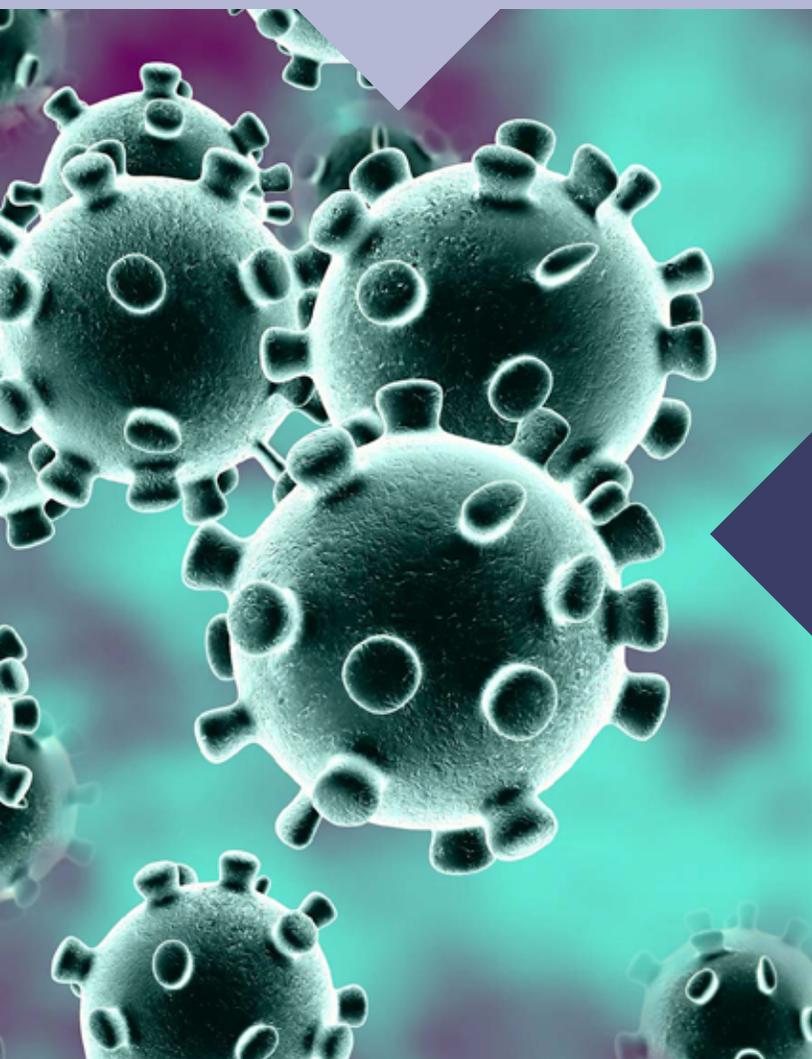


# THE LIBERTARIAN REJECTION OF THE TYRANT -VIRUS

The management of  
the Corona Virus  
consolidates  
Totalitarianism and  
the Fear of Freedom

BY CARLOS GOEDDER



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# THE LIBERTARIAN REJECTION OF THE TYRANT-VIRUS

The management of the Corona Virus consolidates  
Totalitarianism and the Fear of Freedom

*To Dr. Gustavo Villasmil, the most brilliant doctor of Liberty*

COVID-19 or Coronavirus (\*) is the first epidemic managed under increasingly authoritarian governments, with populist features, little social sensitivity and an isolation agenda. Managing this crisis is the true epidemiological danger. Because it encourages fear, weakens the social body through isolation, eludes commitments to the most vulnerable, and demonstrates that broad access to information is insufficient to protect citizens from incompetent governments.

