

HONORABLE BRIAN MCDONALD
Department 48
Noted for Consideration: April 27, 2020
Without Oral Argument

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KING

WASHINGTON LEAGUE FOR INCREASED
TRANSPARENCY AND ETHICS, a
Washington non-profit corporation,

Plaintiff,

v.

FOX NEWS, FOX NEWS GROUP, FOX
NEWS CORPORATION, RUPERT
MURDOCH, AT&T TV, COMCAST,

Defendants.

NO. 20-2-07428-4 SEA

**FOX DEFENDANTS’
MOTION TO DISMISS**

INTRODUCTION & RELIEF REQUESTED

Plaintiff WASHLITE seeks a judicial gag order against Fox News for airing supposedly “deceptive” commentary about the Coronavirus outbreak and our nation’s response to it. But the only deception here is in the Complaint. Fox’s opinion hosts have never described the Coronavirus as a “hoax” or a “conspiracy,” but instead used those terms to comment on efforts to exploit the pandemic for political points. Regardless, the claims here are frivolous because the statements at issue are core political speech on matters of public concern. The First Amendment does not permit censoring this type of speech based on the theory that it is “false” or “outrageous.” Nor does the law of the State of Washington. The Complaint therefore should be dismissed as a matter of law.

1 **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

2 The country has been gripped by an intense public debate about the novel Coronavirus
3 outbreak. The debate has encompassed many pressing questions of political and scientific
4 controversy: How serious of a threat does the virus pose? Which, if any, public officials should be
5 blamed for its rapid spread? And what measures should be taken in response?

6 Plaintiff WASHLITE jumps headfirst into this national political debate by filing suit against
7 Fox News and affiliated defendants (collectively, Fox)¹ asserting claims under Washington’s
8 Consumer Protection Act (CPA) and the tort of “outrage.” The Complaint would hold Fox liable for
9 “knowingly disseminat[ing] false, erroneous, and incomplete information” about the Coronavirus.
10 Compl. ¶ 1.2. The Complaint claims that, as a result of Fox’s speech, “a continuing falsehood has
11 been fostered that the virus is a ‘hoax,’ a ‘conspiracy,’ and that it is no more dangerous than common
12 influenza,” resulting in unspecified harms and distress to Plaintiff’s members. *Id.* ¶ 4.4. The only
13 statements identified in the Complaint are “the March 9, 2020 broadcasts of Sean Hannity and Trish
14 Reagan [sic].” *Id.* ¶ 4.2.

15 On March 9, Sean Hannity on the Fox News Channel criticized a variety of media and
16 political figures for using the Coronavirus crisis “as a political weapon against the President”:

17 [T]he mob and the media—well, they will be advancing their new conspiracy
18 theory and their newest hoax. Probably, they will come up with, hypothetically, I’m
19 just guessing, wouldn’t shock me, President Trump, Putin, mad scientists of Russia
and Ukraine are manufacturing the Coronavirus on purpose so they can hurt
innocent children and kill grandma and grandpa[.]

20 App. 002. He also stated that “the coronavirus is a serious disease,” and indicated that “all of us”
21 “need to take necessary precautionary steps.” App. 003. He then advised viewers that anyone who
22 is “elderly” or “has a compromised immune system in any way, underlying health issues [should]
23 take extra, extra, extra caution. Almost treat them like quarantine, be very careful.” App. 015.

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25 _____
¹ This motion regards the claims against “Fox News, Fox News Group, Fox News Corporation,” and Rupert Murdoch. The Complaint gives incorrect legal names for the Fox News corporate entity.

1 Trish Regan opened her Fox Business Network show by describing “Democrats[’] [attempts
2 to] blame [President Trump] and only him for a virus that originated halfway around the world” as
3 “another effort to impeach the President.” App. 018. She criticized “the liberal media” for “using
4 Coronavirus in an attempt to demonize and destroy the President.” App. 018. She stated that “the flu
5 itself . . . can be even more deadly,” even though the Coronavirus “is more challenging for the
6 immune system.” App. 028. She emphasized, “I’m not saying that people should not take [it]
7 seriously, and everybody should be urged to exercise caution and wash their hands and not go[] [to]
8 work if they’re sick.” App. 020.

9 WASHLITE claims this commentary violates the CPA and constitutes the tort of “outrage.”
10 Specifically, the Complaint alleges that Fox violated the CPA by “representing the novel
11 Coronavirus as a hoax while misrepresenting the dangers of the virus,” which “caused consumers to
12 fail to take appropriate action to protect themselves from the virus,” “result[ing] in preventable mass
13 death.” Compl. ¶¶ 5.4, 5.6. The Complaint alleges that the speech constituted a “Tort of Outrage by
14 intentionally and recklessly acting in a heinous and outrageous manner far beyond the pale of decent
15 and civilized conduct, which conduct caused reasonably foreseeable severe mental and emotional
16 distress.” *Id.* ¶ 7.1. Based on these allegations, the Complaint seeks a “Declaratory Judgment” that
17 Fox’s speech was unlawful. *Id.* at VIII(D). It also seeks a prior restraint in the form of a “temporary
18 and permanent injunction . . . prohibiting and restraining Defendants” from any future speech
19 “falsely and deceptively disseminating ‘News’ that the novel Coronavirus is a ‘Hoax’ that is not a
20 danger to public health and safety.” *Id.*²

21 STATEMENT OF ISSUES

22 Whether opinion commentary on the Coronavirus outbreak is protected under the First
23 Amendment or actionable under the CPA or the tort of “outrage.”
24

25 _____
² This case was originally assigned to Judge Schubert. On April 8, WASHLITE exercised its statutory right to disqualify the judge and the case was reassigned.

1 **EVIDENCE RELIED UPON**

2 This motion relies on WASHLITE’s Complaint. In addition, the motion references
3 transcripts of the telecasts referred to in the Complaint and contemporaneous media reports. The
4 transcripts are available on LexisNexis and reprinted in full in the Appendix. While not essential to
5 this motion, the transcripts are judicially noticeable because the Complaint refers to the contents of
6 them, *Rodriguez v. Loudeye Corp.*, 144 Wn. App. 709, 726 (2008), and the media reports because
7 they are “not subject to reasonable dispute” and are “capable of accurate and ready determination by
8 resort to sources whose accuracy cannot reasonably be questioned.” ER 201(b).

9 **ARGUMENT**

10 This case presents a frontal assault on the freedom of speech. Fox’s statements are core
11 political speech on a matter of public concern—how dangerous the Coronavirus is, and how society
12 should respond to it. Under the First Amendment and state law, the truth or falsity of this type of
13 speech must be resolved through free and open debate in the marketplace of ideas—not through
14 burdensome litigation seeking to impose legal penalties on political statements that a jury might
15 deem “false” or “outrageous.” Accordingly, the Complaint should be dismissed because it flagrantly
16 violates the First Amendment and fails to state a claim under the CPA or the tort of “outrage.”

17 **I. The First Amendment Protects Defendants’ Speech.**

18 The First Amendment reflects a “national commitment to the principle that debate on public
19 issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open.” *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254,
20 270 (1964). For that reason, “speech on ‘matters of public concern’ . . . is ‘at the heart of the First
21 Amendment’s protection.’” *Dun & Bradstreet, Inc. v. Greenmoss Builders, Inc.*, 472 U.S. 749, 758-
22 59 (1985) (plurality op.). Indeed, “speech concerning public affairs is more than self-expression; it
23 is the essence of self-government.” *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64, 74-75 (1964). Accordingly,
24 “speech on public issues occupies the highest rung of the hierarchy of First Amendment values, and
25 is entitled to special protection.” *Connick v. Myers*, 461 U.S. 138, 145 (1983).

1 On “matter[s] of public concern,” the “special protection” that the First Amendment provides
2 “cannot be overcome by a jury finding that the [speech] was outrageous.” *Snyder v. Phelps*, 562 U.S.
3 443, 458 (2011). “If there is a bedrock principle underlying the First Amendment, it is that the
4 government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself
5 offensive or disagreeable.” *Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397, 414 (1989). That is why “in public
6 debate [we] must tolerate insulting, and even outrageous, speech in order to provide adequate
7 ‘breathing space’ to the freedoms protected by the First Amendment.” *Boos v. Barry*, 485 U.S. 312,
8 322 (1988).

9 Nor can a plaintiff defeat the First Amendment’s “special protection” by alleging that speech
10 on a matter of public concern is “false.” As a threshold matter, opinions on matters of political and
11 scientific controversy cannot be deemed false because, “[u]nder the First Amendment, there is no
12 such thing as a false idea.” *Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.*, 418 U.S. 323, 339-40 (1974). “However
13 pernicious an opinion may seem, we depend for its correction not on the conscience of judges and
14 juries but on the competition of other ideas.” *Id.* at 339-40. “The very purpose of the First
15 Amendment is to foreclose public authority from assuming a guardianship of the public mind” on
16 public issues. *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516, 545 (1945) (Jackson, J., concurring). “In this field
17 every person must be his own watchman for truth, because the forefathers did not trust any
18 government to separate the true from the false for us.” *Id.*

19 Washington’s courts have also recognized that “[t]he First Amendment protects an
20 individual’s right to express an opinion, or ‘fairly comment,’ on a matter of public interest.” *Seaquist*
21 *v. Caldier*, 8 Wn. App. 2d 556, 566 (2019). Thus, “[b]ecause ‘expressions of opinion are protected
22 under the First Amendment,’ they ‘are not actionable’” under state law. *Robel v. Roundup Corp.*,
23 148 Wn.2d 35, 55 (2002) (citation omitted). Nor should courts “naively assume[] that [they are]
24 capable of correctly and consistently negotiating the thin line between fact and opinion in political
25 speech.” *Rickert v. Pub. Disclosure Comm’n*, 161 Wn.2d 843, 849-50 (2007).

1 Even for pure factual statements, there is no “general exception to the First Amendment for
2 false statements,” which are “inevitable if there is to be an open and vigorous expression of views
3 in public and private conversation.” *United States v. Alvarez*, 567 U.S. 709, 718 (2012) (plurality
4 op.). Instead, restricting allegedly false speech is allowed only in the few “historic and traditional
5 categories [of expression] long familiar to the bar.” *Id.* at 717. These traditional categories recognize
6 that allegedly false statements can be restricted only when necessary to protect against “defamation,
7 fraud, or some other legally cognizable harm” that cannot be prevented in any other way. *Id.* at 719.
8 Policing alleged falsity in the course of public debate has never been allowed, because “[o]ur
9 constitutional tradition stands against the idea that we need Oceania’s Ministry of Truth.” *Id.* at 723.

10 Even the dissenters in *Alvarez* recognized that “there are broad areas in which any attempt
11 by the state to penalize purportedly false speech would present a grave and unacceptable danger” to
12 free debate. *Id.* at 751 (Alito, J., dissenting). Accordingly, “[l]aws restricting false statements about
13 philosophy, religion, history, the social sciences, the arts, and other matters of public concern” are
14 impermissible. *Id.* “The point is not that there is no such thing as truth or falsity in these areas or that
15 the truth is always impossible to ascertain, but rather that it is perilous to permit the state to be the
16 arbiter of truth.” *Id.* at 751-52. “Even where there is a wide scholarly consensus concerning a
17 particular matter, the truth is served by allowing that consensus to be challenged without fear of
18 reprisal,” because “[t]oday’s accepted wisdom sometimes turns out to be mistaken.” *Id.*

19 Here, the commentary at issue is fully protected because it plainly addresses “a matter of
20 public concern.” *Snyder*, 562 U.S. at 458. Even accepting WASHLITE’s tendentious
21 characterization of the speech, it addressed the seriousness of the threat posed by the Coronavirus—
22 including whether it is “more dangerous than common influenza”—and the appropriate social and
23 political response to it—including the “reasonable and necessary efforts” that should be taken “to
24 control and mitigate the virus.” Compl. ¶¶ 4.4, 4.8. The speech thus easily satisfies the “public
25 concern” test because it “relat[es] to [a] matter of political, social, or other concern to the

1 community,” and covers “a subject of general interest and of value and concern to the public.”
2 *Snyder*, 562 U.S. at 453. For that reason alone, the speech is entitled to “special protection” and is
3 not actionable, even if it would otherwise meet the elements of a “state tort suit[], including [a] suit[]
4 for intentional infliction of emotional distress.” *Id.* at 451, 458.

5 In addition, the Complaint also fails because the statements are constitutionally protected
6 opinions. Again, even accepting the Complaint’s characterization of the speech at issue, the Fox
7 commentators were expressing their view on the scientific question of how dangerous the
8 Coronavirus is and how society should respond to it—including what type of governmental action
9 should be taken. Compl. ¶¶ 4.4-4.8. That is the quintessential type of “opinion” that is “protected
10 under the First Amendment,” and thus cannot be “actionable” under state law. *Robel*, 148 Wn.2d at
11 55; *see also Rickert*, 161 Wn.2d at 849.

12 Moreover, the transcripts of the telecasts referenced in the Complaint show even more clearly
13 that the speech was protected opinion, because the Fox hosts did *not* describe the Coronavirus as a
14 “hoax” or a “conspiracy” (which would itself be protected opinion). Instead, as the transcripts clearly
15 show, Hannity and Regan said that *blaming the President for the virus* is a hoax and a conspiracy.
16 App. 002, 018-19. They also warned that “the coronavirus is a serious disease,” that “all of us” “need
17 to take necessary precautionary steps,” and that “everybody should be urged to exercise caution.”
18 App. 003, 020. Fox’s other reporting repeatedly said the same. App. 055-057.

