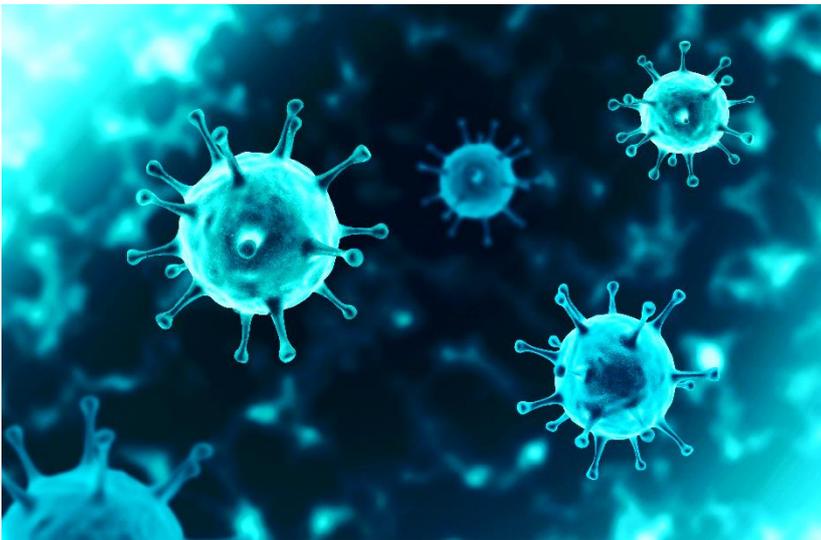


THE COST OF COVID

By Gareth Seward ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#))



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The true cost and impact of the government's response to COVID-19 may take years, even decades to be fully realised if it ever will be. It's also an important distinction to make; it is *government response* that we apportion the blame to, not the virus. When it comes to economies, people's freedom, livelihoods, business closures and restrictions on social activity, the virus was pretty benign as far as those things go. It was a fear-mongering government, a complicit media, and the so-called experts with a history of wildly inaccurate modelling that influenced and executed the social and economic suicide that began in March 2020.

As a recent admission from the Office of National Statistics shows, of the 157,000 deaths that were disingenuously framed as being COVID-19 deaths in carefully presented, sensationalist fear-porn headlines, only 6,000 of those were actually *from* COVID. There is a massive difference between that particular preposition and dying *with* COVID. If you tested positive within twenty-eight days and were killed when hit by a bus, technically it can be said you died "with" COVID. But it would be a very misleading context used to conveniently manipulate and push up those statistics. Of course, what is conveniently left out of that particular statistic is the thirteen tonnes of steel ploughing through your flesh and bone at forty miles per hour. Those kinds of things, as horrific as they are, don't really help ramp up the fear factor as much and scare you into compliance with government intrusions on your own lives and bodily autonomy.

This obvious provocation of fear and hysteria still somehow, for reasons that baffle me, managed to have an unbelievable effect I previously thought not possible on sane, rational human beings. Yes, there is a potentially harmful virus out there to some. But the flu has been around for decades (except, mysteriously, in 2020 when it completely vanished as if by magic, coincidentally whilst those COVID stats were going up), and never once have we shut down the world for it. We can see that those 6,000 COVID deaths, the deaths that had no co-morbidities other than just COVID, is a figure that pales in comparison to the flu which claims on average between 10 to 25,000 every year in the United Kingdom. And I am by no means dismissing or making light of those 6,000 victims or their families. Far from it. They have my sincere sympathies for what is a terrible thing. However, another number that the 6,000 will be vastly eclipsed by will be the incalculable number of lives destroyed by our government's reaction. Their severely over-reaching, draconian approach and restrictions will leave so many of us counting the cost for so many years to come:

