



Written by [Luis Miguel](#) on April 20, 2020

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The Viral Assault on Our Rights

Panicked Americans are begging for their rights to be taken away. They are giving up the Constitution for little in return.

The right to peaceably assemble in large groups suspended. Police cars patrolling neighborhoods to ensure citizens remain locked away in their homes and obey curfews. Churches shutting down their worship services out of fear of government reprisal. The state picking and choosing which businesses are deemed acceptable and which must close their doors, as people form into long lines outside grocery stores, fighting each other over essential items.

Is this Venezuela? Is this Soviet Russia? Or some other communist regime?

No. It's the United States of America. The year is 2020 — in the era of the coronavirus.

How have Americans responded to the near-overnight arrival of this 21st-century police state? In the world's bastion of liberty, have the people risen up in indignation against the deterioration of constitutionally protected freedoms taking place right before our eyes?

On the contrary, many Americans can't seem to get enough authoritarianism. The mainstream media's push for stricter controls over the populace amid the COVID-19 outbreak is to be expected. The ruling class's attempt to take advantage of the panic — as seen in the Justice Department's recent request to suspend habeas corpus — comes as no surprise.

But it isn't just the elites in government and the media. Take even a casual scan on social media, and you'll find everyday Americans from both sides of the political spectrum calling on federal and state officials to impose further restrictions — calls to close “non-essential” businesses, to close the beaches, to nationalize this or that industry.

Once or twice a week, you're sure to see among Twitter's trending hashtags [#LockDownFlorida](#) or another variant demanding that one of the states thus far refraining from a statewide quarantine jump on the bandwagon.

The masses are literally *begging* the government to take their rights away in exchange for protection from the virus. Governments are happy to oblige, even when their actions are in violation of the law.





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Unconstitutional Usurpations

That the federal government lacks authority to shut America down, whether over the coronavirus scare or any other reason, is clear to anyone who takes time to read the U.S. Constitution. The Supreme Law of the Land does not grant the legislature or the executive power to stop citizens from leaving their homes or to tell businesses what products to make — even for well-intentioned purposes such as producing more medical supplies.

Yet the mainstream media acknowledges the president's limited authority over the economy, albeit unwittingly. In an effort to kick back against President Trump's desire to bring America back to business as usual as soon as possible, Reuters columnist Jan Wolfe wrote that the commander-in-chief in reality has "little power to restart the U.S. economy."

Wolfe omitted the logical extension of that argument: If the president has little power to restart the economy, he has little power to shut it down in the first place.

Of course, much of the shutdown has come by way of state governments, typically governors flexing their executive muscles. Yet even here, some are guilty of violating their own state constitutions.

Take Wisconsin, which has enacted a stay-at-home order, banning all "public and private gatherings," prohibiting crowds larger than 10, and mandating that Wisconsinites at all times keep a distance of six feet from one another. "Non-essential" businesses are closed, and anyone who violates the order by illegally working could face a \$250 fine and up to 30 days in jail.

But Article 1, Section 4 of the Wisconsin Constitution leaves no doubt about citizens' right to assemble: "The right of the people peaceably to assemble, to consult for the common good, and to petition the government, or any department thereof, shall *never* be abridged." (Emphasis added.)

For politicians who want to expand and centralize power, the coronavirus is a million-dollar lottery ticket. It provides them with a pretext to cancel all legislative sessions, commission and city council meetings, public hearings, town halls, rallies, protests, and demonstrations — all under the guise of keeping us healthy.

If anyone dares to question the coronavirus response — its costs both to our wallets and our freedom — they face immense censure from a rabid media and a hysterical public whom the media has effectively induced to believe is facing the end times. Intellectual dissidents are panned as insensitive, scientifically ignorant, and conspiracy theorists — the fallback ad hominem for whoever refuses to toe the establishment line.

Considering the tyrannical trajectory of the COVID-19 response, how long will it be before opposition to lockdowns, curfews, and the other heavy-handed policies is labeled "hate speech" and outlawed outright, or at least banned on platforms of public discourse such as newspapers, radio, and social media?

Freedom Is the Answer

But locking down America is not only unconstitutional, it is also the wrong way to fight the virus, according to a group of over 800 health officials from the country's most renowned institutions, including the Yale School of Public Health and the Stanford University School of Medicine, who published an open letter to Vice President Mike Pence and all federal, state, and local leaders involved



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in shaping COVID-19 policy. These experts strongly oppose the lockdowns being imposed on Americans, writing:

Mandatory quarantine, regional lockdowns, and travel bans have been used to address the risk of COVID-19 in the US and abroad. But they are difficult to implement, can undermine public trust, have large societal costs and, importantly, disproportionately affect the most vulnerable segments in our communities....

Voluntary self-isolation measures are more likely to induce cooperation and protect public trust than coercive measures, and are more likely to prevent attempts to avoid contact with the healthcare system.

“Voluntary” is the key word.

Those of us who want to preserve our freedom amid this panic believe in the principle of personal responsibility. America’s history has shown that the combination of rational self-interest and personal morality will motivate the majority to act responsibly in situations such as this, assuming the public is equipped with the right information.

If you inform Americans that those with weakened immune systems, such as the elderly and people with certain medical conditions, are the ones who are really at risk, then those individuals will generally, of their own will, self-isolate out of self-interest: They don’t want to wind up hospitalized. Their family and friends will voluntarily refrain from visiting them out of a desire to not infect their loved ones. And nursing homes will voluntarily suspend visits out of self-interest to not kill off their paying residents.

In all of this, at no point is it necessary to place restrictions on everybody, regardless of whether they’re susceptible to the virus or not. Such broad actions are the equivalent of using an axe when what’s needed is a surgical scalpel. The cure should be tailored to every person’s or group’s particular needs.

A Common Sense Solution

Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai, a systems scientist and pioneer in the field of systems biology, has repudiated the current approach to the coronavirus, claiming it “at best” is based on a 1950s outdated ‘one-size-fits-all,’ non-personalized approach to medicine and public health; and at worst, is derived from a ‘fake science’ understanding of the immune system.” Dr. Ayyadurai holds four degrees from MIT, to which he returned in 2003 to complete doctoral work within the Department of Biological Engineering — work that led him to develop CytoSolve, a “scalable computational platform for modeling the cell by dynamic integration of molecular pathways models.”

In a letter to the president, Dr. Ayyadurai rejects the response model pushed by Dr. Anthony Fauci, who is seen as the guiding force behind the Trump administration’s coronavirus policy.

Arguing that there is no need to shut down the entire country or to quarantine all citizens, Dr. Ayyadurai proposes a common-sense program driven by personal choice and guided by the scientific principle that it is a compromised immune system that really puts people at risk — therefore, the focus should be on encouraging citizens to strengthen their own immune systems.

The MIT alumnus says only those who test positive for COVID-19 should self-quarantine until they test negative. Everyone should regularly take high dosages of vitamins A, D, and C, as these nutrients play indispensable roles in immune-system functions.

Freedom. Responsibility. Choice. These are the bedrock principles on which our Republic was founded,



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and they are needed now more than ever to safeguard our public health while also safeguarding our constitutionally enshrined rights.

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