19 Even if Plaintiff could identify some allegedly false factual statement about the Coronavirus,
20 this is precisely the type of “scientific context[]” where even “[f]alse factual statements” cannot be
21 punished. *Alvarez*, 567 U.S. at 733 (Breyer, J., concurring). On this topic, “any attempt by the state
22 to penalize purportedly false speech would present a grave and unacceptable danger” to free debate.
23 *Id.* at 751 (Alito, J., dissenting). It would effectively turn the court system into a “Ministry of Truth”
24 on one of the most important public issues of the day. *Id.* at 723 (plurality op.). If journalists can be
25 sued for allegedly *understating* the dangers of the Coronavirus, then they can also be sued for

1 *overstating* the dangers (thereby damaging businesses that are forced to close), and nobody will be
2 free to express an opinion on either side of the debate without risking costly litigation.

3 Fox’s statements do not fall into any “traditional category” of unprotected speech such as
4 “defamation” or “fraud.” *Id.* at 718 (plurality op.). Instead, WASHLITE claims that Fox should be
5 punished for somehow deceiving the general public about the dangers of the Coronavirus. But that
6 is directly contrary to the rule that “the First Amendment precludes punishment for generalized
7 ‘public’ frauds [or] deceptions.” *State ex rel. Pub. Disclosure Comm’n v. 19 Vote No! Comm.*, 135
8 Wn.2d 618, 629 (1998). Plaintiff may try to argue that censoring the speech at issue here is necessary
9 to protect public health or safety, but this type of restriction is the “most difficult to sustain” because
10 it applies only when speech poses a truly “*imminent threat*”—like yelling fire in a crowded theater—
11 which causes immediate harm and thus cannot be addressed through “counterspeech.” *Alvarez*, 567
12 U.S. at 717, 726 (plurality op.) (emphasis added). In public debate, by contrast, censorship cannot
13 be justified because “the best remedy for false or unpleasant speech is more speech, not less speech.”
14 *Rickert*, 161 Wn.2d at 855-56. Otherwise, the government could censor political speakers who, for
15 example, are alleged to have falsely minimized the dangers of marijuana, on the theory that such
16 falsehoods harm the public health.³

17 Other media statements illustrate the chilling effect that penalizing this type of speech would
18 have. On March 4, CNN’s Anderson Cooper told viewers that “[i]f you’re freaked out at all about
19 the coronavirus, you should be more concerned about the flu.” App. 038. The *New York Times*
20 published an article comparing the Coronavirus to the flu and stating that it “is not much more
21 frightening than . . . SARS in 2003 or MERS in 2012.” App. 047. Another *Times* article argued that
22 banning travel with China was unnecessary. App. 051-053. If this type of allegedly “false” speech
23 can be censored, then free and open debate on matters of public concern is a dead letter.

24 _____
25 ³ Courts apply strict scrutiny to content-based speech restrictions, and universally reject any suggestion that
censoring allegedly false speech on matters of public concern is the “least restrictive means” to advance the
truth. *Alvarez*, 567 U.S. at 725 (plurality opinion); *id.* at 738 (Breyer, J., concurring) (censorship on public
issues cannot be justified because “more accurate information will normally counteract the lie”).

1 Finally, Plaintiff’s claims are also barred because they seek an extraordinary prior restraint
2 that would prohibit Defendants from expressing *future* opinions on the Coronavirus pandemic.
3 Compl. VIII(D). This type of prior restraint bears “a heavy presumption against its constitutional
4 validity,” and that presumption cannot be overcome by a plaintiff “attempting to stop the flow of
5 information . . . to the public.” *Org. for a Better Austin v. Keefe*, 402 U.S. 415, 419-20 (1971).

6 **II. Plaintiff Fails to State a Claim Under Washington Law.**

7 WASHLITE’s claims also fail under Washington law. The CPA does not regulate political
8 commentary in the news media, nor is such commentary the type of “extreme and outrageous
9 conduct” covered by the tort of “outrage.”

10 **A. The Consumer Protection Act Does Not Apply to Political Commentary.**

11 The CPA requires a plaintiff to satisfy “five distinct elements: (1) unfair or deceptive act or
12 practice; (2) occurring in trade or commerce; (3) public interest impact; (4) injury to plaintiff in his
13 or her business or property; (5) causation.” *Hangman Ridge Training Stables, Inc. v. Safeco Title*
14 *Ins., Co.*, 105 Wn.2d 778, 780 (1986). Here, the CPA does not apply for three reasons.

15 *First*, the CPA regulates commercial speech, not political commentary in the news media. It
16 applies only to deceptions that harm consumers “in the conduct of . . . trade or commerce.” RCW
17 19.86.020. “Trade” and “commerce” are defined as “the sale of assets or services, and any commerce
18 directly or indirectly affecting the people of the state of Washington.” RCW 19.86.010(2). A “news
19 article . . . is not published ‘in the conduct of any trade or commerce,’” and thus “does not fall within
20 those activities governed by RCW 19.86.020.” *Fidelity Morgt. Corp. v. Seattle Times Co.*, 131 Wn.
21 App. 462, 468 (2005). It makes no difference if the media publication is part of an “advertising”
22 strategy “to drum up interest” and increase revenue. *Delashaw v. Seattle Times Co.*, No. 18-537JLR,
23 2018 WL 4027078, at *15 (W.D. Wash. Aug. 23, 2018). If the “claim is based on [a] news article[],”
24 it fails because this type of speech “is not actionable.” *Id.* That decides this case: a media telecast,
25 like a news article, is not “trade or commerce.”

1 *Second*, Plaintiff does not allege any “injury to plaintiff in his or her business or property.”
2 *Hangman Ridge*, 105 Wn.2d at 780. The CPA claim is based on the allegation that Fox’s speech
3 somehow caused “preventable mass death.” Compl. ¶ 5.6. But “[p]ersonal injuries” are not
4 cognizable under the CPA. *Panag v. Farmers Ins. Co.*, 166 Wn.2d 27, 57 (2009). Elsewhere, the
5 Complaint contains boilerplate conclusory assertions about injury to business or property. *See*
6 Compl. ¶¶ 1.3, 4.7, 4.9. But those assertions contain no supporting facts and they are nonsensical,
7 because the theory of the Complaint is that Fox’s speech created “a serious public health issue”
8 posing a risk of *personal* injury to Plaintiff’s members—not any *economic* injury. Compl. ¶ 1.4.

9 *Third*, the Complaint alleges no facts showing causation of injury to business or property.
10 *Hangman Ridge*, 105 Wn.2d at 780. To prove causation, Plaintiff “must establish that, but for the
11 defendant’s unfair or deceptive practice, the plaintiff would not have suffered an injury.” *Indoor*
12 *Billboard/Wash., Inc. v. Integra Telecom of Wash., Inc.*, 162 Wn.2d 59, 84 (2007). But the
13 Complaint fails to identify a single person Fox deceived into acting in a way that harmed their
14 business or property. It is also absurd to suggest that Fox somehow caused the Coronavirus to spread
15 in Washington, as the virus is a pandemic that has spread globally regardless of any Fox commentary.
16 This is especially clear because Fox opinion hosts repeatedly emphasized the seriousness of the virus
17 and urged public precautions. They did *not* describe the virus itself as a “hoax” or a “conspiracy,”
18 but instead used those terms to refer to people who tried to blame President Trump for the outbreak.
19 *Supra*, at 2-3, 7. At the same time, other media outlets expressed diverse views about the Coronavirus
20 threat—with CNN stating that the flu was more serious, and the *New York Times* arguing that
21 banning travel with China was unnecessary. App. 038, 051-053. In light of the diverse opinions
22 expressed throughout the public media, WASHLITE fails to allege any facts showing that any
23 particular statement on Fox caused harm to anyone’s business or property.

1 **B. The Complaint Fails to State A Claim for the Tort of Outrage.**

2 The “tort of outrage” claim also must be dismissed. The Supreme Court has squarely held
3 that the First Amendment “cannot be overcome by a jury finding that [speech] was outrageous.”
4 *Snyder*, 562 U.S. at 458; *Reyes v. Yakima Health Dist.*, 191 Wn.2d 79, 91 (2018) (emotional distress
5 from protected speech is not actionable). The “outrage” claim also fails as a matter of state law.

6 The tort of outrage requires “(1) extreme and outrageous conduct; (2) intentional or reckless
7 infliction of emotional distress; and (3) [actual result to the plaintiff of] severe emotional distress on
8 the part of the plaintiff.” *Reid v. Pierce County*, 136 Wn.2d 195, 202 (1998). Liability exists “only
9 where the conduct has been so outrageous in character, and so extreme in degree, as to go beyond
10 all possible bounds of decency, and to be regarded as atrocious and utterly intolerable in a civilized
11 community.” *Grimsby v. Samson*, 85 Wn.2d 52, 59 (1975). The Complaint satisfies none of these
12 elements.

13 *First*, the routine political commentary alleged here is not “extreme and outrageous conduct.”
14 *See Pardee v. Quinn*, No. 16-1028RSM, 2016 WL 6778780, at *5 (W.D. Wash. Nov. 16, 2016)
15 (dismissing outrage claim where plaintiff did not allege that defendants’ actions “constitute[d]
16 ‘extreme and outrageous’ conduct”); *Alvarez v. Target Corp.*, 2013 WL 4734123, at *4 (E.D. Wash.
17 July 10, 2013) (dismissing claim where conduct was not “sufficiently extreme to be utterly
18 intolerable in a civilized society”). Merely expressing political opinions on an issue of public concern
19 does not meet that “extremely high” standard. *Repin v. State*, 198 Wn. App. 243, 267 (2017). It is
20 what TV networks, radio stations, and newspapers do every day.

21 *Second*, Plaintiff fails to allege “intentional or reckless” conduct. The Complaint alleges only
22 that Fox “caused reasonably foreseeable” distress. Comp. ¶ 7.1. That is not the standard. A defendant
23 acts recklessly only if it subjectively *knows* that its conduct “creates an unreasonable risk” of harm.
24 *Pellham v. Let’s Go Tubing, Inc.*, 199 Wn. App. 399, 420 (2017); *Adkisson v. City of Seattle*, 42
25 Wn.2d 676, 685 (1953). The Complaint does not allege that.

1 DATED this 14th day of April, 2020.

2 HARRIGAN LEYH FARMER & THOMSEN LLP

3
4 By s/Tyler L. Farmer *

5 Tyler L. Farmer, WSBA #39912
6 Kristin E. Ballinger, WSBA #28253
7 999 Third Avenue, Suite 4400
8 Seattle, WA 98104
9 Tel: (206) 623-1700
10 Fax: (206) 623-8717
11 Email: tylerf@harriganleyh.com
12 Email: kristinb@harriganleyh.com

13 JONES DAY

14 Christopher Lovrien (*pro hac vice pending*)
15 555 South Flower Street, 50th Floor
16 Los Angeles, CA 90071
17 Tel: (213) 243-2316
18 Fax: (213) 243-2539
19 Email: cjlovrien@jonesday.com

20 Emily Faye Knox (*pro hac vice pending*)
21 555 California Street 26th Floor
22 San Francisco, California 94104
23 Tel: (415) 875-5815
24 Fax: (415) 875-5700
25 Email: egoldbergknox@jonesday.com

Michael A. Carvin (*pro hac vice pending*)
Anthony J. Dick (*pro hac vice pending*)
51 Louisiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-2113
Tel: (202) 879-3939
Fax: (202) 626-1700
Email: macarvin@jonesday.com
Email: ajdick@jonesday.com

Attorneys for the Fox Defendants

* I certify that this memorandum contains 4,124 words, in compliance with the Local Civil Rules.

APPENDIX

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2020), available at <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/05/opinion/china-travel-coronavirus.html> App. 051-053

Other Fox News Statements Regarding Coronavirus App. 055-057

Other Media Coverage of the Coronavirus App. 059-061

Appendix A

*Media Uses Virus Coverage As Political Weapon; Biden Under Increased Scrutiny
Given Numerous Campaign Gaffes; Interview With Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA);
Interview With Rep. Doug Collins (R-GA); Interview With Rep. Andy Biggs (R-AZ)*

Fox News Network FOX HANNITY 9:00 PM EST

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Guests: Mehmet Oz, Devin Nunes, Doug Collins, Andy Biggs

Body

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS HOST: Have a wonderful night with the ones you love.

We're going to turn over to the great Sean Hannity who is standing by in New York City to take the reins for the hour.

SEAN HANNITY, FOX NEWS HOST: That is really nice. Have a wonderful night with night with the ones you love, you know?

CARLSON: Yes.

HANNITY: It's like the president ends his rallies, one glorious nation under God. We are one American family, to make America safe, prosperous, healthy, great again.

We should be able to get along, I think, if we solve all the world's problems.

CARLSON: Amen.

HANNITY: All right, Tucker. Great show. Thank you.

Welcome to "Hannity" tonight.

If you are over the mass hysteria, if you're over politicizing and weaponizing the coronavirus, you are not alone. That's why tonight, we are focused on two major stories. First, we're going to call out anyone and everyone who's using this virus as a political weapon against the president.

It's sick, it's sad, but predictable. I'm sure in the end, the mob and the media -- well, they will be advancing their new conspiracy theory and their newest hoax. Probably, they will come up with, hypothetically, I'm just guessing, wouldn't shock me, President Trump, Putin, mad scientists of Russia and Ukraine are manufacturing the coronavirus on purpose so they can hurt innocent children and kill grandma and grandpa, before they throw them over a cliff, before they feed them dog food.

