available at this link: <https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/10.7326/M20-6817>

²² “Nm” is the abbreviation for a nanometer, *i.e.*, a billionth of a meter. Contrast a nanometer to a “µm”, which is a micrometer, *i.e.*, a millionth of a meter. This means that a µm is one thousand times greater than an nm.

²³ Balazy, *et al.*, in a study entitled: *Do N95 respirators provide 95% protection level against airborne viruses, and how adequate are surgical masks?*, published in *Am J Infect Control*, 2006 Mar;34(2):51-7, doi: 10.1016/j.ajic.2005.08.018, found here: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16490606/>

²⁴ *Masks Don't Work: A review of science relevant to COVID-19 social policy* by D. G. Rancourt, PhD, 25 June, 2020, <https://masksickness.ca/articles/2020/06/25/masks-dont-work-review-science-relevant-covid-19-social-policy> (bracketed words added for clarity).

Summary

The conclusion is plain: masking everyone is not effective against the coronavirus.

2. It is a health hazard for everyone to be wearing masks

In part one (above), we saw that masks are ineffective against a virus and ***no one recommended masks for healthy people in the general population until the liberals made the issue political*** in the Spring of 2020.

Masks are not only ineffective they also pose significant risk of harm. This is why – before the liberals made the issue political – the U.N.’s *World Health Organization* warned:

[T]he wide use of masks by healthy people in the community setting is not supported by current evidence and carries uncertainties and ***critical risks***.²⁵

Among the known critical risks to a healthy general population, are that mask-wearing:

1. Reduces a person’s oxygen supply;
2. Increases the risk of carbon dioxide toxicity;
3. Reduces a person’s immune protection against diseases;
4. Disposes a person to “brain fog” and can reduce the clarity of his thinking;
5. Causes headaches, dizziness, difficulty breathing, and shortness of breath (dyspnea);
6. Causes a person to re-breathe contaminant particles trapped in his mask;
7. Forces a person to breathe through a moist, warm material perfect for growing whatever pathogens are present in his surroundings; and

²⁵ *Advice on the Use of Masks in the Context of COVID-19 – Guidance*, World Health Organization (April 6, 2020), found here: https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/331693/WHO-2019-nCov-IPC_Masks-2020.3-eng.pdf (emphasis added).

8. Typically causes a person to touch his face more frequently.

Below, we discuss each of these critical risks caused by mask-wearing.

1. Mask-wearing reduces a person's oxygen supply.

Mask-wearing decreases the oxygen level in a person's blood. A mask increases the risk of hypoxemia (which is a critically-low level of oxygen in the blood).²⁶

In this study, researchers examined the blood oxygen levels in 53 surgeons using an oximeter, measuring blood oxygenation before and after surgeries (during which they wore masks). *Id.* The researchers found that the masks reduced the surgeon's blood oxygen levels significantly. *Id.* The longer the duration of wearing a mask, the greater the fall in the blood oxygen level. *Id.*

2. Mask-wearing creates the risk of carbon dioxide toxicity.

Mask-wearing increases the carbon dioxide in a person's blood and increases the risk of hypercapnia (which is a harmful elevation in the blood's carbon dioxide level).

In a study conducted in a medical setting using a capnometer (used to test CO² blood levels) mask-wearing anesthetists were tested before wearing their masks and then after wearing a mask for twenty minutes. All anesthetists showed elevated CO² blood levels after this twenty-minute period.²⁷

The results of these studies are common sense and are predictable since masks trap some of the CO²-rich breath in the mouth/mask inter-space. Thus, a part of the carbon dioxide previously exhaled is inhaled again during each respiratory cycle.

