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This Is Modernity

Most responses to the coronavirus lie somewhere on a scale between fear and contempt, between total acceptance and total rejection of the reality of the virus and the wisdom of various measures taken in reaction to it. Most of us, of course, vacillate between the two extremes, like bewildered peasants caught between two medieval forces.

I think I am alone though in having reached the conclusion that the coronavirus and responses to it such as social distancing and other 'lockdown' measures are not exceptional, nor are they surprising.

Setting aside that a pandemic at some stage was an inevitable consequence of growing globalism and the increasing engagement of once isolated or exotic regions in global trade, in a far broader and more philosophical sense we see in coronavirus and supposedly exceptional responses something deeply familiar.

The virus and the lockdown are both aspects of modernity.

All they are, really, is an accelerated version of processes that have been ongoing for quite some time. The State has been expanding for more than a century, and expands faster in response to a declared crisis. The Church has been in abject retreat for more than a century, and thus predictably greeted this crisis with the compliant closing of its doors, a refusal to speak or lead, and general invisibility on the stage of events. It's curious amalgam of bureaucratic incompetence and monopoly on compassion and charity, once absolute, has long been challenged by state funded bodies and institutions, in the UK most notably the NHS, which during the current explosion of saccharine mandated sentiment has finally been enthroned as the only really universal religion. This is an acceleration of, not a departure from, our normal experience.

Perhaps the saddest of all these measures, the one that is most in tune with modernity and the least noticeable as a departure from normality, is social distancing.

We have been social distancing ourselves for well over a hundred years, possibly for several centuries. Communities do not meaningfully exist anymore for most western societies, because communities require the kind of strong and sometimes controlling social ties we wanted to abandon. Similarly, who can say that families, today, are not quite

often broken, atomised, and separated in ways that would be unfathomable a century ago? Tell us that we are safer huddling behind our own doors and not interacting with strangers? Isn't that a lesson everyone learns in a modern city, regardless of a virus? Tell us not to visit elderly or distant relatives? Isn't that, sadly, something we have



been practicing by degrees for a very long time? Tell us to interact through screens and technology? Hello, that's also an old friend already. It's not the 'new normal', in that horrible phrase that reporters love. It's just normal. We started doing it all before coronavirus.

A longer version of this article can be read on decliningtofall.co.uk

There Is a Heartfelt Need for Western Values

There seems to be a storm of identity transmutation - en masse - raging in the Western world; or at least a severe surge of self-doubt, or in other words, an enfeeblement in one's sense of self.

At the deepest, most existential layer, one's identity is defined by one's held set of values. Therefore, to assert that identity is transforming is the same as asserting that values are transform-

ative. But values are metaphysical in nature - extremely intangible and therefore difficult to measure, not to mention, assert any statements thereof. According to the existential psychologist, Abraham Maslow: "Something is considered to be a need if its deprivation produces an ailment". This is true of meta-needs, as he refers to spiritual needs, just as it is true of biological needs. Meta-needs are abstract concepts like life, liberty, truth, freedom, justice, beauty . . . values.

Tragically, perhaps, the absence of values produces tangible ailments such as anxiety, depression, self-doubt, detachment, insecurity...etc. Notice how all of the ailments resulting from the absence of values are social conditions pervading, most notably, the western world. The values of a civilization reflect the attitudes of its people and their sense of self in life. So, naturally, as people evolve, the projection of what they hold dearest will evolve as well. However, at the heart of Western civili-

zation there exists a handful of perennial values that serve as the nexus of commonality across western democracies, among them are: *Freedom of Thought, Freedom of Conscience, Freedom of Expression, Individual Dignity, and Personal Responsibility.* The recent pandemic shed light upon the willingness of individuals to forgo their values and acquiesce at the slightest hint of danger. This is problematic because, if you stand for nothing, you will fall for anything.

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An Open Letter to Anyone Worried About Others' Lack of Social Distancing

Fuck off you sanctimonious bastards. You think you're better than me because you judge others on social media? You think you're better than me because you moan about people not keeping two metres apart in the Co-Op? You think you're better than me because you're #stayinghome #staying safe? Well I've got news for you. It's because of people like you that we are sleep-walking into a dictatorship. Do you not see what's going on around you? Have you not remembered how Nazi Germany, Mao's China, Pol Pot, Stalin and countless others began

their reigns of terror? In what world do healthy people and kids have to be 'quarantined' in their homes? How is it 'dangerous' to take a walk on an empty beach, but fine to queue up to go to the shops? Why are politicians and journalists not respecting this arbitrarily designated two metre rule? But more importantly why aren't *you* questioning it? There is a mass trauma being inflicted on the world right now. Children have no concept of why their world has been ripped out from under them, of why they can't see their friends, go swimming, play in the park, walk to the shop to get an ice-cream. And these are the lucky ones. You victim lovers know very well about those in society