Look, it is time, in all seriousness, for simple, fundamental truths to protect our fellow Americans. That means Democrats. That means Republicans, liberals, conservatives and libertarians and everybody in between. Viruses do not have a political identity.

So, tonight, we will separate cold hard truth from what is the mob's latest, manufactured, irresponsible, over-the-top rhetoric. Our medical A- team and Dr. Oz tonight will explain.

Media Uses Virus Coverage As Political Weapon; Biden Under Increased Scrutiny Given Numerous Campaign Gaffes;
Interview With Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA); Interview

Plus, coming up, we will show you how Democrats and the media now want you to ignore real concerns about quid pro quo Joe and his apparent and his increasing inability to complete thoughts and deliver a cogent speech. It is now serious campaign issue.

By the way, it was serious to Democrats when Ronald Reagan was running for re-election. We have the evidence.

But we start with the media mob's ongoing effort to now use a virus, an infectious disease, as a political weapon all to bludgeon President Trump yet again. I've said many times, if he cured cancer, they would likely want to impeach him for curing cancer.

Now, the coronavirus is a serious disease.

Now, should you and your family be concerned? Of course. You should be concerned about the flu. You should be concerned about a cold. You should be concerned about any health risk.

Should you be informed? Absolutely. Do we all need to take necessary precautionary steps? Yes, all of us.

But the coverage we are seeing from the media and the mob is beyond despicable and political.

For example, Sunday, you got Chucky Todd boasting the coronavirus, that could actually help President Trump like the Iran hostage situation hurt Jimmy Carter. "The Washington Post" editorial calling it, President Trump's Chernobyl.

And over there at state-run, conspiracy TV, MSDNC, poor liberal Morning Joe saying Trump's stupidity will cause Americans to die.

And meanwhile, Joyless Reid -- well, actually, telling her viewers that the children of Trump supporters were more likely to spread the coronavirus to other kids. Just made that up, I guess. That's what they do.

The lies, the conspiracy theories, the psychotic anti-Trump rage -- well, it's been nonstop. Sadly, this is all we've gotten for three-plus years. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOY BEHAR, CO-HOST, "THE VIEW": What is government really for? The government is there to protect you from terrorism, for a health thing -- just exactly this thing. This is exactly the function of government and our government is screwing up.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: But this may be Donald Trump's Katrina. This is an event that could take down a president.

CHUCK TODD, MEET THE PRESS: What -- the Iran hostage crisis was the final year of Carter's presidency. Not his fault but it's a test in real-time.

JOE SCARBOROUGH, MSNBC HOST: The president is doing nothing but playing in his political sandbox while this virus continues to spread silently across America.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: All right. These people sound like they really care about the country, protecting human life or are they just looking for any and every way possible to bash President Trump?

Last week's "New York Times" editorial spelled it out pretty clearly. They named the coronavirus, the Trump virus, and they wrote, if you're feeling awful, you know who to blame. It's getting close to that lab conspiracy theory I was kind of joking about. That's how sick it is.

Now, this kind of coverage has serious ramifications why people panic. Chaos ensues. Recently, a group of shoppers caught on tape -- what were they doing? They will brawling. What were they brawling over? The last pack of toilet paper.

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Now, we've also witnessed a recent market selloff, although today's drop likely had a lot more to do with an oil supply battle between the Russians and Saudis than anything corona-related but markets are skittish.

Let's cut through all the hysteria and all the B.S. Let's give you some simple truth and facts.

Here is the surgeon general of the United States of America. You don't believe Dr. Hannity? Let's listen to him. I'm not a doctor.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VICE ADM. JEROME ADAMS, U.S. SURGEON GENERAL: People over the age of 60, they are much more likely to develop complications from the coronavirus and to be hospitalized from the coronavirus. The average age of death is age 80.

Now, what we also want communities to know is that if you are a child or young adult, you are much more -- you are more likely to die from the flu if you get it than you are to die from coronavirus. So there is something about being young that is protective. We want people to be reassured by that. We want people to know that we are really focusing in on those groups that are at highest risk for complications.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: Now, just to recap, according to the surgeon general of the United States, people over 60, they are most at risk for corona-related complications or hospitalization. Now, the average age of mortality is 80. Young people, unlike H1N1, that tended to impact younger kids more than older people. But now, in this case, older people are much more likely to die from this -- or from regular flu actually than from coronavirus, believe it or not.

And, remember, despite early reports the likely mortality rate could be as low as 1 percent. Dr. Fauci was out there in the New England Journal in the first few hundred cases in China, he wrote, quote: There were no cases in children younger than the age of 15. Either children are less likely to become infected or their symptoms were so mild that their infection escaped detection.

By the way, as an older person, I'd rather it be on me. Let's be honest. Kids have their whole lives ahead of them.

And it's important to remember this administration took unprecedented steps on the coronavirus, seriously and a lot of criticism to boot. No president ever, except Donald Trump, ever acted faster, ever acted sooner, or have done more to stop the spread of an infectious disease.

Keep in mind, the virus was not officially detected and named until January 7th. WHO recognized it on December 30th of last year. That's pretty quick.

And then on January 31st, the president declared a public health emergency and he is the one that ordered the travel ban and quarantine, which we hadn't done in decades and, by the way, he did it against the advice of many, by the way, that were offering him advise out of an abundance of caution. That's the travel ban to China. That's when that began.

Three weeks later, quid pro quo Joe Biden and others called the president for doing in this ban was xenophobia, fake news CNN suggesting the president is stigmatizing people from other countries.

And for the better part of February, now, what were the Democrats doing? Oh, that's right. They hardly addressed the virus at all. They were too busy and too focused on impeaching the president over nothing.

Now, they seem more interested in scoring what is nothing but cheap political points than actually working with the administration to protect our American family. We ought to protect every American life here.

Today, the president asked for lawmakers to help with the payroll tax cut to ease corona-related economic concerns. That is really going to help and be impactful to small business, hourly wage earners around the country. Well, hopefully, Democrats will come to the table and do what's right for America. Will they alleviate the economic fallout of corona or will they do nothing to continue to use it as a political weapon, politicizing a disease?

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Again, coronavirus is a serious matter. It's not the end of days. Sadly, pandemics, like this, happen more often than any of us would like. H1N1 worldwide killed over about half a million people according to estimates. The U.S. has the best doctors.

By the way, H1N1 we lost nearly 14,000 Americans. We have the best doctors. The best researchers, the best scientists anywhere in the world and the Trump administration will continue to aggressively stop the spread of this infectious disease.

We also forget people that get flu every year. Some years, tens of thousands of people died from the flu. Every year, people die from the flu. Now, should we be smart, wise, learn things, how to be neat, clean, not -- yes. Of course. Let's protect our families. But let's do it in a thoughtful way.

Here with more what you need to know about coronavirus, he is the host of "Dr. Oz's Show", the real Dr. Oz, the real Oz. He's the wizard of Oz and he is not behind the curtain, I'm kidding.

How are you, sir? Great to see you again.

DR. MEHMET OZ, MD, "THE DR. OZ SHOW" HOST: I'm doing very well. Thanks for having me on.

HANNITY: Look, you know and I know that we lose people to the flu every year. Some years, we lose a lot of people. H1N1 impacted young kids. That was scary. We didn't declare a national emergency there for six weeks.

The president acted in record time. Travel ban in three weeks. And then, of course, he had the quarantines.

Now, with that said, tell me if I am wrong on any fact here -- is it true that this virus if you don't have underlying health issues and you don't have a compromised immune system, and you're not above 60, the odds of you dying are dramatically like negligible? Is that -- is that a true statement?

OZ: Well, I think the risk of dying is unclear just because we haven't been able to study it in this country. What we do know is that in China, it was a problem. But we've also learned, I just got this data before walking at here to do your show, from the Korean CDC that the mortality numbers in young otherwise healthy people is very similar to what the traditional every year seasonal flu virus is.

So we have lost already 20,000, 30,000 people. It's hard to tell sometimes because people die from related causes from the flu. And so, if you are equating to that and young age groups, certainly, it's comparable and if you haven't gotten the flu shot then you shouldn't be that worried about this either.

But you pointed out something earlier I want to highlight. You are a student of human motivation, what is it that is scaring people? I think deep in our psyche, there is this fear about viruses and things we don't see because human species has been attacked by viruses and bacteria for all of known history. So people inclined to worry about it and then if you feed that concern -- that potential hysteria like data we had from the Chinese CDC with 3.5 mortality rate, which is still what the World Health Organization is reporting concerning the mortality figure, then, of course, you're going to get worried.

To your point, once you're over the age 60 and a surgeon general is coming on my show tomorrow for a broader discussion. But once you get over the age of 60, the numbers do increase a bit. You still pretty well off if you don't have chronic illness like cardiovascular disease --

HANNITY: Yes.

OZ: -- if you don't have an issue with diabetes or cancer or pulmonary problems. And certainly, if you're smoking, this is a good excuse to stop.

HANNITY: All right. So, compromised immune systems, that certainly is a big factor. Age seems to be a big factor. I might be reading different numbers than you are in South Korea. I would rather not split hairs here.

But I want to make sure Americans are safe. The vast overwhelming majority of people even if they were to contract this virus will end up being fine. We've got to be really concerned about the elderly. We've got to really be concerned apparently people

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with high blood pressure that are elderly and people with compromised immune systems. And then short of that, your advice would be, I'm sure, take all the precautions, use the Purell.

OZ: Well, here, I made this one sheet which yours viewers have. I saw it on the FOXNews.com site.

HANNITY: Go ahead, yes.

OZ: This is one sheet. It's my effort to make it simple. And here's what we said.

We are a can do people. Americans mobilize, right? We've done it for wars. We've done it for crises. We're good at that. We need clear direction to what we can do for ourselves. We are not sitting around trying to figure out what's next.

And the one sheet works through the things you pointed out. I put some ideas around potential foods you might want to eat, some ideas around hygiene, basic sort of cutting through a lot of the ideas. The best concepts that I've been told by experts who've come on the show and share them with me, to make it upper easy for folks to take charge of their health.

In the meantime, I agree with you. We've got the best docs around. We're mobilizing folks. Seema Verma I spoke with today, the head of CMS, the government is moving aggressively to provide more of their testing kits, for more ventilators, more ICU beds.

But if you get this virus and it's a virus that is so contagious, that there's good chance most people will either get the vaccine or get the virus. It's not going to kill you but you're going to get touched by it. We want to be smart about trying to reduce our chance of contaminating others. If we do it together, we'll be fine.

HANNITY: And viruses, the last time I checked are neither Republican or conservative. I'm just checking, right? You're sure about that, Doctor? You went to medical school. You have been doing this for a lot of years. Are you sure?

OZ: A hundred percent positive. It's apolitical. It's an American problem, it's a human problem.

HANNITY: Let me tell you something, we want our American families. I have to say, I want to cure cancer, Dr. Oz. I hope one day, we find a cure for cancer. We've gotten so far so fast.

Look at Hodgkin's disease 30 years ago. I lost a cousin. He'd likely live today.

All right. Thank you, Dr. Oz. Appreciate it.

Now, tonight, which is 239 days until you have a chance once again to shock the world. You're the ultimate jury. It is important that we vet the Democratic Party's frontrunner.

Now, we will know a lot more tomorrow night. Our coverage begins usual time 9:00 Eastern, six big primaries right here on this show. Big race tomorrow to watch in Michigan where it looks like quid pro quo has racked up a lead there. He's racking up endorsements as well, picking up steam in the polls.

But there are serious glaring questions that, yes, Democrats and the media look at when Ronald Reagan was running for president that need to be addressed here.

First and foremost, does quid pro quo Joe have the stamina, the strength and the focus and alertness to be president? It is now a legitimate concern.

The president of the United States must be able to endure the single hardest most grueling job on earth 24 hours a day, four years. Presidents, yes, they play golf. They go fishing. They do what they do. But they rarely get a day off.

Over the weekend, Biden could not even, well, make it through a seven- minute speech. That's how short now his staff has cut down his rallies, seven minutes. We can't test (INAUDIBLE) here.

Anyway, several moments, utter confusion. Take a look.

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(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN (D), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: Turn this primary from a campaign that's about negative attacks and one about what we're for because we cannot get reelected -- cannot win this re-election -- excuse me, we can only reelect Donald Trump if, in fact, we get engaged in this circular firing squad here.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: At one point, Biden even struggled with his own name. Some days, he forgets the day. Some days, he forgets the state he is in. Sometimes, he forgets his own name.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BDEN: So, folks, you want to nominate a Democrat, a lifelong Democrat, a proud Democrat, an Obiden-Bama Democrat. Join us.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: An Obiden-Bama Democrat -- it speaks volumes, he's only doing seven-minute appearances now.

If this was an isolated incident, of course, it would be easy to write this off as a normal campaign gaffe. But it's not isolated incident. It's a long pattern and it seems to be accelerating and getting worse and the confusion seems to be increasing.

Just today, he mistakenly said Democrats, they need to win back the House. You probably already know at home, they have the House for 250, Alex. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: I hope you will all join us. Together I think we can win back the House. We're going to keep the House, increase it, and flip Senate. We talked about that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: What is -- they have the House, Speaker Pelosi.

Now, I don't know Biden. I'm not going to pretend to be a doctor on air. But what we are witnessing is concerning and, by the way, it is sad.

Look at your screen, if Biden ever had a fast ball I will say it's gone. Clearly struggling with what is an intense campaign.

These campaigns are hard. I have been out on the road myself. It's a grind. These are just a few of the examples from the past few weeks still top Democrats, they are trying to act like it doesn't exist, lining up behind quid pro quo Joe to take on President Trump.