Not only are the resulting oxygen deprivation and elevated CO² blood levels common sense and predictable, but the consequences are also. For example:

²⁶ Bader A. et al., *Preliminary report on surgical mask induced deoxygenation during major surgery*, published in: *Neurocirugia* 2008;19:12-126. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18500410/>

²⁷ S. J. Fletcher, et al., *Carbon dioxide re-breathing with close fitting face respirator masks*, 2006, published in *Anaesthesia*, and available here: <https://associationofanaesthetists-publications.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1365-2044.2006.04767.x>

- A New Jersey man passed out when driving while wearing a mask and crashed.²⁸
- Two healthy Chinese teenagers dropped dead while wearing masks during a run.²⁹

3. Mask-wearing reduces a person's immune protection against diseases.

Habitual wearing of masks decreases a person's natural immune response which fights off diseases. This is because a drop in oxygen levels (hypoxia) is associated with an impairment in immunity. Such impaired immunity places a person at greater risk of contracting any infection, including COVID-19 and also makes the consequences of any infection graver. In other words, mask-wearing can place a person at an increased risk of infections and likelihood of a worse outcome. Here are four studies which show this:

1. *Shehade H. et al.* study entitled: *Cutting edge: Hypoxia-Inducible Factor-1 negatively regulates Th1 function* published in: *J Immunol* 2015;195:1372-1376; https://www.researchgate.net/publication/275019757_Cutting_Edge_Hypoxia-Inducible_Factor_1_Negatively_Regulates_Th1_Function
2. *Westendorf AM et al.* study entitled: *Hypoxia enhances immunosuppression by inhibiting CD4+ effector T cell function and promoting Treg activity*, published in: *Cell Physiol Biochem* 2017;41:1271-84; https://www.researchgate.net/publication/314487473_Hypoxia_Enhances_Immunosuppression_by_Inhibiting_CD4_Effector_T_Cell_Function_and_Promoting_Treg_Activity
3. *McMahon, et al.*, *Hypoxia-enhanced Expression of the Proprotein Convertase Furin Is Mediated by Hypoxia-inducible Factor-1*: 10.1074/jbc.M413248200, 2004, published in the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* and available here: <https://www.jbc.org/content/280/8/6561.full.pdf+html>
4. *Sceney J et al.*, study entitled: *Hypoxia-driven immunosuppression contributes to the pre-metastatic niche*, published in: *Oncoimmunology* 2013;2:1 e22355, <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.4161/onci.22355>

²⁸ Article entitled: *Driver in crash may have passed out from wearing N95 mask too long: Police*, report published here: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/driver-crash-passed-wearing-n95-mask-long-police/story?id=70346532>

²⁹ Article entitled: *Two boys drop dead in China while wearing masks during gym class*, NY Post (May 6, 2020), published here: <https://nypost.com/2020/05/06/two-boys-drop-dead-in-china-while-wearing-masks-during-gym-class/>

*COVID-19 is more technically named “SARS CoV-2”. This is significant because one medical study showed that mask-wearing increased the risk of contracting Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in particular.*³⁰

This weakening of the immune system is apparently why Surgeon General Jerome Adams told the public in March 2020 that wearing a mask “can increase your risk of getting it [viz. COVID-19]”.³¹

However, low oxygen blood levels don’t make a person more susceptible to only respiratory viruses, but also to a whole host of other diseases. For example:

- ❖ **Cancer** invades, grows and spreads more readily in a low-oxygen environment.³²
- ❖ **Atherosclerosis, cardiovascular (heart attacks), and cerebrovascular (strokes) disease** risks are enhanced by a low-oxygen environment.³³

4. Mask-wearing disposes a person to “brain fog” and can reduce the clarity of his thinking.

In a 2008 study, mask-wearing was shown to cause anxiety, brain fog, and difficulty concentrating.³⁴

³⁰ National Taiwan University Hospital, *The Physiological Impact of N95 Masks on Medical Staff*, 2005, published here: <https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00173017>

³¹ Here is the report from left-leaning news outlet, *Politico*:

“You can increase your risk of getting it by wearing a mask if you are not a health care provider,” Surgeon General Jerome Adams said during an appearance on “Fox & Friends” earlier this month.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/03/30/coronavirus-masks-trump-administration-156327>