All those that died from serious illnesses and diseases that weren't treated or diagnosed because the NHS played God and decided some lives had more priority than others. Those whose diagnosis could have been treatable or preventable but came too late, or not at all. The impact on the mental health of untold numbers of people. The damage done to them, their lives, their relationships and, sadly, the thousands of suicides that resulted as a consequence. The social damage done to our children, denied the ability to socially develop, and have their education disrupted and impeded. The people who died alone, whilst their loved ones were prevented from being with them during their final moments. Friends and families being denied their goodbyes and even from attending their funerals. The inter-relationship tensions that saw spikes in domestic abuse and tore families apart. The alcohol and substance abuse that has hugely increased, not only destroying or harming the lives of such people, but their families too. Families losing those cherished, precious and irreplaceable moments together. Grandmas and grandpas forced into lonely isolation, cruelly missing out on those special years of seeing their grandchildren grow. Not hearing the sound of their beloved grandchildren's laughter in person or being able to hug them and kiss them. People who had strived and sacrificed, working hard and risking so much to make a success of their businesses, just to see government destroy them on a whim. The economic damage that will have far and long reaching consequences for many decades, some that are obvious and others that are as yet unforeseen. The list can go on.



Source: Whippetgalore, [Wikimedia \(CC BY-SA 4.0\)](#)

This unimaginable, unquantifiable sacrifice of humanity, our lives, our society and our economy has been made for a virus that has roughly a quarter of the mortality rate of the flu. A virus with an average age mortality rate of 82.5 years, is on par or even older than the average UK life expectancy; up to 2019, the average life expectancy was 79.4 years for males and 83.1 years for females. This was done by politicians playing politics with people's lives, no matter how they spin it or manipulate the distorted data to try and justify it. It is all their fault.



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Was all this damage, death, and destruction worth it on net balance? None of it made sense then and none of it makes sense now. Of course, the collective mind-set of both those that advocated and enforced these sacrifices as well as those that vociferously supported them, will never acknowledge what a gargantuan travesty it has been. The devastating effect of the disproportionate measures taken in response to something that in effect, is nothing more than a type of nasty seasonal flu. They will cling to the distorted facts and abstract stats, their individual anecdotes and sensationalist media reports as a way to justify their positions, deny their responsibility or that they were badly wrong.

Economic growth and development has been suppressed through imposed lockdowns and restrictions, and was countered in the worst way possible through artificial stimulation by expanding the money supply. We saw unprecedented levels of money printing throughout much of the Western world, and a massive excess of public spending. We have added even more debt to an already existing record-busting level of debt that by the first half of 2021, saw global debt reach well over three times as much as global GDP at close to \$300 trillion.

A significant part of the cost-of-living crisis we are experiencing today comes from the accelerated inflation instigated by government and the Bank of England's enthusiasm for hitting those printing presses, as well as imposing restrictions on business. As a result, supply chains have been disrupted, causing supply issues and the money supply has been inflated, devaluing existing cash. So

when your money's purchasing power is weaker and there are shortages on the supply side, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to work out how this is going to hurt, and hurt the poor and vulnerable the worst.

Again, government will blame COVID. The truth is, however, economically we have long been walking a dangerous fine line for a long time with poor monetary and fiscal policies, and COVID came along and accelerated the inevitable, whilst simultaneously giving the government an apparent perfect scapegoat to blame. Do not swallow it. Hold to account those that are truly responsible.

LIFE DURING THE COVID YEARS

By James Goad ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Gettr](#), [Rumble](#))

Some rather random perspectives of the last two years follow.

The blonde puppet's announcement of the lifting of the remaining COVID restrictions, and presumably the end of the Coronavirus Act 2020 emergency legislation itself elicited a 'so what' from me. The precedent has been set. Government power once acquired is not readily laid down. The state has proven that it can conjure up a national emergency through psychological manipulation via propaganda to radically change our lives. Being at the mercy of a whimsical, authoritarian entity hangs over us like a shadow. Only the naïve would believe the state would not exert itself in this fashion again, or go much further.