But it wasn't so long ago, many of these same Democrats were actually questioning Biden's fitness for office, including New Jersey Senator Cory Booker. Over the weekend, he endorsed quid pro quo Joe. But after -- remember after the debate in September, this is what Booker had to say about Biden's ability to serve -- interesting turn around. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. CORY BOOKER (D-NJ): There are definitely moments when you listen to Joe Biden and you just wonder but I don't know -- look,.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Senator, are you saying he is too old to be president?

BOOKER: No, I'm definitely not saying that because I've listened to Joe Biden over the years and often felt like there were times that he is going on or meandering in his -- in his speech. Look --

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(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: And Cory Booker was not alone. Many in the mob and the media, they actually chimed in as well, although they're trying to forget they did. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: He is not that good at this. I mean, he is clearly not that strong a candidate thinking on his feet.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Obama warned Biden's aides to make sure Biden didn't embarrass himself.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Is Joe Biden too old to be president? Has he lost his step? Is he -- is he too shaky? That is an actual conversation that is happening.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Talk to any Democrat, there are questions, does Joe Biden have what it takes? Whether that's an age question? Whether that's a discipline question? Whether that's a focus question? There are questions about Joe Biden.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: And Bolshevik Bernie's campaign also attacks Biden's stamina, claiming -- well, he wants the next scheduled debate to be seated instead of standing.

But because Biden is the Democratic Party frontrunner, they are trying to sweep all of this under the rug. Some are even claiming that you're not allowed to even question Biden's fitness for office the way they did Reagan, which brings to us a quick Hannity history lesson tonight.

Biden is not the only presidential candidate to face questions about his mental acuity. 1984, well, many in the mob and the media then openly questioning Ronald Reagan's mental fitness for office. Judy Woodruff reporting that Reagan, quote, seemed less alert and less in control of the subject matter. "Houston Chronicle" writing that a press conference was a critical look at Ronald Reagan's mental acuity. "Wall Street Journal" wondering if the president was showing his age.

And, of course, Reagan ultimately received another term as destroying Mondale in debate number two when he promised not to use my opponent's youth and inexperience against him in this campaign.

As can you see, critical questions about a presidential candidate's ability to serve are not out of bounds. Now, sort of like know these truths to be self-evident all men and women are created -- by the thing, you know, the thing. The thing.

Joining us with more, FOX News contributor, former White House press secretary Sarah Sanders, and FOX News contributor Katie Pavlich.

Katie, the thing would be God, our creator of everything. That's the thing he forgot about the thing.

KATIE PAVLICH, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: You know, Sean, this reminds me of when Hillary Clinton had that medical situation when she collapsed on 9/11 in New York City. We were supposed to ignore it as if it wasn't some kind of big concern for the biggest job in the world.

You know, Joe Biden has clearly made some misstatements on the campaign trail. Just two weeks ago on "FOX News Sunday", he had a lengthy interview with Chris Wallace and at the end of the interview called him Chuck and then said that he doesn't understand how people do early mornings.

So, there are serious questions about his ability to keep up on the campaign trail. I think President Trump is probably pretty happy about this looking like it's going to be his eventual opponent because President Trump has been campaigning for over a year now. He loves doing it. He has a lot of energy. And he is efficient when it comes to getting -- to running the White House at the same time as being able to go out and campaign for re- election.

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HANNITY: You know, Sarah, one thing I will say, I may surprise people. Bolshevik Bernie, he doesn't seem like -- he has had a heart attack. And, by the way, I don't even -- with all the modern medicine treatment technology, stenting, bypass, everything in between, the guy -- he's got a lot of Bolshevik energy in there. He doesn't seem to be struggling on the campaign trail and he's a year older than quid pro quo.

SARAH SANDERS, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Certainly has the energy but not the ideas.

One of the things I feel like is lost, anybody that has been watching Joe Biden on the campaign trail or the debate stage knows he is a terrible candidate. But, let's not forget that anybody who is also paying attention knows that his extremely liberal policy ideas would make him an even worse president. He's a bad candidate. He would be even worse as president of this country.

He is supporting taxpayer funded abortion, free healthcare for illegals, the Green New Deal, which would be disastrous for the American economy and American jobs. He is not a moderate that they're claiming to be. His policy positions are liberal and he would be a terrible president for so many reasons just like Bernie Sanders would be terrible.

And I think the president, whether it's Bernie or Biden, he's in good shape going up against either one of these two guys.

HANNITY: Look at the position on, OK, healthcare, Katie for illegal immigrants, open borders, their radical position on the Second Amendment, their radical position on guns and -- oh, Green New Deal, less oil and gas, the lifeblood of our economy. First time in 75 years where energy independent, we'll go back on that? What? We're going back to driving mullahs in Iran? We're going to go back to, what, 13 million more Americans on food stamps, 8 million more in poverty and the lowest labor participation rate since the 1970s? We are going to go back to that?

He's got a record. And Burisma, by the way, Katie, is not going away either.

PAVLICH: No, it certainly is not going away. That can of worms hasn't even been completely open yet.

But, yes, Joe Biden has admitted that he wants to raise taxes. He wants to repeal the Trump tax cuts which for good for the vast majority of Americans, especially in the middle class in this country. He's put Beto O'Rourke in charge or Beto O'Rourke in charge of gun control policy, which that means gun confiscation, which is completely unconstitutional.

And if everybody believes in the Democratic Party that somehow Joe Biden is going to swing the party back to the middle from the left, they're completely against what the reality of the situation is in that party. Joe Biden is going to get eaten alive by the left wing of the party. The AOCs, Ilhan Omars, Nancy Pelosi couldn't even handle keeping them together in the house which led them down this road of impeachment of president Trump.

Not to mention Joe Biden who can't even stand up to these ideas and put forward his own platform when it comes to being out on the campaign trail in a real moderate way. His policies are very far left. And, yet, we're stuck with this talking point that he is somehow the normal one who everybody should be voting for.

HANNITY: And look at -- Sarah Sanders, you've been around President Trump. I have been around President Trump. You know, he's got the energy of like 10 40-year-olds.

SANDERS: You know, he has more -- I'm under 40 I'm proud to say. And Donald Trump had more energy than me every single day that I worked for him --

HANNITY: By the way, I have the story I can tell.

SANDERS: -- that to the point, it's almost embarrassing how many circles he ran around the rest of us.

HANNITY: He goes, I go home on this trip -- I was talking to him. He was leaving Vietnam and I just had this interview with him, yes, and everybody is going to be sleeping. I'm only one going to stay up. He goes, they are all laying out on Air Force One. True story.

All right. Thank you both.

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When we come back, it doesn't appear Congress has enough votes to renew FISA. I say good.

Unless you can stop the weapons weaponization of tools of intelligence and use it against the American people, it has to stop. You can't allow this to happen. Come up with a better plan.

Also, the 21 words that our friend John Solomon talks about changed the world with FISA court. Christopher Steele refuses to cooperate with the Durham probe.

I say, extradite him. He can leave Assange. I'll take Steele.

HANNITY: All right. Key provisions of FISA set to expire now in days. GOP lawmakers, they are making it clear, unless major, major reforms are met to prevent future surveillance abuse of these spying tools will not be renewed, especially as the deep state remains defiant. There's Christopher Steele, there's a guy I want extradited.

Forget Julian Assange he is part of a media group I don't think you are going to win that case, in my own opinion. It's called the Pentagon papers, freedom of the press.

Anyway, it was that guy's dirty Russian dossier that was used as the bulk of the information in the FISA application that illegally spied on and took away the civil liberties and constitutional rights of Carter Page to spy on a candidate he hated, to spy on a transition team he hated and a president he hated. Now, he recently told an audience at Oxford that he will not cooperate with the Durham probe. Fine, let's extradite him. Assange can stay.

The good news is we are inching closer and closer to truth and justice because the as Solomon points out, scathing rebuke of FBI agents involved in the Page warrant by a federal judge just last week -- look at this -- 21 words uttered by FISA court that change the Russia collusion case forever, effectively barring those agents from appearing in front of a court.

Here with reaction, Republican Congressman Devin Nunes, FOX News contributor, Sara Carter, FOX News legal analyst Gregg Jarrett.

All right. I want to get to the bottom of this. These 21 words are dead on accurate, Devin Nunes. This makes all the difference in the world. Finally, finally, the FISA court gets to be heard from.

Do -- would you get to bring them before your committee?

REP. DEVIN NUNES (R-CA): Well, we don't get to bring the court before our committee, Sean, but it's really too little, too late. I'm glad that the new justice there is actually taking some action. But like you said in the monologue, the Congress really has to open up all of FISA. It has to be looked at.

Tonight, just got out about an hour and a half meeting with Attorney General Barr. He's got some great ideas. We still are suspect that the Democrats who control the House are actually going to allow us to get the reforms we need because, look, at the end of the day, we need FISA to protect this country, but not if it comes at the sake of our liberties that we would have to give up. And that's really what we're -- what we're dealing with right now.

HANNITY: The 21 words, Gregg Jarrett, I'll read them to you. There is thus little doubt the government breached its duty of candor to the court with respect to those applications.

Let me interpret it and put it in Hannity speak, because we know they were warned numerous times -- premeditated on the FISA court to take away one American's constitutional rights and spy on a president. It sounds like the FISA court either watches this show or they read the inspector general report that vindicated all four of us.

GREGG JARRETT, FOX NEWS LEGAL ANALYST: It took 21 words from a judge to essentially say, hey, they lied to us. Americans have lost faith in the FISA court because they have lost faith in the FBI and the Department of Justice to tell the truth, to present honest evidence. And instead, in this particular case, they presented 51 lies, deceptions, omissions, the concealing of evidence and, as you point out fraud.

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And the reforms I've seen so far suggested by the independent monitor and endorsed by the FISA court isn't nothing but pretend reforms. These are things that the Department of Justice and the FBI is supposed to do under the law.

So, in my judgment, the only solution is to abolish FISA or adopt what Senator Rand Paul is advocating and that is no more FISA spying on Americans. In other words, put "foreign" back into the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

HANNITY: I -- if we don't do it right, I can't support it. And we need FISA. This is an evil, dangerous world.

Sara Carter, main question I get everywhere I go -- are these people going to be held accountable? The court is absolutely seeing everything we reported. It took us three years to get there. Devin told us the truth while the congenital liar lied.

Will we get justice?

SARA CARTER, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Well, Sean, it's absolutely imperative that there's justice. Otherwise, there is a two-tiered justice system in the United States and the American people can clearly see that.

And as far as FISA reform, I agree completely with Gregg Jarrett on this. The changes have to come through Title 1 and that's electronic surveillance of American citizens on U.S. soil. And we can't allow what happened to Carter Page to happen to anybody else because that's a violation of the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

It's completely unacceptable. It's wrong. And unless they can make severe changes, like he said, maybe what Rand Paul says is true. Take it back to foreign, let's deal with that, and abolish the system the way we know it and maybe rebuild it differently.

We shouldn't trust that they're going to do their job.

HANNITY: Oh, well --

CARTER: And this is what's really frightening here because we don't know all the facts.

HANNITY: Devin, let me go back to you. We know we are spending time to get Julian Assange. OK, WikiLeaks, I interviewed Assange about this topic, asked him tough questions. Did you get it from Russia? Did you get it from Russia? Did you get -- asked him 10 different ways.

Whether you believe him or not, WikiLeaks never been wrong on what they printed. We may not like how they get it, but we do have a First Amendment, freedom of the press, and we also have something called the Pentagon Papers. The guy I want extradited is Christopher Steele. Why aren't we going after him?

NUNES: So, remember -- well, I think -- I think he should be extradited if Durham is in fact. Look, we're only relying on what Steele is saying publicly. So, we don't really know what the truth is there.

But remember this, you have Steele over in the U.K. talking about a dossier that he didn't even write. Let that sink in for a second.

So, remember, this was written mostly by Fusion GPS. We know that because of the Lee Smith's investigative work that he wrote about in "The Plot Against the President".

HANNITY: He had an agenda. Kathleen Kavalec noted his agenda. He put out lies that impacted our election.

And I want America to know one last thing -- Devin Nunes, the guy over there, right side of the screen, Devin Nunes is the guy that told us the truth. Devin Nunes warned us in 2014 the Russians were trying to interfere in the 2016 election. Nobody listened to Devin Nunes.

You were right then. We're right today. Thank you all.

NUNES: You're very kind. Thank you, Sean.

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HANNITY: When we come back, coronavirus, that scare is making the markets nervous and frazzled. Melissa Francis is here to explain why she thinks the panic is overdone and it might have a lot more to do with oil and Russia and the Saudis.

Also, Congressman Doug Collins, one of few congressmen, Senator Cruz among them, that are quarantined tonight. He will join us on the phone to update his condition and more as we continue busy breaking news night -- 239 days, you are the ultimate jury. You can shock the world again.

What are you going to do? It's called freedom. I hope you use it.

HANNITY: All right. Now an oil price fight between Russia, hostile regime of Putin and the Saudis, along with uncertainties surrounding the coronavirus, it spooked the ever so jittery stock market again today. The Dow plummeting over 2,000.

But the president is taking bold action today, in a press conference proposing a payroll tax cut and relief for hourly workers, for small businesses that might be impacted by corona, which I would argue would likely have a positive impact on the markets. We shall see tomorrow.

Joining us now with reaction, the host of "After the Bell", FOX Business Network, also co-host of "Outnumbered" here on the FOX News Channel. They never invite me on that show. I have never been invited on that show.