³² *Blaylock RL, Immunoexcitatory mechanisms in glioma proliferation, invasion and occasional metastasis*, published in: *Surg Neurol Inter* 2013;4:15; <https://surgicalneurologyint.com/surgicalint-articles/immunoexcitatory-mechanisms-in-glioma-proliferation-invasion-and-occasional-metastasis/>

³³ *Savransky V et al., Chronic intermittent hypoxia induces atherosclerosis*, published in: *Am J Resp Crit Care Med* 2007;175:1290-1297, <https://www.atsjournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1164/rccm.200612-1771OC>

³⁴ *Bader A. et al., Preliminary report on surgical mask induced deoxygenation during major surgery*, published in: *Neurocirugia* 2008;19:12-126. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18500410/>

In another 2008 study, mask-wearing was shown to cause reduced work efficiency and the decreased ability to make correct decisions.³⁵

Two of the *Catholic Candle* Team saw a striking instance of “brain fog” during the oxygen deprivation suffered by a woman they knew in a nursing home. She was not wearing a mask but as she got closer to death, her lungs were less effective, so her blood oxygen level decreased. She suffered an oxygen-deprivation incident which is instructive concerning what can happen when a person’s blood-oxygen level goes down a few points. (The oximeter registered that her oxygen blood level was down 5%).

One of the incidents which caused her nursing home to place her on supplemental oxygen, was her insisting that one of the two of us had visited her earlier on that particular day. In fact, this did not happen. That day, she also showed her confusion by saying various incoherent things. When she was given supplemental oxygen, she (with her mind and memory) returned to normal and she was kept on oxygen for the remaining weeks of her life.

5. Mask-wearing often causes headaches, dizziness, difficulty breathing, and shortness of breath (dyspnea).

A 2020 study involved 159 healthcare workers aged 21 to 35 years. It found that 81% of the workers developed headaches from wearing a face mask. The research study concluded:

Most healthcare workers develop *de novo* PPE-associated headaches or exacerbation of their pre-existing headache disorders.³⁶

In a 2014 study of headaches caused by mask-wearing, researchers surveyed 212 healthcare workers (47 males and 165 females) and asked them about presence of headaches with N95 mask use, the duration of the headaches, the type of headaches, and if the person had preexisting headaches. The researchers found that about a third of the workers developed headaches when they wore a mask; most of these workers had

³⁵ National Taiwan University Hospital, *The Physiological Impact of N95 Masks on Medical Staff*, 2005, published here: <https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00173017>

³⁶ Ong JJY et al. study entitled: *Headaches associated with personal protective equipment- A cross-sectional study among frontline healthcare workers during COVID-19*, published in: *Headache* 2020;60(5):864-877, <https://headachejournal.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/head.13811>

preexisting headaches that were worsened by mask-wearing, and 60% required pain medications for relief.³⁷

In a 2008 study, mask-wearing was shown to cause headaches, difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, and other adverse symptoms.³⁸

In another 2008 study, mask-wearing was shown to cause headaches, dizziness, and shortness of breath.³⁹

6. Mask-wearing causes a person to re-breathe particles trapped in his mask.

Mask-wearing not only increases the amount of CO² a person re-breathes (as explained above) but also causes a person to re-breathe particles that his lungs have exhaled, whether those particles are pollen, dust, or various infectious particles which are trapped in the mask. On the very next inhalation the person breathes them back in, increasing infectious particles in the airways and lungs.⁴⁰ In this way, medical masks cause self-inoculation, an increase in particle load, and an increase in disease severity.

7. Mask-wearing forces a person to breathe through a moist, warm material perfect for growing pathogens present in his surroundings.

Bacteria, protozoa, fungi and other pathogens are all around us in our environment. This is normal. Those pathogens do not cause disease unless they infect a person in sufficiently large numbers.

