

Debra Thompson

From: Michael Truex <mtruex@riseup.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 10:49 AM
To: Debra Thompson; Assembly
Subject: Mandates, all of them.

It's refreshing to remember that this is not a bipartisan issue, or a bipartisan island. I feel better knowing that each of you want the same thing I do, for Petersburg to thrive. The best path towards that goal is the path that finds balance, a balance found through thoughtful risk-benefit analysis. Unfortunately, Facebook anecdotes, profit motivated media, and even the CDC are throwing our understanding of this illness out of balance.

Several days ago, Senator Rand Paul, a medical doctor, spoke out against the current lock downs, showing that blanket corona virus testing aboard a US military ship proves the virus to be 25-50% less fatal than originally feared. Senator Scott Jenson, also an MD, has blown the whistle on CDC inflation of Covid death numbers. Prediction models have pulled back on their guesses from the original (and scary) 2 million to somewhere around 60,000. As it becomes apparent that covid is far less dangerous than once presumed, and certainly less dangerous than the flu, States have been granted the right to move towards re-opening, and ours has chosen to do so. Why would the island town of Petersburg, case count 3, go on to push mask mandates and empower themselves to arrest us from our homes as they see fit? Are these draconian measures really in pursuit of Life, Liberty and Happiness?

Whatever you may believe about covid- think about this- many studies show that for only a 1% rise in the unemployment rate, our nation sees around 58,000 additional deaths that year. Take a close look at that statistic. Fact check it, please. What I'm telling you is that as our sense of purpose goes down, a thing called "all cause mortality" goes up. Right now our nation's unemployment rate is around 30% and people are struggling to meet primary needs with no income. Stress is high. Super high. Stress kills. Nobody knows what will happen from this much unemployment and social awkwardness, but 58,000 is still more deaths than covid has caused, even WITH the inflated CDC numbers.

From unemployment trickle down alone, we have now extrapolated that by imposing the "shelter in place" and other measures, our governance is causing more harm (in the form of deaths) than good. Consider also the additional risks from deferred medical procedures, or "deferred maintenance" of our bodies. These mandates, all of them, need to be lifted, and now. To further enhance this emergency through another mandate is not ok, and **cannot** be interpreted as well informed.

There's a reason why this sort of lockdown hasn't happened in my 40 year lifetime, if ever. It's an extreme *and* out of balance approach. It is the responsibility of government to assess **all** risks to the people, not to shine their flashlight on only the squeakiest wheel. Right now, our medical industry is a very squeaky wheel. It is their job to alert us to potential risks. It is the job of government to access those risks against others, and find balance.

Liberty *and* Happiness *are* statistically imperative for keeping us alive. To impinge on these two you also impinge on life. Authorizing borough agents to lock us down in specified housing at their discretion is an embarrassing oversight and overstep. I urge you to rise above the fearful, profit motivated propaganda that is creating this "emergency" Please Vote no on this new mandate.

Michael Truex