MELISSA FRANCIS, CO-HOST, "OUTNUMBERED": I'm officially inviting you on that show. We would love to have you on the show.

HANNITY: I'm only kidding.

FRANCIS: And now, you're stuck because you said it.

HANNITY: No, Brian Kilmeade goes on the show every other day, but I mean, you know? It's a great show, by the way.

FRANCIS: Thank you.

HANNITY: Congratulations on both of your shows success. I have to do this thing called "The Sean Hannity Radio Show". It's hard.

FRANCIS: Yes.

HANNITY: But that's the only reason.

But serious question -- so, we watched the markets today, but we also see this prize price fight. What -- I don't remember oil dropping 25 percent the day before.

FRANCIS: Yes. They have gone to the mattresses. Saudi Arabia and Russia are trying to fight each other to the bottom to see who can withstand lower prices longer.

Here's what's really is going -- when you look at the volatility in the stock market. It's not about the coronavirus any more. They are trying to figure out all traders everywhere, are we headed into a recession? Low oil prices can indicate or can even cause a recession. That's what's going on.

But, Sean, this is what's really important. We've never had a team in the White House -- you can love the president. You can hate him. We have never had a president and Larry Kudlow and Steve Mnuchin and folks in there who know more about a balance sheet, about credit, about how to help businesses as they are slowing down and about what to do for households.

These are people who understand credits and understand money. Tomorrow, they're going to talk about a payroll tax supporting small businesses. A number of different targeted measures.

HANNITY: A tax cut.

Media Uses Virus Coverage As Political Weapon; Biden Under Increased Scrutiny Given Numerous Campaign Gaffes;
Interview With Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA); Interview

FRANCIS: This isn't Congress randomly spraying the globe with a fire hose full of money and no direction. This is very targeted and specific.

So, I would say, we are in better hands than we have been before. In the meantime do not sell your stocks on the way down like an idiot. Instead, refi something.

There's cheap money out there. Refi your mortgage, refi your student debt. Take advantage of low interest rates. But don't cash out at the bottom.

HANNITY: What is the 30 year? Melissa, what is a 30-year?

(CROSSTALK)

FRANCIS: It's free. It's basically free right now.

HANNITY: I'd say free money. What is a 30-year average fixed rate mortgage?

FRANCIS: I couldn't tell you overnight. Mine is connected to Libor. But I don't want to bore with all these intricacies.

HANNITY: About --

FRANCIS: But basically, you don't even borrow money, Sean. What are you talking about? You're not -- you have money just laying around on the ground.

HANNITY: Oh --

FRANCIS: If it pulled out in the studio, we would see piles of money everywhere.

But for everyone else out there, you can refi --

HANNITY: It's hard, it's hard.

FRANCIS: -- anything cheap right now, that's the move. And trust the administration. They know what they're doing on money.

HANNITY: I'm not a big market guy. I don't like the market. I like something I can feel and touch, bricks and mortar. My own personal tastes.

FRANCIS: Cash.

HANNITY: But right now, it is a good time to refinance something if you have it.

FRANCIS: Yes.

HANNITY: Rates are low. We may never see these numbers again.

Melissa Francis, thank you.

FRANCIS: My pleasure.

HANNITY: Appreciate it.

All right. Over the weekend, we learned that a man who has coronavirus, in fact, attended CPAC, the one year I didn't attend -- oh, except I did go there to interview Vice President Pence. Several Republican lawmakers decided to self-quarantine, apparently, they might have had impact with the patient.

Congressman Doug Collins is one of them and now joins us live on the phone from his home.

Media Uses Virus Coverage As Political Weapon; Biden Under Increased Scrutiny Given Numerous Campaign Gaffes;
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He's really not sick at all. He's using this as a vacation time. No.

Welcome back, Congressman. First of all, I hope you're feeling well. I heard you are well.

I wrote Senator Cruz today. He's doing well. Mark Meadows told me he's fine.

And we certainly understand Matt Gaetz, I don't know, he was wearing a gas mask last time I saw him on Twitter.

But in all seriousness, I think we got to be very real with the American people. I don't like how we are scaring people unnecessarily. And that is that unless you have a comp -- an immune system that's compromised and you are older, and you have other underlying health issues, you are not going to die 99 percent from this virus, correct?

REP. DOUG COLLINS (R-GA) (via telephone): That's correct, Sean. It's good to be with you again.

HANNITY: All right. So that's the point. I mean, scaring the living hell out of people and I see it again. It's like oh, let's let bludgeon Trump with this new hoax.

COLLINS: Yes, and I think what we're looking at here, though, Sean, is something that the American people needed to talk about. It's what (INAUDIBLE) myself and others are following the guidelines that the administration has put out, and we're making sure that people know that just like coming in contact with someone doesn't necessarily mean you get it.

It's also just like coming up with the comments that you always had, you do the proper procedures. You wash your hands. You stay away from people if you're sick.

If you get sick, go to the doctor. The administration has done a wonderful job -- if you need a test, the Trump administration has made sure that doctors can give tests to those who need them.

I have not had a test. I'm passed the incubation period. But we're wanting (ph) to make sure that when people follow the rules, when they follow what is out there, there's no need for panic. There's no need for what we're seeing and there just needs to be a calm assertiveness that you do what is right and things will -- and this virus can be contained in a way it has. It's going to still continue to grow, but we are not going to see it in ways of fear.

And I think that's one of the reasons why I'm wanting, you know, to talk to you tonight and also say, look, I may be healthy. I'm going to be and I will be out of this in a few days.

HANNITY: It's fascinating, though, the political side of this no president ever acted faster. He put in and got criticized by Biden, by fake news CNN. Why? Because in three weeks from the day we identified the virus, he put a travel ban in effect, and then quarantined people. He hadn't done that in decades, and he still can't win with the mob and the media or the Democratic Party.

COLLINS: No, he's not going to win. Look, Sean, we've been -- look, I want (ph) everything else to you that I've been talking about for years, they're not going to -- will let him win on anything because they don't like the man, they hate the fact that he's president, they hate the fact that the country is doing well.

And I think, look, even the other day, we found out that the CDC on the day that China actually said they may have a new corona strain, the CDC began to kick into action that day.

HANNITY: Right.

COLLINS: So, this false narrative that the Democrats and the mainstream media are kicking around out there is simply a way, unfortunately, to try to get back at -- to make some doubt in the minds of people that the president is not doing his job. He's been doing his job from day one, and I think that's what we just need to make people concentrate on because when you concentrate on the truth and the facts, fear does not exist.

HANNITY: All right. Thank you, Congressman. Wait -- can't wait to have you back.

Media Uses Virus Coverage As Political Weapon; Biden Under Increased Scrutiny Given Numerous Campaign Gaffes;
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If you do have an elderly family member that maybe has gone through chemotherapy, has a compromised immune system in any way, underlying health issues take extra, extra, extra caution. Almost treat them like quarantine, be very careful. We'll get through this together.

Coming up, Biden family corruption team, the mob of the Bidens, running deeper than we first thought. Now, Joe's brother facing fraud allegations. That story next, as we continue.

HANNITY: Cloud of corruption hanging over Biden mob inc. That's even darker tonight.

According to a brand new report from "Politico", Joe's brother whose name is James allegedly defrauded multiple medical service firms, claiming that his last name could deliver not just political clout but even an influx of cash.

But, of course, using their last name to infiltrate and profit off the Washington swamp is nothing new for the Bidens like zero experience Hunter. His legal problems, they continue to worsen tonight as well. In a brand new trial motion, he is being accused of willfully defying a court order by failing to turn over key financial documents in his ongoing paternity case.

Joining us now with reaction, Republican Congressman Andy Biggs, along with "FOX and Friends" weekend co-host author of the new book -- look at this guy with all the tattoos. How many tattoos -- we, the people, the American flag, guns, you know, freedom and fun.

I love you, Hegseth. That's what I love about you.

PETE HEGSETH, FOX NEWS HOST, "FOX & FRIENDS": That's what it's all about, that's what it is all about, Sean.

HANNITY: I'm such a baby, I'm not getting the tat -- I bet it hurts. I'm not looking for extra pain.

HEGSETH: It's not too bad. It's not too bad.

HANNITY: I had pain day in martial arts, that's enough.

All right, serious question to all of this. We have a Ukraine investigation going on, Andy Biggs, in Ukraine. We got Ron Johnson -- he has an investigation. The media mob would like to ignore that. They'd like to ignore Biden Obama's terrible foreign policy record, Iran, and their economic record.

They like to ignore that Joe has lost a fast ball, a slow ball, and any ball if he ever had any ball. Just because they wish it to go away, it's not going away.

REP. ANDY BIGGS (R-AZ): No, it's not going to go away. They've acted like some kind of aristocracy or some kind of mob where they've tried to capitalize on the power of the vice -- former vice president, Joe Biden. And it's coming home to roost but they continue to defy it and where is the media outrage? That is the part that just blows my mind.

And the American people that I talk to, they are fed up with this two- tiered justice system where people like Hunter Biden is going to defy court orders and James Biden is going to be hauled into court because of allegations of fraud. And we haven't seen anything happen to these folks.

HANNITY: You know, Pete, by the way, seriously, I have been reading the book. It's an awesome book. I urge everyone to get it.

HEGSETH: I appreciate it.

HANNITY: I like to kid Pete about his tattoos. But he served our country. And we always thank you for that.

HEGSETH: Thank you, Sean.

HANNITY: And what you did for Eddie Gallagher was amazing, too.

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All right. So, you look at this, you see all the corruption. If this was Donald Trump, what would be happening?

HEGSETH: Oh, my goodness, it'd be entirely different story. Listen, the Trumps got rich and then they decided because they saw where the country was to get involved. The Bidens got involved in politics and realized it was great opportunity to get rich.

James Biden was involved in these international healthcare issues. He said, I can get you money for the Middle East because my name is Biden. Frank Biden had the same thing, real estate, I can get you access. You'll get better real estate deals.

Hunter Biden, he doesn't want to give up his tax records now. Why? Well, because they might reveal something tenuous about his father who is running for president.

HANNITY: Yes.

HEGSETH: Listen, it all stinks, Sean, and without you, without you and this network, no one would get to the bottom of it because the Democrat media protects them.

HANNITY: They're the mob.

HEGSETH: Yes.

HANNITY: And you got two mobs here simultaneously -- the Biden mob family and the media mob.

All right, congrats on the book. Congressman, thank you.

When we come back, Republicans, they are pushing forward. They are going after Chucky Schumer. We'll explain, next.

HANNITY: All right. Chucky Schumer threatened Supreme Court Justices Gorsuch and Kavanaugh last week. Now, Republicans want him to be held accountable.

Trace Gallagher live tonight in our West Coast newsroom.

Trace, what's the latest?

TRACE GALLAGHER, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: And, Sean, even with the primaries and coronavirus dominating headlines, Chuck Schumer is getting major pushback for those alleged threats to Supreme Court justices. It drew a rare rebuke from Chief Justice John Roberts who called the comments dangerous. Liberal Harvard law professor Laurence Tribe said the comments were inexcusable, and liberal CNN legal analyst Jeffrey Toobin called them a physical threat.

Now, Missouri GOP Senator Josh Hawley has introduced a resolution signed by a dozen conservative lawmakers for Schumer to be censured, meaning consequences very much still on the table for Schumer -- Sean.

HANNITY: All right. Trace Gallagher, thanks for that report and that update.

All right. Unfortunately, that is the all the time we have this evening. As always, thank you for joining us. We'll always be fair and balanced. We're not the hate Trump media mob.

Our election coverage, six big states tomorrow, usual time.

Let not your heart be troubled. Laura Ingraham is back.

I know you haven't been feeling well. We missed you.

Load-Date: March 10, 2020

Appendix B

Italy is under a full lockdown and President Trump is continuing his ban on travel from China to the U.S.; Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik now says she received a horrible threatening note, just while grocery shopping in the weekend; The media taking its hysteria to a new level, predicting a 15% to 20% death rate in the United States tied to coronavirus; Politico is reporting that Joe Biden's brother James is possibly involved in a fraudulent scandal that involving the healthcare provider AmeriCorps. Aired 8-9p ET

TRISH REGAN PRIMETIME TRISH REGAN PRIMETIME 8:00 PM EST

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Guests: David Harris, Jr., Janette Nesheiwat, Charlie Kirk, Diamond & Silk

Body

DR. DOUCH MARK, FOX NEWS HOST: --percent of you said no, I couldn't agree more. That's it tonight for us. Michael Robe and Colonel Doug Maccgregor among our guests here tomorrow. We will join you. Call me in Twitter @LOUDOUGH. Good night from New York.

TRISH REGAN, HOST, TRISH REGAN PRIMETIME: We reached a tipping point. The course of hate being leveled at the President is nearing a crescendo as the Democrats blame him and only him for a virus that originated halfway around the world. This is another effort to impeach the President. And sadly it seems they care very little for the destruction they are leaving in their wake.

Losses in the stock market, and all this unfortunately just part of the political casualties for them this is the time to be united. Not to be pointing fingers. Not to be encouraging hate AND YET what do we see, we see the absolute opposite from the left tonight.

Good evening everyone, I'm Trish Regan. The hate is boiling over many in the liberal media using Coronavirus in an attempt to demonize and destroy the President.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. JACKIE SPEIER (D-CA): I don't think the President is capable of telling us the truth about the Coronavirus.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: They have to plan.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The virus is going to kill Americans regardless of their stupidity.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This administration right now will slightly going to organize one corporate. He is not going to be able to have these rallies and it has been will psychologically torment him.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The President should lead or else he should lead or else he gets out of the way. They are on the golf course.