For many of those pathogens to increase in number, they need a moist, warm environment. This environment is supplied by a mask through which a person exhales

³⁷ Zhu JH et al. in a study titled: *Effects of long-duration wearing of N95 respirator and surgical facemask: a pilot study*. Published in *J Lung Pulm Resp Res* 2014;4:97-100, <https://medcraveonline.com/JLPRR/effects-of-long-duration-wearing-of-n95-respirator-and-surgical-facemask-a-pilot-study.html>

³⁸ Bader A et al., *Preliminary report on surgical mask induced deoxygenation during major surgery*, published in: *Neurocirugia* 2008;19:12-126. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18500410/>

³⁹ National Taiwan University Hospital, *The Physiological Impact of N95 Masks on Medical Staff*, 2005, published here: <https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00173017>

⁴⁰ This is explained further by **Dr. Kelly Victory, MD**, at this link: <https://www.brighteon.com/7cad71ce-40ab-4def-b0b7-cc5ff7a18925>

his moist, warm breath. Those masks become saturated and pathogens from the environment around us then can opportunistically multiply there.⁴¹

8. Mask-wearing often causes a person to touch his face more frequently.

Every day, we see mask-wearers constantly fiddling with their masks. Although COVID-19 is in the “same ballpark” as the annual flu and not dangerous to most people, nevertheless, if a person is supposedly trying to protect himself from colds, flu, COVID-19, or any other infectious disease, it can’t be helpful for him to be continually touching his face.

Eli Perencevich, MD, is an infection prevention specialist and a professor of medicine and epidemiology at the University of Iowa’s College of Medicine. Here is how he warned how increased touching of one’s face increases a risk of infection anytime there is a pathogen present:

The average healthy person ... shouldn’t be wearing masks. ... [People] can increase the risk of infection because they’re touching their face more often.⁴²

Further, continually fiddling with a mask is a sign of the discomfort of wearing a mask and how it also distracts a person from thought and from his focus on other parts of life.

The above problems are made worse by the almost universal practice (in the mask-wearing general public) of wearing the same mask repeatedly and for long periods, rather than continually replacing masks every hour or so.

In the medical setting, masks are continually replaced by new masks. Here is how one surgeon explained this practice:

Medical masks are **single use devices** designed to be worn for a relatively short period of time. Once the mask becomes **saturated with moisture** from breath, which, if properly fit, takes about an hour, they should be replaced. The more moisture-saturated the mask becomes, the more it blocks oxygen, increases re-breathing of carbon dioxide, re-breathing of viral particles, and becomes a breeding ground for other pathogens.⁴³

⁴¹ <https://www.meehanmd.com/blog/2020-06-12-healthy-people-should-not-wear-face-masks/>

⁴² <https://www.forbes.com/sites/tarahaelle/2020/02/29/no-you-do-not-need-face-masks-for-coronavirus-they-might-increase-your-infection-risk/#7750e219676c>

⁴³ <https://www.meehanmd.com/blog/2020-06-12-healthy-people-should-not-wear-face-masks/>

As we see in daily life, almost every mask-wearer uses the same mask, day after day. He stores it in an unsanitary location, *e.g.*, at the grungy bottom of his backpack, where it accumulates other foreign grime which is then available for his inhalation on the next occasion when he wears it. This is a further inevitable problem with the harmful idea of having the healthy general population wear masks.

Conclusion: *As everyone agreed* before the liberals made mask-wearing a political tool:

- Mask-wearing “carries uncertainties and *critical risks*” for the general public (WHO); and
- Mask-wearing “can increase your risk of getting it [*viz.* COVID-19]” (U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams).

3. The real purpose of imposing masks is to dehumanize and control the population

As is true of the corona-lockdowns, the mask-mandates are for controlling the *people*, not a virus.

Let’s start by summarizing the background of these mask-wearing mandates.