However at liberty we presently are, the threat of force exerted by state institutions is now ever present, and it's much worse than it used to be. The after-effects of the COVID years will be with us for a generation, the remainder of my statistically allotted time on this mortal coil. The last two years have been easier for me than most. I was a 'key worker' during the first lockdown and outdoors every day. When restrictions eased, I drove across the continent to a new life in Bulgaria where, out in the country, little attention is paid to government mandates. In a former Warsaw Pact nation, the population does not trust the state, for obvious reasons. Central Europe is increasingly popular as an expatriate destination these days.

Returning to the UK for employment at the end of May last year I have yet to darken the doors of the office in which I am technically based. The company took the opportunity to reduce their office footprint, taking out a whole floor from their city location. The big corporates are huge employers of the professional class to which I belong and now have another excuse to 'right size overhead' by downsizing their office rentals. At the same time, small family businesses go to the wall. The corporate cartels benefit from the decimation of small business and that was surely part of the plan. The technocratic public-private partnerships are ramping up to complete the ultimate takeover of sovereign nations. I'd wager they would see the smaller the percentage of family-sized businesses still operational, the better, dependent on function.

Polarisation has been more extreme than the worst aspects of Brexit. Being part of a marginalised, anti-state minority can be fun though. The weight of state propaganda and Big Tech bring brought to bear on you in myriad ways is oppressive, but enlightening. I have just purchased Edward Bernays' book *Propaganda*, which will doubtless confirm a number of things witnessed. Whilst resisting the cult means being oppressed, it has the dubious benefit of being able to clearly see the psychological



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Source: UK Government, [Wikimedia](#) (OGL v3.0)

warfare being waged upon us. It also affords us the view of less-aware friends and family falling victim to it. This has taken a toll. There are many who have not been able to survive it. The mental health after-shocks will go on for years, tainting even the next generation. I happen to believe my family dynamic was moulded by the dislocations brought about by World War Two. Similarly, what we have now is a deliberately traumatised, vulnerable populace. I'm waiting for the Big Event where people rush to the paternalistic state to save them from the next outrage. It will happen.

Now living in the Batley and Spen constituency, I get regular email updates about my MP's efforts in parliament. Whilst continually pursuing government ministers for their approach to and funding of health care and care-in-the-community activity, she often cites the needs of vulnerable people. All well and good to do so if you're an MP, but when the same official enthusiastically votes for stringent lockdown measures,

you have to scratch your head. To my mind, that's a bit like carving someone up with a machete and then asking someone else for some sticking plasters to curb the blood flow.

One of the few positives I take from the whole episode is that more people have woken up to the true reality of their existence. The fiction within which we have existed all our lives is being exposed as theatre, little by little. The parasite class are dropping the pretence. The adornments are being removed piece by piece, exposing the brick walls of captivity. Those who have broken free from the grip of state propoganda can see it for what it is, and it's our job to wake up others any way we can.

NORMALITY IS NO MORE

By Christopher J. Wilkinson ([Website](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Telegram](#), [MeWe](#))

Will we ever 'get back to normal'? Do all deaths have to cease? Must all cases be eliminated? How many people must die from untreated cancer, heart disease, or suicide before people trade fear for sense? How many jobs must be lost? How many businesses must be ruined? How bad must our mental health get trapped inside this prison of the state's making? How many friends or relatives must we avoid contact with? How many scars from an abusive partner will be sufficient to reduce transmission?

Devotees to lockdowns, social distancing and face masks are now individuals so detached from reality they have no memory of life before March 2020. Before COVID, we still had illnesses, deaths, propaganda, and corrupt authoritarian governments. Two years ago, libertarians embarked on a great awakening while many others sleepwalked into oblivion. COVID has become a term used to justify the policies of authoritarian tyranny imposed upon us by illiberal, undemocratic states on a global scale, not the name of a virus – real or fictitious. Normality is no more. Liberty has become an unwanted mental construct hampering an identity-destroying 'common good', not an inalienable natural right requiring defence. They walk among us in silence, and we don't know who they are. I fear these people.

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