*All human life is sacred.* Therefore, when commenting on the coronavirus statistics, it is necessary to do so with respect. The painful suffering of a minority is being used for the greatest experiment in social control of the century. On March 18, 2020, compiling information from the Bloomberg and Financial Times publications, there are 28,000 infected in Italy and 2,500 in the USA. In the world, there are 200 thousand cases of coronavirus infection, with an estimated mortality of 3% and that would drop to 1% in a population with good health services<sup>(1)</sup>. Italy has a population of 60 million, the US is home to 327 million, and the world exceeds 7 billion humans. Contrary to popular belief, young people are more vulnerable, given that they are the most abundant population with the least access to employment or social benefits - in the US there are 144 cases of COVID-19 infection among those over 85 years of age, less than 10% of the total.

The first special on COVID-19 published in Bloomberg is from January 6, 2020<sup>(2)</sup> An Internet portal reports that there are 8,967 deaths from this disease. That is, in two and a half months, 0.0001281% of humanity has died from this disease, that is, 1 person for every 780,640. And in Peace rest, I insist, because many would have been saved with a good health and social security policy, absent long ago in most of the Globe. The probability of dying from coronavirus is, just now, just over three times the probability that each of us dies from lightning, which is somewhat remote - 1 person for every 3 million<sup>(3)</sup>.

**And the most terrible thing is that no one has declared an epidemic of hunger, because so far this year, it is estimated that 1,921,946 people have died directly from malnutrition or the damage to health caused by this scourge.** According to this source, every 10 seconds a child dies of hunger, and 9 million people die every year from this calamity, which could be avoided with doses of good government and solidarity<sup>(4)</sup>. Why has no one declared a global emergency in the face of this real epidemic?

Many will respond that it is thanks to preventive measures that the coronavirus has not escalated further. That as a result of locking people in their homes, preventing them from going to school or working or exercising in a gym, or even going to the temple, a scourge has been stopped. How dangerous this reasoning is! It is because we are covering up the consequences of inept governments, which are responding with policies that favor the wealthiest and most severely violate the poorest. Anyone who objects to the handling of the crisis will be branded as an “enemy of the people”.



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The management has been opportune for the populist, isolationist and regressive agendas that developed world suffers from



During 2019 considerable protests arose over social inequality. In Hong Kong, the biggest fight for freedom was taking place, against the almighty Chinese government. Santiago de Chile, Paris, Bogotá, all these cities were massively protesting social inequalities. In Caracas, the measures of confinement are adopted a few days after large demonstrations against the Government.. **Coronavirus management has been extremely timely to disarm these social mobilizations.** Surprisingly, with meekness, an isolation that destroys social integration has been accepted. The waste is enormous. Education, work and entertainment options closed. **Freelancers, those working in the informal economy and the elderly are limited in their access to income generation.** In Colombia, those over 70 have been restricted from leaving home (those who have it) just to make emergency purchases, go to the bank or go to health services, forgetting that many continue to work - in that country, only the 30% of the population over the age of 60 would have access to retirement pensions, according to a 2015 publication <sup>(5)</sup>.

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The measures adopted do not go towards reinforcing access to health, nor to protecting medical and nursing personnel. On the contrary, there is talk of reducing interest rates, injecting money into the economy by monetizing the fiscal deficit and lowering taxes. Public spending has all the pretexts to grow. The winners are investors and capital friends of governments. Meanwhile, the most fragile entrepreneurs see their businesses empty, tourism has been destroyed, which are key factors for many nations (the Easter season is over) and nobody talks about how to help lower-income citizens. The churches are left empty by decree and the supermarkets are full, for those who have how to buy. Thoughtless spending and excess household inventories are the norm. **It is an unfair waste.**

It is the largest experiment in Authoritarianism. People are impassively tolerating restrictions on our daily lives. We are taught to be suspicious of our neighbor, in rooms as sacred as a church or a concert hall. Borders are closed, xenophobia increases and we are asked to be alone, without working, without educating ourselves, without producing. Teleworking is invited, in a world where only half the population accesses the Internet (6).