As we showed above, until the Spring 2020, *every* medical authority and medical study agreed that masks are ineffective against a virus and that masks themselves present a serious health risk to the general population. Then the liberals completely reversed their position – although they did not support their new position with any serious studies or reasoning.

Starting with the liberals’ reversal of position, masks instantly “became” the safe and prudent garb that everyone was told to wear. Those who didn’t reverse their own position and their own practice in order to follow the liberals and mainstream media, were mocked and attacked as being rash, stubborn, unfeeling, “science deniers” who endanger the lives of other people. People felt peer-pressure to conform. By wearing a mask, people engage in “virtue signaling” to show that they are not backward, unfeeling, or “science deniers”.

The liberals and mainstream media leave no room for calm, rational discussion of the many reasons and studies against mask-wearing. For example, social media sites immediately remove any rational discussion, calling it “disinformation”. The liberals and mainstream media declared that it is completely unacceptable to continue to follow what

everyone – even Fauci, the CDC, the WHO, and the rest of the liberal medical “authorities” – had continually said for years until they contradicted themselves in the Spring of 2020. People are given no other choice: either conform or be mocked and vilified.

Mandatory mask-wearing began in the summer of 2020, as the evidence then showed increasingly plainly that the COVID-19 death scare was overblown.

Early in 2020, the liberals and mainstream media terrorized the people by predicting a catastrophic corona-death toll. For example, in March 2020, the widely-cited Imperial College COVID-19 death model predicted that COVID-19 could cause as many as 2.2 million people to die in the U.S.⁴⁴

But as the weeks passed, it became increasingly clear that this scare was false and that COVID-19 was not nearly as fatal as the scaremongers claimed. People became less afraid and were demanding that society be opened up and that the lockdowns end. The “spell” of corona-terror was dissipating. At that point, many governments ordered mandatory mask-wearing.

Masks cause people to be disoriented, frightened, and anxious (both emotionally and physically). This effect of masks is not only common sense – and we observe every day in our current, bizarre times – but it is shown by all of the medical studies on the subject. For example, a 2008 study showed that mask-wearing caused anxiety, brain fog, and difficulty concentrating.⁴⁵

For the liberals to accomplish their totalitarian goals, it is crucial that the people be anxious and disoriented. This was admitted, for example, by billionaire, far-left promoter of socialism and revolution, George Soros, who remarked how the people’s fear and disorientation were crucial for accomplishing his goals. 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

⁴⁴ <https://www.dailywire.com/news/experts-finally-declare-imperial-college-coronavirus-model-that-predicted-2-2m-dead-in-u-s-totally-unreliable>

⁴⁵ Bader A *et al.*, *Preliminary report on surgical mask induced deoxygenation during major surgery*, published in: *Neurocirugia* 2008;19:12-126, <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18500410/>

becomes not only possible but *actually happens*. *People are disoriented and scared*.⁴⁶

The leftists and New World Order promoters are using mask-wearing mandates to prevent people from going back to normal life and to keep them in a state of corona-disorientation.

No medically-effective mask is demanded but only outward conformity.

Because mask-wearing is about controlling the people, and not controlling a virus, there are no minimum medical standards for the masks. A face-covering is demanded, but *any* face-covering is acceptable. It doesn't matter *what* the face-covering is, as long as it conceals a person's face. Any kind of bandana or strip of cloth is fine – no matter what it is made of and no matter how ill-fitting it is.

Mask-wearing destroys human interaction.

All that tyrants need in order to succeed in enslaving the people is to prevent the people from joining together. As Benjamin Franklin famously said while he and other American colonial leaders were opposing King George III of England: “If we don't all hang together, we will all hang separately.”

Mask-wearing is all about dividing and isolating people from each other because masks disrupt social connections and impede social interactions. This is because masks hide the most distinct, unique, *human* aspect of people – their faces. The two main means of human communication are our mouths and our eyes. Masks obscure our expressions and impede normal human, social interaction, dialogue and therefore, friendships and community.