Italy is under a full lockdown and President Trump is continuing his ban on travel from China to the U.S.; Republican
Congresswoman Elise Stefanik now says she

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This may be Donald Trump's Katrina. This is an event that could take down the President.

JOE BIDEN (D) FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: There is no confidence in the President in anything he says or does. I wish he would just be quiet.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REAGAN: I see. This is impeachment all over again. And like with the Mueller investigation, like with Ukraine gate they don't care who they hurt. Whether it's their need to create mass hysteria to encourage a market sell-off, unlike anything we have seen recently or to be to create mass hysteria in order to stop our economy dead in its tracks. They told us how much they crave a recession as a way to get rid of Donald Trump.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Do you see now why I say we need a recession I know it is going be painful. But we have to get rid of this guy.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: A recession is a survivable event. What Trump is doing to this country is not. Recessions are survivable events.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I have been hoping for a recession, people hate me for it but it would get rid of Trump so you shouldn't hate me for it.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I mean recessions are really bad. People lose their jobs.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I know.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We shouldn't worse it--

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It's worth it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REAGAN: You know of course these are people's jobs that the left does not mind seeing them lose. These are people 401ks that are being decimated. And that's okay with them. That's okay with the left yes, you know in some ways they almost seem to be cheering it on.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Containment has failed and mitigation is the next objection.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It is a pandemic.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'm glad that CNN is calling this new Coronavirus outbreak for what it is, which is a pandemic.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: The is sort of a perfect storm.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: The ship has sailed here.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Here CNN is calling the Coronavirus outbreak a pandemic.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: To say this is contained that is a flat-out lie.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: IT's important I think to call this a pandemic.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

Italy is under a full lockdown and President Trump is continuing his ban on travel from China to the U.S.; Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik now says she

REAGAN: This is impeachment all over again complete with a whistleblower to complain about our health and human services committee. It is critical you know what that we look at these numbers with a clear lens. I want to remind everyone that the CDC estimates that this year's seasonal flu has resulted roughly in 34 million cases and 20,000 deaths in the United States alone.

The season flu from 2009 to 2010 nearly 6 million Americans got swine flu and more than 12,000 Americans died as many as 575,000 people worldwide died of the swine flu. And was there any criticism? No. Because why? The media didn't want to insult their precious President Obama, I suppose.

I spoke with a doctor on Friday who told me that the World Health Organization others they typically do whatever they can to get the word out it is critical that people are aware the problems. So the public can improve hygiene routines and health routines.

This is what helps in terms of lessening the infection rates but you know what the media's reaction. The global town halls and CNN treating this like it's some missing plane story. Did they do this during Ebola? No. We didn't even see this insanity for SARS and SARS and Ebola those viruses were far more deadly so why the melodrama on such an alighted scale right now?

[08:05:00]

REAGAN: And why are the markets reacting like this? I'll give you two words. Donald Trump. And the media doesn't like him. People including the media and some investors are allowing their own hate and their bias against him to spiral out of control leading to massive sell-offs in the market.

Any time there is this kind of disruption in the supply chain any time people cut back on spending there will be economic softness which can lead to a recession. And we are probably due for one now. But we'll recover. We always do.

For the media to spin a narrative that this sell-off and this virus are all a result of President Trump is just wrong. But unfortunately I guess they needed someone to blame. They were to blame him for literally anything they can and they have no real interest, shall we say, in finding who is to blame. Who is the root cause of all this?

From what we can tell, this all originated out of China you know when Donald Trump as their political target, that's all they need. That's tonight's Intel. Joining me, Trump 2016 Deputy Campaign Manager David Bossie. David good to see you.

I get it, people are frightened, they're scared but when you look at the actual statistics and I'm not saying that people should not take seriously and everybody should be urged to exercise caution and wash their hands and not going to work if they're sick. But this kind of hysteria this kind of sell off today down 2000 points I mean come on.

DAVID BOSSIE, TRUMP 2020 DEPUTY CAMPAIGN ADVISER: It's an outrageous act the Democrats and the media are perpetrating on the American people. It is dangerous, it is divisive. They hate this - well I would say this to you all the time, they hate this President more than they love our country.

Bill Maher and others, those clips you showed, they want America to fail so that they can defeat Donald Trump. They know what he has built over the last three years is the strongest economy America has ever seen. Every American is prospering from, and it is this virus which is caused by the Chinese, this Wuhan virus which now even the media is saying you can't say it's the Wuhan virus anymore because that makes people feel bad.

REAGAN: I have a whole segment coming up on that, by the way because you told me that's absolutely ridiculous.

BOSSIE: It's the political correctness run amok. Where are the Democrats in the leading? When Barack Obama had problems in his administration, Mitch McConnell was there to lead for the American people, for all the American people. They made deals whether we conservatives liked them or not. Whether it was in Bill Clinton's time, George Bush's time or Barack Obama's time the Democrats need to sand up and be candid.

Where are Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer? They want this President to fail.

Italy is under a full lockdown and President Trump is continuing his ban on travel from China to the U.S.; Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik now says she

REAGAN: Chuck Schumer is too busy issuing threats to Supreme Court Justices tactfully care about anything meaningful in terms of vaccines that could be on the way. But when you look at this hysteria what you think is really - I mean, we know the media hates and we know the left hates him. We know that lawmakers at this point have proven how willing they are to effectively choose themselves over any kind of patriotism.

So that's all out there anything else to explain this though? Because I look at it and say you know the closer we get to the vaccine, the closer I think some relief will come in these markets. But you have to face the facts for what they are.

BOSSIE: And Trish, I think the facts all Americans are going to come to grips with. We're going to see a big spike in numbers in the number of cases in the next couple weeks. As the testing become more available, what this President did in his decisive action in shutting down travel to this country was incredibly important.

It bought our government, the federal and local governments, time to be able to get ready for what we are about to embark on. We now know there are lot of cases people don't present they don't have it - they think it's a mild cold but they had it.

People are going to see a big increase in cases and the American people just have to be ready for that and then we'll work our way through it. That's what the markets I believe are playing to. There was always little bit ahead. I think they are seeing the down side.

And I think these are good buying opportunities for a lot of people. Every metric of our economy of is incredibly strong. As soon as we get back through this, our economy will be back on fire.

REAGAN: But I agree with you.

[08:10:00]

BOSSIE: But do I think the president should take some dramatic steps in halting the payroll tax for a little while. I think there are multiple things that he can do to stimulate the economy to give some tax breaks.

REAGAN: I mean, you looking at doing that. He told us today.

BOSSIE: Absolutely and I am excited to hear what he's going to do tomorrow. It's only through this leadership. We don't see any Democrat nowhere to be found a Democrat who is willing to help this President help America.

REAGAN: Bow just pointing fingers. That's what they would like to do. David Bossie, it's good to see you, thank you so much. All right, tonight forget that the nation is going through a health crisis. Democrats and Liberal media not missing a beat here always making time to call something a social justice crisis, right as well.

Liberals now accusing Republicans of racism for calling it "Wuhan virus" you just heard Mr. Bossie about that. Forget the fact that news organization and he says actually okay using the term, oh, and CNN has also used the term. Don't mind them.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: The Wuhan Coronavirus.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The Wuhan Coronavirus.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REAGAN: Conservative Host and Author David Harris Junior are here to call out those liberal. He will also react to find a segment diamond and silk calling out who they say is the real racist. Liberals like Spike Lee.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

Italy is under a full lockdown and President Trump is continuing his ban on travel from China to the U.S.; Republican
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UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: You look at a person like Spike Lee. I look at him as he perpetuates racism on a daily. He makes movies about racism keeping you stuck in the pain of your ancestors. Look a mirror takes a look in the mirror and look at himself and instead of calling white people racist; he's being a racist towards black people.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REAGAN: Wow! Also tonight more fallout from a top Democrat gleefully threatening Trump Appointed Supreme Court Justices.

(BGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER, SENATE MINORITY LEADER: I want you to tell you Gorsuch, I want to tell you, Kavanaugh. You have released a whirlwind and you will pay the price.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REAGAN: Republican Congressional people Elise Stefanik now says she received a vial, threatening note while grocery shopping over the weekend. Coming up Charlie Kirk is here and his reactions all the details. If you remember - has been the victim a terrific liberal violence. The first liberal media still breathlessly hoping the Coronavirus will be President Trump's downfall.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We got to have to have some kind of leadership.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: It is very, very concerned with the way that this administration is handling.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The world is not looking for President Trump to lead on this.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This may be Donald Trump's Katrina.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REAGAN: My next guest says don't do anything but blame the real the culprits China. Fox Nation's Tomi Lahren, she is here and she is speaking out. That's next.

REGAN: Tonight, the world in a state of shock. The entire country of Italy is under a full lockdown and our President is continuing his ban on travel from China to the U.S. But, do we need to go further? Israel has already enacted a two-week quarantine for anyone trying to come into their country. So, can we and should we be considering a temporary ban on any and all foreign flights? Or should we look at mandatory quarantines for everyone coming into America? I think it makes sense.

And why allow any foreigners into our country right now, at a time when we are trying to figure out who is here and whether they are healthy or not. Joining me right now, Fox Nation host Tomi Lahren, who I have a feeling agrees with me as well.

Tomi, I mean, Israel has don't, why don't we?

TOMI LAHREN, FOX NATION HOST: We need to do whatever is necessary but if President Trump does move forward to protect the United States in that way, actually a very effective way, the Left will call him a racist and a bigot. And then on the other side of their mouth, they say that he's not handling this crisis properly. But I ask them, what else would you have this President do? He's doing everything effective to actually solve the crisis and he's trying to keep people calm, which is what - exactly what a leader should do in times like this. But they are never going to be happy with it. It's President Trump and it is going to be his fault no matter what.

REGAN: So, he's going to be racist, right? I mean we have already heard about the xenophobia, right, because he said anybody from China. But my goodness, I mean, China was the epicenter of this and he certainly urged caution and there is travel

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precautionary measures regarding any flights around South Korea and Italy. But, at some time, I look at it and say, we need to do whatever we can do to make sure we are safe.

I do think it's a little bit overblown, as I said in my earlier segment. I mean when you compare this and contrast it, Tomi, with say swine flu and just the regular old flu. But nonetheless, if we are that concerned about making sure people here are safe, shouldn't we be willing to kind of go the extra measure and you know what, the Left be damned.

LAHREN: Well, absolutely. We should be doing things that are effective and a travel ban is effective. If we have areas where the disease has spread, we have areas that are highly impacted, then it makes sense that we should ban travel to those areas, from those area. However, I live here in California, kind of the epicenter of the coronavirus issue right now. We have got, of course, the cruise ship in Oakland and there is hysteria over that.

But I often ask people, Nancy Pelosi, Gavin Newsom and the rest of our leaders here that are really trying to blow this up and make it this hysterical moment for us, you don't care about the heroin needles in the streets? You don't care about the feces, the trash, the typhoid, the rats? Those things are not problematic and a health concern, but suddenly coronavirus with the cases that we have, suddenly that is a case for hysteria, and it is President Trump's fault? No, I don't buy it, Trish.

REGAN: Yes, I hear you, Tomi. Let me ask you this. I know there has been a lot of concern about where exactly this virus came from, how it originated. We are told by the Chinese and I would just say, obviously, you have to take it with a grain of salt because this is what the Chinese are saying. Tomi, they are saying it originated via livestock.

They are in China; they do have a tremendously awful record in terms of how they treat their livestock. So that's certainly plausible, but Tomi, are you buying that? I mean, you have got Wuhan which was actually a location that had two bio-warfare labs. So, do you think that our intel folks should be maybe doing some digging as to just exactly what the origins of this thing really are?

LAHREN: Well absolutely. I think that it's very wise that we not trust China in anything that they say or at least take it with a huge grain of salt, with really a gallon full of salt, we should be concerned. And also, we are talking about products that come from China that may have resulted, if their livestock or the other even more of a reason to make sure that we have American grown products, we use American livestock.

We've got plenty of that here. I'm from South Dakota, that's a ranching state, we can get our beef right here from the United States of America and not have to worry about possibly contaminated goods and products from China. I think that sounds like a win-win for us.

REGAN: Well said, Tomi Lahren, thank you so much. Good to see you tonight.

OK, coming up everyone, more fallout from Schumer's threatening comments.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER (D-NY): I want to tell you Gorsuch, I want to tell you Kavanaugh, you have released a whirlwind and you will pay the price.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REGAN: Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik now says she received a horrible threatening note, just while grocery shopping this weekend.

Coming up, Charlie Kirk is here to react to the details. And if you remember, he too has been the victim of horrific liberal violence. But first, the Democrats and the liberal media proving once again they can make racist accusations about absolutely anything, absolutely anything because you know what, they are now accusing Republicans of racism, for get this calling the coronavirus the Wuhan virus. Forget that Wuhan happens to be the epicenter of where this all originated from, and a news organization in Asia also uses this term. Oh and CNN has used it as well.