who are likely to be suffering, not because of Covid, but because of the quarantine. You wear their suffering like a badge on your lapel and yet you never make the mental connection... *You acquiesce!* You endorse this suffering. You call for it. The society we now live in - that the Deep State Cabal has created, that the mainstream media whores have delivered directly to your consciousness - values victimization. It worships pain. It gets off on suffering. And you've bought into it. You proudly cry 'Victim' and lock yourself away. To be honest, I have no problem with that. You have every right to take the protection of yourself and your

family seriously. But do you have the right to force that onto others? Do you have the right to judge others simply for wanting to go about their own life, freely, peacefully and respectfully? Because you believe the fear that is pumped 24/7 into your brain (which you choose to allow in, by the way), do you have the right to impose your fear-state on those of us who are not succumbing? Well here it is folks. You may want to give away your own power, but you sure as hell cannot give away mine. And when the jackboots come to your door to take away your kids or stick a needle in your arm, who - as the famous quote goes - will be left to stand up for you?

From the Pages of History

"Men fear thought as they fear nothing else on earth more than ruin, more even than death.

Thought is subversive and revolutionary, destructive and terrible, thought is merciless to privilege, established institutions, and comfortable habits;

thought is anarchic and lawless, indifferent to authority, careless of the well-tried wisdom of the ages. Thought looks into the pit of hell and is not

afraid . . . Thought is great and swift and free, the light of the world, and the chief glory of man."

— Bertrand Russell

A Viral Expert Writes ...

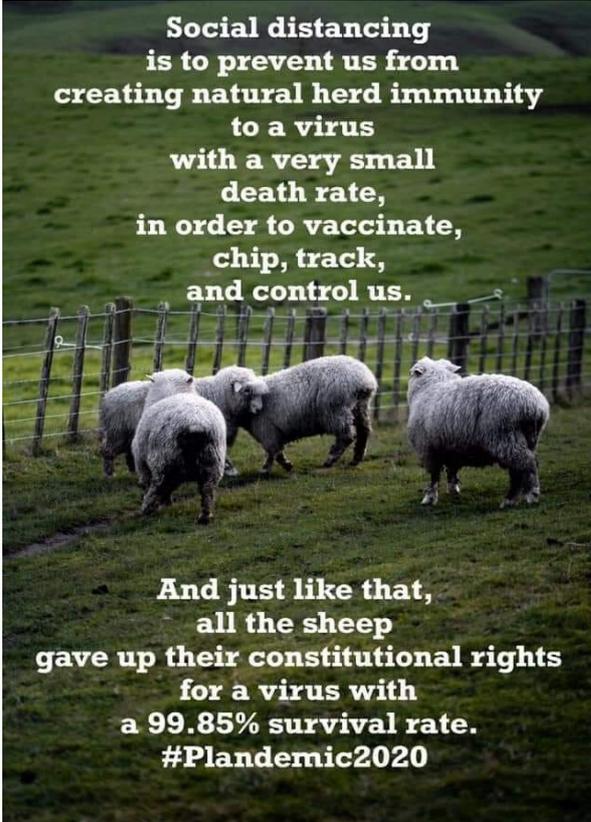
Herman G. Utterfraud, MD

As a respected doctor and viral expert, people often say to me, "Dr Utterfraud, has the government gone far enough in its social distancing guidelines?" The simple answer is that they have not. While social distancing has been a welcome development, much more effort is needed if we are to "flatten the curve." Over recent weeks, for instance, I have heard many accounts of households in which husbands and wives continue to share the same bed. In cases where it is neither possible nor practical to maintain a distance of at least three metres while asleep, it is imperative that other arrangements are found to cut down the possibility of serious infection. Among the range of possibilities you could be exploring is for one partner to sleep underneath the bed. In the case of dependent children who might ordinarily share the same room, a number of other

options would appear to present themselves. One of these would be to repurpose any wardrobes as makeshift sleeping areas. In cases where this is not feasible, you may also consider purchasing dog kennels that could be situated along an available corridor or possibly out in the garden. And what about households where a beloved family pet is already occupying any available space outside? Here the simplest solution might be to get rid of the animal. Finally, if you or any members of your household are suffering from symptoms of any condition unrelated to the new coronavirus, please be sure to stay home and not bother your doctor, who frankly has much more important things to be worrying about right now than your heart condition or what-not. Be safe!
• *Herman G. Utterfraud, MD, is a noted epidemiologist whose projections and computer models are widely used by governments everywhere.*

By far and away the most depressing aspect of our current culture is that people are completely unable to hold two opposing thoughts in their head at once. It leaves absolutely no room for nuance. And

everything's taken to the extremes. Tell them you rather enjoy brown bread and you're a snob who hates the working class's fondness for a doorstep sandwich made with thick white. This applies to both left and right. It's exhausting.



Social distancing is to prevent us from creating natural herd immunity to a virus with a very small death rate, in order to vaccinate, chip, track, and control us.

And just like that, all the sheep gave up their constitutional rights for a virus with a 99.85% survival rate. #Plandemic2020