Masks de-humanize persons and weaken the human connection of persons who are talking together. They cannot see each other's expressions, so they are less sure they know what the other person is thinking, whether he understands correctly, *etc.* For example, when a person tells a joke, it is harder to know if the other person knows he is joking and whether the other person understands the joke being told.

When people have their mouths and noses covered, they cannot readily speak. This is why placing something over the mouth is a universal symbol of suppression of speech. It

⁴⁶ <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/aug/12/george-soros-sees-revolutionary-moment-coronavirus/> (emphasis added).

is a common sight to see two masked persons come together and pull down their masks so they can speak to each other.

Not only can't people readily talk, they also cannot readily understand the muffled words which other people are trying to communicate. The psychological impact of these impediments to communication, is huge.

Government mask-mandates push people to watch their neighbors and report on them.

One hallmark of communist countries is pushing people to report their neighbors if those neighbors do not conform to government regulations. The U.S. has had comparatively little of such a *report-your-neighbor*, tattletale mentality in its history. But the government is encouraging this mentality now. Some governments have set up hotlines on which a person can report his neighbor for not wearing a mask. Here are three examples:

- ❖ In Ohio: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/ohio-county-launches-hotline-to-report-people-spotted-without-masks>
- ❖ In New York: <https://nypost.com/2020/04/21/de-blasios-social-distancing-tip-line-flooded-with-obscenities/>
- ❖ In Los Angeles: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/la-mayor-says-snitches-get-rewards-if-they-report-neighbors-covid-violations>

Vermont schools interrogate their students whether the students' families had Thanksgiving dinner with anyone outside their family circle.⁴⁷

Some people are officious meddlers and so they will gladly report their neighbor for not wearing a mask. Others are jealous of non-mask-wearers: "if I have to wear this, why don't they?" This jealous friction harms the cohesiveness of a free people.

Mask orders are helping to turn the U.S. – which has been one of the freest countries on Earth – into a regimented, conformist society, under perpetual surveillance, in which a subservient people scurries about under the severe eyes of authority.

⁴⁷ <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/vermont-authorizes-schools-to-ask-kids-to-rat-on-parents-who-celebrated-thanksgiving-with-others>

Mask-wearing is a further part of the liberals' vision of a "nanny state".

A mature and free person takes personal responsibility for his own actions. For example, he decides whether to buy flood insurance for his home – for his use in the event that his home suffers a catastrophic flood. If he decides not to buy this insurance, then he suffers the consequences of his own decision if his house floods. He “made his bed and now must lie in it”.

This is a conservative mentality. This is the position of freedom, maturity and virtue. This is the Catholic position. So, although there are hurricanes and floods every year, the government does not command a person to buy flood insurance. This was more the position of our nation in the past (compared to the present).

Likewise, there is flu and there are other sicknesses every year. In the past, no one ordered healthy people to lockdown, wear a mask, and take other such measures. An adult was expected to take personal responsibility for his own health and for his family.

By contrast, the liberals seek (and have long sought) to make the U.S. into a “nanny state”, in which adult citizens are not free but must conform to everything the government tells them to do for their (supposed) “own good”. For example, the Obamacare statute has a health insurance mandate to compel people to buy health insurance “for their own good” and which includes the specific minimum coverage which the government decides those people must buy. This is like the government demanding that all people eat a certain minimum quantity of broccoli “for their own good”.

This is the same mentality as in communist countries, where the government manages everyone's life and, *e.g.*, tells factories what (and how much) to produce and tells farmers what (and how much) to grow. Pope Pius XI warned about this communist control of the people, in these words:

Communism, moreover, strips man of his liberty, robs human personality of all its dignity⁴⁸

Part of that dignity which Pope Pius XI speaks of, is the dignity of a person taking personal responsibility and being provident for himself and his family.

