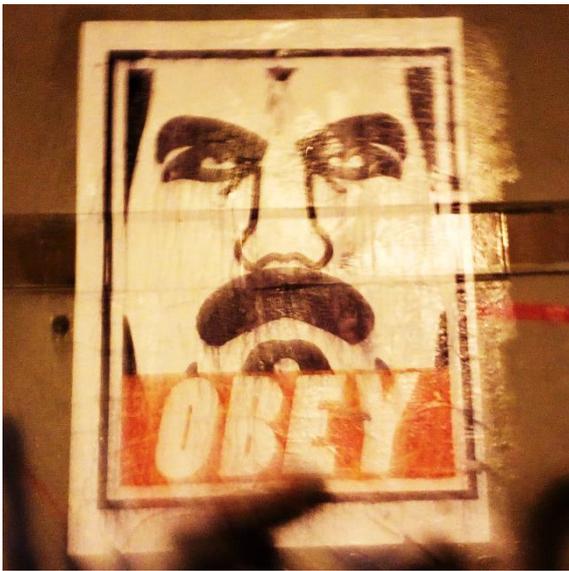


COVID REALPOLITIK

By LibertariDan ([Facebook](#), [Telegram](#))



Source: Jamez42, [Wikimedia \(CC BY-SA 4.0\)](#)

The most prevailing thought in my mind, when reflecting on the collective COVID experience, is one of a government and a parliament that was led primarily by popularity and politics, and consequently made damaging decisions with long term costs. While science played some part in decision making, if you can call the laughably inaccurate predictions of Neil Ferguson science, it seems to me that realpolitik mattered a whole lot more – and short term realpolitik at that – culminating in [the abject failure to accept the truth that lockdown kills and COVID kills](#).

It all happened like something from the Edward Bernay's *Propaganda* playbook in which he said "...it remains a fact that in almost every act of our daily lives, whether in the sphere of politics or business, in our social conduct or our ethical thinking, we are dominated by the relatively small number of persons – a trifling fraction... – who understand the mental processes and social patterns of the masses. It is they who pull the wires which control the public mind,

who harness old social forces and contrive new ways to bind and guide the world." We, the public, were given such a narrow perspective of the situation and one so supported by all the 'right' voices, one so packed with dire consequences and fear, the great mass of people were herded into lockdown so effectively that it seemed to gain its own momentum after a while. [I often wonder if the extent to which the public eventually demanded their own captivity actually surprised our masters](#). As Larken Rose once observed, "I'm not scared of the Maos and the Stalins and the Hitlers. I'm scared of the thousands or millions of people that ... do their bidding, and pay for their empires, and carry out their orders". And there were a lot of those.

The call to inform on your neighbours and call the police, if they had too many visitors, was like something from Soviet-era eastern Europe. "Crisis is the rallying cry of the tyrant," said James Madison, and the reality is that we are living under an authoritarian regime right now. It is but a small step in degree or duration (or change of guard) between averting perceived disaster and grabbing power and control for its own sake, or some future purpose. The state does not easily relinquish powers it has taken. We know this because they were renewed and still remain in place. When it all began, we were subject to scenes of reluctant politicians publicly regretting our lost freedoms while in the act of voting to take them away. Then, six months later, when 'emergency powers' were up for renewal and the rumblings of a back bench rebellion of up to eighty MPs could be heard, the freedom loving among us waited in anticipation for those with the power to make a stand. [But it turned out to be a gutless rebellion](#), ultimately thwarted by the MPs' own failure to vote against renewal. Not even Graham Brady, an amendment proposer, or Steve Baker, who presented himself so reluctant to vote for the emergency powers in the first place, could bring themselves to oppose renewal. Their freedom credentials will be forever tainted in my mind.