Governments have managed to weaken society, which follows the behavior of thoughtless flock, in the face of a new strain of influenza. Every year there is at least one and that is why it is required to apply the influenza vaccine annually, in countries where there is access to it. The coronavirus is essentially that, a new viral strain that could be managed without this terror, from which winners have emerged: authoritarian governments, traders who have been betting on a “market correction” since 2018, wealthy debtors and large pharmacy or supermarket chains. The management has been opportune for the populist, isolationist and regressive agendas that developed world suffers from, which increasingly resembles Latin America in its management. The individual ability to exchange ideas, goods and services, even feelings, is undermined. **We are destroying the bulwarks of freedom, which reside in interacting, integrating to produce, trade, and receive new ideas.**

If there really is this “Fear of Freedom”, which the author Eric Fromm pointed out, the management of this crisis confirms it and it is surprising how the population with the greatest access to information in history blindly surrenders to this crisis management. We lack statesmen, capable of calling for good sense, unity and trust. We have politicians who manage to promote the most sterile destruction of citizenship, courage and faith that has ever been witnessed. Those are the virus.

The results will be scarcity, fall in production, destruction of economic sectors, incentives for greater indebtedness and greater closure to trade

People are impassively tolerating restrictions on our daily lives



It seems that the coronavirus has ended intelligence, solidarity and consolidates the “save yourself who can” approach. Behind these “sacrifices” of staying home, clothed and masquerading, the most atrocious individualism of the bad guy prevails: he who distrusts his neighbor, accepts to live under fear, unproductively and considers that this “pause” is a healthy opportunity for the “encounter” with yourself” - probably watching TV series on streaming services or increasing traffic on social networks.

The results will be scarcity, fall in production, destruction of economic sectors, incentives for greater indebtedness and greater closure to trade. More diseases, from leisure, overflowing consumption of alcohol or junk food; a birth boom will be added in nine months, putting the Health sector in more trouble. There is a great learning for Totalitarianism: there will be a new, opportune virus, whenever it is necessary to repress new social mobilizations or to increase inflationary public spending.

**More than ever, those of us who believe in Freedom are called to endow the world with simplicity and rationality, equity and efficiency.** Mistrusting our interactions, suspicious of our coexistence, indulging in indolent individualism, are the

tools to consolidate a government agenda that seeks to weaken our citizen and productive widow. Disrespect for property rights is being legitimized, including the most sacred: that of life. We are preventing people from living healthy, confining them, leaving them with less food and medicine, stopping their efforts to get out of poverty through work or education. We are teaching to hate and to be at a great distance, for an illness that in two months has generated one death per million. And these deceased, may they rest in peace, left us in many cases for not having accessed social tools to save them, which are precisely to produce, live in a market economy and have access to good public health. They are the poor and the weak, who with this crisis management will see their capacities to access a better life even more reduced and, inevitably, they will depend on state aid conditioned on partisan votes or loyalties, while increasingly distrusting foreigners or travelers who “bring disease”.

Borders are closed, emigrants cannot reunite with their families. In Venezuela, at least a third of the population depends on remittances (money orders) sent by their relatives residing abroad <sup>(7)</sup>, in a nation that is unable to provide potable water service to wash their hands and asks the IMF, blatantly and without plan. investment, a donation of 5 billion dollars to fight the coronavirus -after corrupt and illegal people have stolen every last available mineral resource and destroyed public health, denying the elderly the dignity of a pension or access to health insurance.

As Liberals, we should not be afraid to denounce this destruction and resist, with citizenship, intelligence and trust in humanity, this viral process of Authoritarianism, which will only bring more desolation and weakening of the social body, which has been ill for a long time, as result of an immediate search for pleasure - incompatible with the heights and responsibilities that our basic responsibility does not call: **Freedom.**

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(\*)The grammatical and spelling rules regarding the coronavirus are found in: <https://www.fundeu.es/recomendacion/coronavirus-claves-de-escritura/>

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