Mask-wearing is all about the government controlling the people through power and fear. Face masks turn people into voiceless submissives. In mask-wearing, we see an example of government abuse and a furtherance of the “nanny state”. The “nanny state”

⁴⁸ *Divini Redemptoris – On Atheistic Communism*, Pope Pius XI, 1937, §10.

mandates (such as mask mandates) are very visible ways in which Russia is spreading her errors to the Western World, as Our Lady of Fatima predicted would occur.⁴⁹

The liberals and mainstream media make a pretense of tolerance but are completely intolerant when they are in control and when people don't make the same "safety decisions" those liberals demand, because liberals assume that people will not do what is reasonable unless the government compels them to do so.

Mask-wearing promotes evil conduct.

Revolutionary change can only occur in a destabilized society, as George Soros recognizes in the quote above. Mask-wearing destabilizes society because it emboldens people to commit evil they would not otherwise commit. That is why the (anti-Catholic, anti-black, bigoted) *Klu Klux Klan* members wear masks to embolden them in the evil they commit. Similarly, criminals wear masks because it makes them anonymous.

That is why many states make it a felony to wear a mask or conceal one's face in public (with a few exceptions for which masks are permitted). Here, for example, is the relevant part of Virginia's criminal mask-wearing statute:

It shall be unlawful for any person over 16 years of age to, with the intent to conceal his identity, wear any mask, hood or other device whereby a substantial portion of the face is hidden or covered so as to conceal the identity of the wearer, to be or appear in any public place The violation of any provisions of this section is a Class 6 felony.⁵⁰

⁴⁹ Our Lady of Fatima warned in 1917 that, when she came in the future (*viz.*, in 1929) to ask for the consecration, if the pope delayed this consecration, his delay would cause **great harm throughout the world**. Here are Our Lady's words:

I shall come [*viz.*, in 1929] to ask for the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, by the Holy Father and all the bishops of the world. If my request is heeded, Russia will be converted and there will be peace. **If not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, provoking wars and persecution against the Church.**

This is a portion of Our Lady's message during the Third Apparition of Fatima, July 13, 1917 (emphasis added; bracketed words added to clarify the timeline), quoted from *The Whole Truth About Fatima*, Frère Michel de la Sainte Trinité, translator John Collorafi, vol. II, Immaculate Heart Publications, Buffalo, NY, © 1989 for English translation, pp.281-282.

⁵⁰ <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title18.2/chapter9/section18.2-422/>

The anonymity of actions committed while wearing a mask is like the anonymity of conduct committed in darkness. That is why Our Lord declares that evildoers love the darkness:

[M]en loved darkness rather than the light: for their works were evil. For everyone that doth evil hateth the light, and cometh not to the light, that his works may not be reprov'd.⁵¹

Similarly, broad public mask-wearing de-stabilizes society by encouraging the protestors and rioters to commit crimes they would not otherwise commit. This mask-wearing obstructs the relationships between people and makes people's interactions more anonymous.

Face-covering promotes aggressive (and unfriendly) conduct against another person whose face is covered.

Not only does wearing a mask encourage a person to act evilly or irresponsibly, but also, when the person acted upon has his face covered, this further encourages aggressive or unfriendly conduct because it dehumanizes the recipient of that conduct. This is why from time immemorial, executioners covered the faces of the criminals who were being executed (whether by firing squad, lethal injection, electric chair, hanging, *etc.*). Covering the criminal's face de-humanizes the man whom the executioners are about to kill.

The incentive offered to the people for this conformity, is receiving back a *part* of the normal life that the government stole from the people.

As long as people conform to the mask requirement and wear *something* that covered their faces, they are not harassed. They are given the "privilege" of shopping at those stores which are, in turn, granted the "privilege" of being allowed to be open. (The permissible stores are mostly the big-box stores, to the destruction of the nation's "mom and pop" businesses. These big-box corporations almost uniformly promote and support liberal causes.)