Many no doubt imagine they were being good citizens by swallowing blindly every mandate handed down from the state. But it is not virtue to remain ignorant of the harm done by the very strategy they blindly embrace, it's just plain old ignorance in the end. It's precisely because COVID kills and lockdown kills that it's not for you, me, or the government, to pick the winners and losers and thereby force harm on others. Those who feel virtuous for only caring about the people COVID kills may be free to do so, but they don't have the right to inflict their one-sided myopic view on everyone else by force. If people are going to risk



Source: Shaun Merritt, [Wikimedia \(CC BY 2.0\)](#)

harm to themselves and loved ones in either case – and they are – the more moral approach is to provide true information and let individuals and families govern themselves to meet their own individual and very specific situations. Something more Swedish in approach perhaps, an approach we know in hindsight wasn't worse than other nations to the extent 'scientists' were trying to make us believe, and far better than many in the end, without such 'collateral damage' – by which we mean real people, more harmed by the 'cure' than the disease, sometimes fatally so.

Our present government is and was possibly the least trusted to make such decisions on behalf of others that we've had in our lifetimes. Yet many fear that the individuals around them cannot be trusted to act correctly without government coercion. But, if individuals can't be trusted, why on earth would you trust the individuals in government far removed from the consequences? At least I can trust most other people to at least be interested in the survival and wellbeing of those they love. I can say no such thing about the machinery of the state. As Dr. Thomas Sowell put it, "It is hard to imagine a more stupid or more dangerous way of making decisions than by putting those decisions in the hands of people who pay no price for being wrong." But that is exactly what most people did. And now, looking back, we see more clearly than ever how wrong those making the decisions were, and how high the price. Can enough individuals learn enough to make sure this never happens again, or does ignorance prevail sufficiently for blind faith in the state to move nations again, and again, no matter how stupidly, or how high the price to be paid?



Source: Christopher J. Wilkinson (used with permission)

HINDSIGHT IN 2020

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

As part of a campaign to become an independent councillor, [I launched a website where I regularly posted articles relating to COVID and other issues](#). While my campaign foundered, the articles have demonstrated remarkable prescience and serve as a useful cautionary reminder of the events and actors of the time as we mark two years since COVID-19 took over our lives. This piece contains some of the standout statements from those articles.

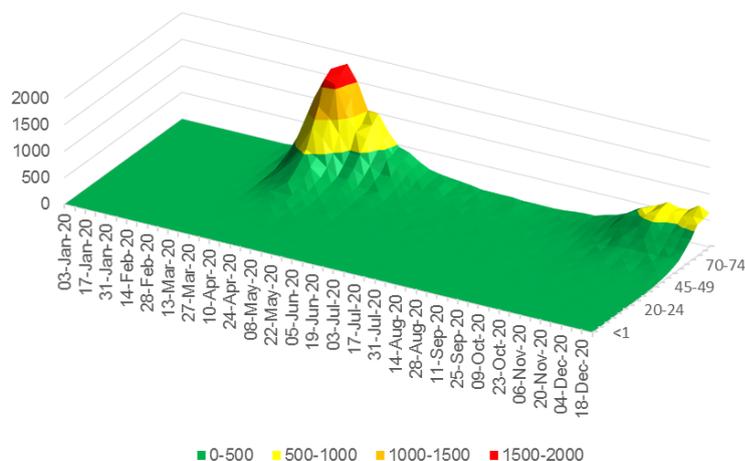
In September 2020, I discussed how the then-new 'rule of six' regulation, touted as an effective measure to prevent a second lockdown – a second lockdown we were subsequently forced into regardless, was [arbitrary due to there being very little evidence of a 'second wave' having a significant effect](#). I maintain that the Coronavirus Act 2020 introduced by Matt Hancock, which passed without a parliamentary vote with measures designed to stand for two years,



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

remains the most liberty-destroying legislation ever enacted. I argued that this legislation was ['reliant on a relentless stream of monotonous propagandist government slogans for its justification'](#). The only reason for its continuation to this date was to [maintain the illusion of a deadly pandemic](#), despite the government admitting that 'as of 19 March 2020, COVID-19 is no longer considered to be a high consequence infectious disease (HCID) in the UK'. [On March 25, we shall see most measures finally removed](#). Interestingly, of the four main measures still to be retained beyond that date, one allows for coroner inquests to proceed without a jury where the suspected cause of death is COVID-19. Corporate pharmaceutical companies have made their money with the vaccine rollout, [with Pfizer having pocketed \\$31 billion and Moderna awash with \\$18 billion in cash](#), and now they're cleaning up the legal loose ends in case of prosecution should their patented experimental mRNA vaccines contribute significantly to excess deaths.