Italy is under a full lockdown and President Trump is continuing his ban on travel from China to the U.S.; Republican
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UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: The Wuhan coronavirus.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The Wuhan coronavirus.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REGAN: Coming up next, conservative host and author, David Harris, Jr. is here to call them out. He's also reacting to Diamond and Silk calling out, who they say, is the real racist, and it's Spike Lee. That's next.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROCHELLE RICHARDSON, VIDEO BLOGGER: When I look a person like Spike Lee, I look at him as - he perpetuates racism daily. He makes movies about racism, keep you stuck in the pain of your ancestors. Look at the mirror, take a look in the mirror and look at himself. And instead of calling white people racist, he is being a racist towards black people.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REGAN: The liberal media crying foul tonight over a Republican Congressman referring to the coronavirus as the Wuhan virus, despite the fact that Wuhan is where it all started. One MSNBC anchor tweeting just astoundingly gross to call it the Wuhan virus. A so called journalist for The Daily Beast adding it's racism. And others saying it's xenophobic too.

But hang on, wait a second, where were these outraged liberals when we named, oh I don't know, West Nile virus, which is at the West Nile, German Measles out of Germany. Bunch of other ones - Lassa, Nigeria, you had the Lassa Fever. Rocky Mountain, spotted fever. Guess that would be right out of the US.

And then of course Lyme Disease, after a town in Connecticut. MERS, Middle East respiratory syndrome. Norovirus, do you know that one was out of Norwalk, Ohio. I could go on and on.

Joining me right now, member of the Black Voices for Trump Coalition, author of Why I Couldn't Stay Silent, David Harris, Jr. David, good to see you.

DAVID HARRIS, JR., BLACK VOICES FOR TRUMP COALITION MEMBER: So good to see you, Trish. Blessed to be back on with you.

REGAN: Correct me, it's like they just look for opportunities. They find them wherever they can. And in this particular case, it's now what racist to say Wuhan virus?

HARRIS JR.: It's is absolutely unbelievable yet it's believable because it's coming from the liberal mainstream media. I would say wake up America. I ask the American people, are they awake yet, do they not understand that the majority of the liberal media has an agenda, and their agenda is to try to paint this President everything mean, everything derogatory and despicable in the book.

And the biggest thing for most Americans is, if you are a racist. So for them to just say that, oh because it originated at Wuhan, now that's racist to call it Wuhan, it's like everything else you said. The German measles had nothing to do with measles in Germany. It lad to do with the German physicians that were actually describing the measles. Are we going to go restrict that now and change all of that history based on people's feelings?

REGAN: What about the norovirus? I like that one, that was right out of the Norwalk, Ohio, I didn't know that actually until today.

(LAUGHTER)

HARRIS JR.: Yes, like Lyme Disease.

REGAN: Yes, right from Connecticut.

Italy is under a full lockdown and President Trump is continuing his ban on travel from China to the U.S.; Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik now says she

I mean, at some point it just gets a little bit silly. And at some point, they are going to have to recognize that it's like a little boy that cried wolf a few too many times.

HARRIS JR.: (LAUGHTER) Yes. They are crying wolf an awful lot. That's all they can do is cry wolf, because here is the thing. The liberal mainstream media and Democrats don't want Americans to actually use their brains with it comes to facts, when it comes to the truth.

What they want is Americans to write off emotions, they want to get Americans emotionally riled up and not look at the facts that we do have the best economy that America has ever had. And it's because of this President's leadership that black unemployment is at a historic all-time low in this country, because of this President's leadership. They don't want people to look the facts. They want to try to rile them up over emotions and they are crying wolf way too much.

REGAN: You know, that brings me to Diamond and Silk who were on the program, David, on Friday. And Diamond and Silk are saying that, look for Spike Lee to go out there and call them effectively the equivalent of house slaves in the pre-civil war era, that's pretty bad. And in fact, it's the Democrat Party in their view that are the real racists, people like Spike Lee. I want you to see this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

LYNNETTE HARDAWAY, VIDEO BLOGGER: It's time for black people to wake up and smell the coffee here. You don't have any part of the Democrat Party. They don't want us at the Democrat Party.

ROCHELLE RICHARDSON, VIDEO BLOGGER: That's right.

HARDAWAY: They look at us as a commodity, something that could be bought and sold. That's why they try to buy us with free stuff. They are truly the party of racism.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REGAN: I know that you were there in the Oval Office, so you were one of the people that Spike Lee was also equating with pre-civil war house slaves.

(LAUGHTER)

HARRIS JR.: The house slaves, yes.

REGAN: How does it feel to you to be called a house slave by Spike Lee.

HARRIS JR.: You know, I have to step back and ask my American fellow brothers and sisters and members of the black community to step back and ask themselves, how much does Spike Lee really have in common with most average everyday Americans?

His net worth is over \$40 million. He's made movie after movie, some very divisive, a lot about race. He used to be hopefully a champion for the black community. But for somebody with his stature, with his presence in our country to then call out individuals like myself that was in the Oval Office with the President of the United States and equate us to house slaves, it's disgusting, it's derogatory and it's nothing that anybody should champion, it's nothing that anybody should stand up for Spike Lee about.

Same with Keith Boykin on CNN, with Don Lemon, all of them laughing at us, calling us clowns. Guess what, Obama didn't invite a bunch of us to the White House. He invited all the celebrities, he invited J-Lo, he invited - or Jay Z, he invited Beyonce. He wasn't inviting the average everyday Americans that are out here appreciating the President for what he did.

REGAN: I like that, I am glad you brought that up, because I'm going to give you a funny shine that Diamond and Silk said to me. They said - I believe it was Silk at the end of the interview, who said, look Obama may have had Beyonce and Jay-Z, but Donald Trump has Diamond and Silk.

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(LAUGHTER)

And it was a powerful statement.

HARRIS JR. And David Harris Jr., and Dan Moore (ph), yes.

REGAN: And David Harris Jr. But to your point, every day people that care about the issues in the community, that has a bigger effect. And I think it's in some ways more meaningful than getting the celebrities to stand up there.

HARRIS JR.: Absolutely, yes it is.

REGAN: How do you see what's happening right now, I mean the softening markets, the hysteria, if you would, surrounding coronavirus, how do you see that affecting employment, including for the black community right now?

HARRIS JR.: It's hard what we are going through right now. Obviously, I think there's a lot more hysteria that's going on with corona than should be. Again, the liberal media is pushing the narrative, trying to paint Donald Trump as the bad guy for this.

When, just like every other virus that is supposedly - was supposed to take out our economy, take out our country, take out the world has passed - coronavirus too will pass. And we'll be back to the brass tacks knuckles of what this administration is doing to bring jobs back. Thank God that President Trump brought back 600,000 manufacturing jobs.

And I also see this as a way for the President to continue to pull back the supply chains. We have too much to rely on China. We need more manufacturing in the United States, we need to supply ourselves with everything, and I think that with this administration, we are going to get it.

REGAN: It's a wake-up call right now for sure. Thank you so much, David, good to see you.

OK, coming up everyone, more trouble for Joe Biden.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN (D) PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: If the prosecutor is not fired, you are not getting the money. Son of a [bleep], he got fired.

(LAUGHTER)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REGAN: No, no, no, not the Biden quid pro quo scandal, that's being investigated in the Ukraine. It's actually his brother, James Biden. Here's a hint. The FBI is involved. FBI, coming up, we are going to have some details for you. But first, the liberal media just isn't happy unless average Americans are literally running for the hills and blaming President Trump, while they are doing it. An MSNBC guest today warning against fear mongering right before fear mongering. Listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This is not to fear monger. It would be irresponsible for to us create panic when it's undue. That being said, we know 80% of the population is going to survive and typically a 15% to 20% of mortality for those individuals that are both elderly and/or have underlying conditions.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REGAN: My next guest is here to call out the irresponsible liberal media and she should know, because she's an emergency room physician herself. Dr. Janette speaking out next after this.

Italy is under a full lockdown and President Trump is continuing his ban on travel from China to the U.S.; Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik now says she

REGAN: The media taking its hysteria to a new level tonight, predicting a 15% to 20% death rate in the United States tied to coronavirus. As this headline reads, MSNBC expert predicts 15% to 20% coronavirus mortality rate. What? OK, just watch so called science contributor over at MSNBC talk about this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This is not to fear monger. It would be irresponsible for to us create panic when it's undue. That being said, we know 80% of the population is going to survive and typically a 15% to 20% rate of mortality for those individuals that are both elderly and/or have underlying conditions.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REGAN: I'm sorry, only 80% of us are going to survive this thing? Only 80%? Yes, that's what you call crazy talk. You can tell what the media is doing here. I mean, I would say, they are being hugely irresponsible, trying to create mass hysteria.

In this particular case, this guy is talking about 80% living. And I made the point MSNBC can't do math before, and then he turns to 20% - 15% to 20%. But I think, I think - and maybe I'm just giving him the benefit of the doubt, he was trying to say maybe 15% to 20% of those people that were elderly or had compromised immune systems could suffer from it.

But you know, that's not how the media interpreted it. And I suppose the best way to look at this, at this point in time, might be through South Korea's lens. At this point, with their numbers, since they are testing the most people. There in South Korea, the death rate is about 0.6%, and it's primarily among the elderly.

How does this whack job paid contributor over there at MSNBC get from 0.6% to 20%? You got me. Here to call out the quacks, family emergency room physician, Dr. Janette Nesheiwat. I know we are joking around a little bit about it, but I think that it's really critical that people in the science field, doctors like yourself, be articulate and forthcoming and also at the same time not try and promote any kind of hysteria or fear. What is your sense?

DR. JANETTE NESHEIWAT, EMERGENCY ROOM PHYSICIAN: Yes, absolutely, you are absolutely correct. We have to be clear, because we don't want to create anxiety and fear and panic in patients. It's already difficult for us to take care of them as it is, especially being in flu season.

So, you can't just spew out these numbers, especially when we know we don't have this exact data. We won't know the exact data, Trish, until this outbreak is over. But, if you look at China, if you look at South Korea, the way you calculate the mortality rate is look at the number of cases and look at the number of deaths, and that gives you an idea, it gives you an estimate.

What he said about 80% will survive, 80% of people, according to CDC, that data will have either no symptoms or require no medical intervention. The CDC also said about 5% of people may have critical symptoms and maybe end up in the hospital, and you are right, those are the people that have severe underlying medical, heart disease, heart failure, lung disease, they are on chemotherapy, they are undergoing dialysis, that sort of thing.

REGAN: How do you think about this as a doctor right now, when you see the media coverage?

NESHEIWAT: So it's - whenever I see this fear mongering, it's quite disheartening and disturbing to me, because the goal right now should be to take care of our patients and to educate our patients and to educate the community.

The focus right now should be to make sure everyone knows, keep your hands washed and clean, stay home if you are sick. From day one, our President, Trish, has done everything in his power to protect us, from putting the ban on foreign nationals coming in from China, doing the 14-day quarantine, doing the screening at the airports, funneling people from different parts of the world. So, all these things together, if we collectively take our own personal responsibility, our own action, we can help prevent the spread of this virus.

REGAN: So, realistically, I mean are we looking at possibly January of next year before there's a vaccine?

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NESHEIWAT: That's realistic. So, they say next month that they are going to begin Phase I trials of this vaccine, which is really exciting. But it takes, according to Dr. Franchis (ph) of CDC - I'm sorry, our National Institute of Health Director, about a year or a year and a half to get on the market. Because you have to have trials, you have to make sure it's safe, we have to make sure it works, and we have to look at the side effects that could potentially happen.

So, that's exciting, a year, that's just down the road from now. In addition, they are looking at experimental drugs and therapeutics that hopefully will be available soon.

REGAN: But judging from numbers we've seen thus far, I mean the flu itself, right, can be even more deadly. I mean, I look at the numbers, and again it may be that this one is more challenging for the immune system, coronavirus that is.

But just numbers as we have them, give us a sense that--

NESHEIWAT: Yes, if you look at the data, if you look at the numbers, right now, influenza A, influenza B sadly kills thousands of people in this country and it affects millions. But the mortality rate is still low, if you compare the number of cases to the number of deaths. We can't say that for certainty with the coronavirus. But as of it is right now, the mortality rate is low.

REGAN: Calm down, deep breaths.

NESHEIWAT: Yes, absolutely.

(LAUGHTER)

And take common sense precautions.

REGAN: It's good to see, thank you so much.

NESHEIWAT: Good to see you too, Trish.

REGAN: Okay, coming up everyone, uh-oh the Bidens are in trouble, again.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: Why, why, why, why, why? You are getting nervous, man.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REGAN: Not that time Joe Biden lost it on that reporter, this time his brother, James Biden. And an FBI raid, coming up, I've got some details. But first, Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik now saying she received a horrible threatening note while grocery shopping over the weekend.

Next, a guest who had experienced this kind of liberal violence from time to time is going to talk all about it. He's got a new book out too, Turning Point USA Founder Charlie Kirk is here, and he's speaking out next.

REGAN: Tonight, a disgusting display of intimidation, New York Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik getting harassed over the weekend by an anonymous hater who left this note for her on her car, while she and her husband went to the grocery store.

It reads, "rot in hell, fascist pig." Now, you would think a disgusting malicious act like this would actually be widely condemned, right, by everyone. But instead, the former head of the Democratic Party, Howard Dean basically excuses it writing on Twitter, "I don't condone this, but as you sow, so shall you reap."

Then again, why would we expect him to act any differently, considering the examples that have been set by his fellow Democrats.

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(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: You get that from them, and you tell them, they are not welcome.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: They go low, we kick them.

(LAUGHTER)

That's what this new Democratic Party is about.

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, FORMER FIRST LADY OF THE UNITED STATES: You cannot be civil with a political party that wants to destroy what you stand for.

SCHUMER: You have released a whirlwind and you will pay the price.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

REGAN: Joining me right now is Turning Point USA Founder and author of The MAGA Doctrine, Charlie Kirk. Charlie, good to have you here.