Thus, people learned that if they conformed to the mask-wearing order, they could receive the "privilege" of having part (*but only part*) of their normal life restored to them again. This is like in communist countries, the government allows the people the "privilege" of working and living with less government harassment if they conform and don't dissent. People in communist countries learn that by conforming, they can have at least *some* aspects of a normal life (at the cost of their soul and their character). In other

⁵¹ *St. John's Gospel*, 3:19-20.

words, people are taught that if they want to live a life which is at least partly normal, they have to accept abnormality.

The character of mask mandates as executive orders, does further harm.

The harm to our country is not only caused by ordering everyone to wear masks but also because this is done by “emergency” executive order. The justification of those orders, in principle, is that they are necessary when an emergency is so urgent that action must occur immediately and there is no time to wait for the legislature to act. However, the months tick by, one by one, and there is no legislative action, as there would be if this were a true emergency.

This is an important and evil precedent which twists our established form of government. The abusive executive orders continue without checks or balances, month after month, long after the legislatures could have enacted a law but chose not to. In fact, some legislatures, *e.g.*, Wisconsin’s, both did not enact any law and also challenged their governor’s lockdown as unconstitutional.⁵²

Those who *voluntarily* promote this societal upheaval and revolution also share the guilt for it.

A person is culpable for the sin of another person when he: 1) consents to that sin; 2) remains silent when he should speak up; or 3) is a partner in that sin.⁵³

⁵² <https://www.wsj.com/articles/wisconsin-legislature-files-suit-over-governors-lockdown-order-11587504990>

⁵³ Here is summary of this basic truth about the various ways we can be responsible for another’s sin:

328. When are we answerable for the sins of others?

We are answerable for the sins of others whenever we either cause them, or share in them, through our own fault.

329. In how many ways may we either cause or share the guilt of another's sin?

We may either cause or share the guilt of another's sin in nine ways:

1. By counsel.
2. By command.

All of us, in our own circumstances, must make sure that we do not consent to or *voluntarily* cooperate with this evil now committed through this corona-scare which is ushering in what the globalists call “rebuilding the infrastructures of human existence”⁵⁴ and 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”.⁵⁵

Some people have more options than others do to effectively resist the jack boot of the New World Order, firmly pressing on society’s neck. Plainly, as much as possible, we should avoid scandalizing other people by giving them the impression that we support the liberal agenda.

Whereas the liberals follow their leaders such as former vice president Joe Biden, in “religiously” wearing masks, conservatives tend to be mask sceptics, like President Trump. As even the liberal media notes, there is an element of political allegiance displayed in wearing a mask in public.⁵⁶

Further, Our Lord is the Truth. *St. John’s Gospel*, 14:6. We all have a duty to be devoted to the truth and reflect the truth by our outward actions. If a person is persuaded that

-
3. **By consent.**
 4. By provocation.
 5. By praise or flattery.
 6. By concealment.
 7. **By being a partner in the sin.**
 8. **By silence.**
 9. By defending the ill done.

Quoted from *The Penny Catechism, Nihil Obstat*, Joannes M.T. Barton, S.T.D., L.S.S., *Censor deputatus, Imprimatur*, Georgius L. Craven, Epus Sebastopolis, Vicarius Generalis, Westmonasterii, die 20a Junii, 1958, p.57 (emphasis added).

⁵⁴ <https://www.cell.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0092-8674%2820%2931012-6>

⁵⁵ <https://www.weforum.org/press/2020/06/the-great-reset-a-unique-twin-summit-to-begin-2021/>

⁵⁶ See, e.g., <https://www.npr.org/2020/05/29/864515630/the-battle-between-the-masked-and-the-masked-nots-unveils-political-rifts>

the present universal mask-wearing is not a health necessity but rather is a leftist political ruse, then he would avoid voluntarily wearing a mask so that his outward actions would reflect these truths that he knows. Each such instance of not being cowed by human respect and pressure can help timid Catholics gain strength to join the fight for Christ the King.

We are first and foremost Catholics! We are subjects of Christ the King! Everything else we are, is secondary!

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