ONS: Deaths involving COVID-19 (2020), all ages (3D surface model)



Source: Christopher J. Wilkinson (used with permission)

I was right when I said that the ensuing chaos caused by lockdowns and social distancing would be treated as collateral damage by a government that couldn't care less about people's jobs, incomes, livelihoods, families, mental health, physical wellbeing, and personal interests. Our economy is in the worst recession in three hundred years with soaring inflation because the government destroyed it. Our social lives are in ruins with contact cut between family and friends while happy memories remain unmade because the government forced us apart. Our

increasingly authoritarian, hands-on, pro-intervention political system resembles that of a despotic banana republic. The only interests the government wishes to pursue are the government's own. It's not about staying alert, protecting the NHS, or saving lives. It never was. Subsequent state-induced panic during the 'second wave' and 'third wave' was [confected by simple manipulation of the statistics](#); the 'increase in the number of daily tests has inevitably led to the detection of more cases'. I cast doubt on the authenticity of the PCR tests and drew attention to the lack of correlation between supposed case numbers and the death rate – even now, with the presence of false positive tests and detection of residual coronavirus artefacts from people who've already recovered from the virus counted as COVID cases, with the methodology skewed to include people who have 'tested positive' and who subsequently die in the following twenty-eight days, [the fake death statistics remain remarkably nonthreatening](#) for a pandemic of apparently monstrous proportions.

In October 2020, [reeling from the first renewal of the Coronavirus Act](#), I warned that [coronavirus is not the only killer](#) and highlighted how the state's actions had directly led people to suicide, stripped the dignity of those in care homes, and forced children to live in fear. The government abdicated regard for the self in favour of the collective. I rightly predicted that the state's strategy was to restore our freedoms contingent on a majority take-up of the vaccine, and even then, our freedoms would be lesser in quantity than before – [we now have the prospect of our right to protest, among other things, being retracted in a new Bill of Rights](#). Later that month, [the government had moved the goalposts from deaths to cases](#) and it became crystal clear that the intention of those faceless men in Westminster and Whitehall was not to control the virus, but to control individuals and their sense of liberty. Retreating to a containment strategy, [the achievement of natural herd immunity was put in peril](#) by those in positions of responsibility who possess control freak mentalities intent on burying scientific truth. The more the state grabbed at an imagined prospect of power over every individual citizen with no regard for civil liberties or personal freedoms, the further away we became from regaining what is normal. The COVID-19 experience [proved the old adage that nothing is more permanent than a temporary government programme](#).

In November, with a second lockdown in place, [I reiterated that herd immunity is science](#), and that lockdowns and social distancing are a pseudoscience with no historical precedent against a background where millions begged the government to intensify measures against the coronavirus. There is still no proof that lockdown saved a single life that couldn't have been saved without it. [Official advice encouraged people to get tested for the coronavirus](#) if they began experiencing headaches, aches and pains, sore throat, runny nose, sneezing and tiredness – symptoms of a typical cough or cold, but not of a



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

killer out-of-control disease. There is nothing that increased testing could cure or treat, except to feed the inaccurate case statistics which were being used to justify oppressive lockdown, social distancing and mask wearing policies. Compliance became a killer in and of itself. Further panic was stoked when it was suggested COVID was being spread asymptotically, despite every virus developing in the human body being asymptomatic in the period before infection takes hold. It was suspicious that mass 'testing' for coronavirus [came at a time shortly after legislation was passed that made it legally possible for the government to store data on our DNA](#) for uses beyond our control. By the end of the year, [I branded the government's cycle of repeating the same failed anti-COVID policies and expecting a different result as the definition of insanity](#).

We still live in a world devoid of sense at the head of governments, but at least we can keep our own heads with the use of logic, common sense, critical thinking, and interrogation of what we're being led to believe by our political representatives. Our liberty has been redefined in recognition of the fact that at least we know what to do next time, and our experience of how people were led so blindly for so long primes us for combatting more effectively any future experience of government-led phoney crisis.

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