We thought you would be a really appropriate person to talk about this, because I know you've experienced a lot of the hate firsthand yourself. What is it that some of these people like Chuck Schumer right now need to understand about civility?

CHARLIE KIRK, TURNING POINT USA FOUNDER: Look, words have real consequences and real actions. It was about a year and a half ago, I was in a breakfast diner in Philadelphia with the great Candace Owens and we were stormed out by left-wing activists.

Mind you, that was not covered very much by the mainstream media at all. And this has been a pattern by the radical left, going after Trump supporters, after the rally in Minneapolis when they were assaulting young women that were in MAGA hats.

At Turning Point USA, we have had students bear sprayed, we have had them punch in the face at University of California, Berkeley, as you saw recently. We've had students completely targeted for their beliefs. And Congresswoman Stefanik did a heroic thing by standing up for the truth and standing up for the President during that impeachment sham.

And now you are seeing that she's being targeted because of it. But look, we are on the frontlines of what's happening on our college campuses across the country. And I can tell you that, when you wear a Make America Great Again hat, unfortunately there is a price with it. And sometimes that price means that the radical left might come after you physically. And that's a sad state of affairs, if that happens in the United States of America.

And Howard Dean, how dare you, how dare you validate these sorts of threats and this sort of indecency. And I for one am so tired of hearing, oh President Trump is dividing America. Wait a second, your side is tearing up the State of the Union addresses. Your side is punching Trump supporters in the face. Your side is validating these sorts of attacks from someone like Howard Dean, who was once a leading Presidential candidate and former head of the DNC.

REGAN: It's mean, it's mean and it's dangerous and we see it all the time, and they keep getting away with it, Charlie? Why do they keep getting away with it?

KIRK: Yes, I mean, they get away with it because the media covers for them and they refuse to publicize the indecency or the threats that come at Trump supporters. And let's not forget, it's just about 14 months ago when a young man wearing a Make America Great Again hat at the March for Life with the name of Nick Sandmann did nothing wrong except have someone have a drum be put in his face and he was immediately stigmatized by the media as being someone that was instigating.

I want you to manage, if when Candace and I got stormed out of that breakfast place, if it was conservatives or people wearing Make America Great Again hats wreaking this sort of havoc and this sort of incivility, and it's a very - it's a very dangerous time right now when the Democrats refuse to condemn this sort of violence.

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In fact, Chuck Schumer encouraged it against Justice Gorsuch and Justice Kavanaugh as recently as last week.

REGAN: There used to be such a thing as tolerance. There used to be such a thing as an appreciation for intellectual diversity. And Charlie, I mean those feel like light years frankly away. I mean, I think back as a kid, and there was certainly growing up in New Hampshire, you had the ability to put out whatever sign you wanted, right, for whatever Presidential candidate you wanted.

The neighbor next door may be on the other side of the fence politically, by you still got together to watch the Super Bowl. I mean, it was a very different time and I think it's a dangerous dangerous road we are going down here, Charlie, and I'm not sure how to change it or how it gets fixed.

KIRK: Well look, I mean the final thought on this is that, conservatives continue to be the ambassadors of decency and dialog and mutual respect. You don't see conservative Trump supporters waiting outside of Bernie Sanders rallies and insulting them and getting in their face.

You don't see conservatives wearing masks in the streets of Portland beating gay Asian journalist like they did to Andy Ngo, because he dared to film them and he dared to try to figure out what's going on.

And so, look, it's a dangerous precedent being set here, and I'm afraid that the leadership of the Democratic Party, Maxine Waters, Hillary Clinton, Eric Holder, you played the clip - the very effective clip that portrays this.

They are encouraging it. It's as if they want uncivilized dialog, if not political bedlam in America. We have to reject that, because the more we are able to be decent with each other, it's actually how we are going to be civil in our country and reject the radical left's impulse to try to divide our country.

REGAN: Well said sir, thank you so much Charlie Kirk.

KIRK: Thank you.

REGAN: Okay. Kennedy joins us right now with a peek at what's coming up on her show. Look, it has to be said. Kennedy, it has to be said. And we need to be more civil.

LISA KENNEDY, FBN ANCHOR: Don't I look great?

REGAN: You do.

KENNEDY: Thank you.

REGAN: You always look great. Hey, nice hair.

KENNEDY: Thanks.

REGAN: New do.

KENNEDY: I just clipped it on. You have got a Charlie; I have got a Charlie. It's a big night for Charlies. Charlie with our Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and native Michigan will forecast the race. What do people in the wolverine state really want from the next or this president? He's going to break it down for us.

REGAN: I look forward to it. Thank you, Kennedy.

KENNEDY: Heavily.

REGAN: We'll see at night. Okay, coming up next, another doozy for the Bidens.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN (D) PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: I have got hairy legs that turn - that turn blond in the sun.

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(END VIDEO CLIP)

(LAUGHTER)

REGAN: Not that doozy. We just couldn't resist playing it for you again. Being creepy is not criminal. This time, it turns out it's his brother James Biden and an FBI raid that's causing all the commotion. We have got some damning details next.

REGAN: Politico is reporting that Joe Biden's brother James is possibly involved in a fraudulent scandal that involving the healthcare provider AmeriCorps. After the company was raided by the FBI, one of its executives is now claiming Joe's brother made all sorts of false promises and pushed his political ties in order to secure a massive loan for himself, which he promised to pay back and now, it's up to the courts.

Kennedy is next. I will see right here tomorrow night; have a good one.

KENNEDY: Fake news. The President blaming media--

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Appendix C

At Least 157 U.S. Coronavirus Cases in 13 States As Death Toll Rises to 11; Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT) is Interviewed About the Government's Response to the Coronavirus. Aired on 8-9p ET

CNN ANDERSON COOPER 360 DEGREES 8:00 PM EST

March 4, 2020 Wednesday

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Length: 7536 words

Byline: Anderson Cooper, Jim Acosta, Sanjay Gupta

Guests: Jennifer Nuzzo, Chris Murphy, Annie Linskey, Howard Dean, Tim O'Brien

Highlight: Nationwide, at least 157 known coronavirus cases in 13 states, 11 fatalities at this point in the U.S. the latest in California; the first death outside of Washington state. Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT) is interviewed about the government's response to the coronavirus threat.

Body

[20:00:14]

ANDERSON COOPER, CNN HOST: Good evening.

At the end of the day of major developments in the coronavirus epidemic and seismic changes in the Democratic presidential primary, after a Super Tuesday that lived up to the name for Joe Biden.

First, the breaking news on the outbreak with the number of infections now approaching 100,000 around the world. Nationwide, at least 157 known cases in 13 states, 11 fatalities at this point in the U.S. the latest in California. The first death outside of Washington state.

And just before air time, California Governor Gavin Newsom declaring a statewide state of emergency to address the growing number of cases. Officials at the port of Los Angeles reporting that scheduled shipping traffic is down by about 25 percent in San Francisco.

A cruise ship is being scrutinized after what's called a small cluster of coronavirus cases were traced back to the vessel's previous voyage.

United Airlines became the first airline to cut domestic flights due to shrinking demand over passenger concerns about the virus.

And in Washington, the House late today passed \$8.3 billion in emergency spending to deal with the virus and other related issues.

At the White House, members of the president's coronavirus task force briefed the public just hours after the vice president and CDC officials announced that any American with a doctor's order may now be tested. At the briefing, though, it quickly became clear that this change in guidelines is not yet matched by the capacity for actually doing the testing.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

At Least 157 U.S. Coronavirus Cases in 13 States As Death Toll Rises to 11; Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT) is Interviewed
About the Government's Response to the Coron....

MIKE PENCE, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: We have a ways to go yet. Our objective is, in addition to those tests being available, we want to get to a place where any American who has a concern is able to go to their doctor, is able to go to a medical clinic and know that there's a coronavirus available. We think that we can get there in a matter of weeks. And in partnership with the commercial labs, we're challenging them to do just that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

COOPER: We think we can get there.

The vice president and other task force members also reported that the virus seems to be deadliest to seniors and the already ill and announced a greater focus on infection control at nursing and other senior care facilities.

The head of the Center for Disease Control took a moment to praise members of the press for their part in keeping the public informed, which is why it's important to go beyond the headlines tonight and put the focus briefly on how the administration is making that job tougher by either putting out bogus information or not practicing the kind of transparency that they themselves promised just two days ago.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PENCE: We'll get back here every day. Get used to seeing us. We'll bring the experts in and make sure to give you the best and most high- quality real time information, from the best people in the world. So thank you all for being here.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

COOPER: That was the promise. That was Monday evening. Tune in tomorrow, he said. Get used to seeing us. That was the exact quote.

Guess what happened on Tuesday, the very next day. Reporters came, a task force was there, but no cameras were actually allowed to hit record. No audio was allowed to be recorded, either. You couldn't see, you couldn't hear.

Perhaps they didn't want the message to get out after all. It's unclear exactly why they did that, but in response to criticism, thankfully today, cameras were once again allowed.

And earlier today, we also got to hear the president, who never sees an opportunity for self-reflection, but who apparently sees this virus as another opportunity for attacking the previous administration.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: The Obama administration made a decision on testing that turned out to be very detrimental to what we're doing. And we undid that decision a few days ago. So that the testing can take place in a much more accurate and rapid fashion.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

COOPER: Well, keeping 'em honest, the president is referring to a proposed rule change that never went through. An aide to a Republican senator involved in it, an expert in field, says it never happened, so does the policy expert at the Association of Public Health Laboratories. The White House had no comment when asked to explain why the president said what he said at a time when getting the truth from any official, let alone the highest official in the land, matters so much.

And this is the -- this is not the first such incident the president either outright misinforming the public or trying to sugar-coat the truth.

CNN's Jim Acosta joins us now from the Washington.

So, Jim, I understand you have some reporting with the president's claim regarding the Obama administration.

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JIM ACOSTA, CNN CHIEF WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Yes, Anderson, I talked to a source close to the coronavirus task force earlier this evening, who said essentially that this claim made by the president caught members of the task force off guard. That there were members of the task force that didn't know where this president got this from.

And, obviously, our reporting is showing at this point that during the Obama administration, no such move was made that the president was talking about. It is important to point out, Anderson, that throughout this crisis, the president has either tried to politicize things by blaming the Obama administration, as he did today, or injected some uncertainty in a place where there should be absolute certainty in the field of science.

[20:05:05]

He was asking, you know, a couple of days ago, whether or not a vaccine for coronavirus could be produced in a matter of months. Dr. Anthony Fauci with the National Institutes of Health has had to repeatedly tell the president on camera, publicly, in front of him, over and over and over again that it's going to take a year to a year and a half.

And so, the president appears to want to inject politics in all of this at a time when there are even members of the task force who just don't want to see that happen. I talked to source close to task force earlier this evening who said that when the president made that claim about the Obama administration, there were members of that task force who actually winced -- Anderson.

COOPER: You've been watching the administration's response to the virus very closely. I mean, we all remember the president's press conference, I guess it was last week, which is right when he got back from India, was rambling. He said that there were 15 cases, that might come to an end very soon.

Does it seem now like they have their own arms around it, now that they've got this task force?

ACOSTA: Anderson, I think the video you just played a few moments ago, featuring the vice president talking about the challenge of getting test kits out there is really at the heart of this matter, at this point. If you talked to lawmakers up on Capitol Hill, Democrats and Republicans, one of the things that they're saying that is most important to their constituents right now is that these test kits get out across the country, as soon as possible.

And while the White House is saying we'll have a million kits or a million tests available by the end of this week, some 2,500 kits, that is not going to be enough. That's not going to be enough for every American who has a cough or a sneeze who thinks they might have coronavirus to be able to go their doctor and have this test conducted. So, at this point, they are trying to keep up with events as they happen.

One thing that should be pointed out is that, as we're talking about, you know, the White House getting its message straight, there are important things that people need to know, that the elderly and people with pre-existing conditions are the most vulnerable when it comes to coronavirus. And that they don't need to go and buy these specialized masks that are needed for health professionals and all of this. The White House and the task force and members of the task force who care about the science in all of this are trying to get that message out, Anderson. Unfortunately, they're competing with the president who sometimes has a different agenda -- Anderson.

COOPER: Jim Acosta, thanks very much. Appreciate it, from the White House.

Joining us now, CNN's chief medical correspondent, Dr. Sanjay Gupta.

You were at the White House the past couple of days. From what you've observed, how are they handling it?

DR. SANJAY GUPTA, CNN CHIEF MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT: I think there's been a shift over last few days. I mean, they've brought in more people. I was with them -- I was with the vice president and members of the task force.

I mean, what's really struck me is that the public health community has known for some time that we were going to see an increase in the numbers. What happened in China with these quarantines, that bought us time. But the impression I get is that,

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you know, people within the administration may have thought that time actually meant that this virus was not going to spread, that this was not going to happen, despite what they've been hearing from their public health community.

So I think there's been a shift now, an acknowledgement that this is happening. The big focus has been on testing. We've talked about how it's been inadequate here and again, just for context, we've tested some 500 people in this country --

COOPER: Five hundred? That's it.

GUPTA: Five hundred people. You know, some of the people got more than one test, that's why people say there have been a couple thousand tests, but 500 people, whereas in South Korea, at one point, they were doing thousands of tests a day.

COOPER: Right, South Korea was doing 15,000 at one -- the other day when I was asked about it.

GUPTA: So, a really significant difference there. But the idea of being able to do surveillance to understand what you're dealing with is the primary pillar of public health. If you don't know what the problem is, you can't fix the problem.

Now the tests are going out. That was the big focus today, not just to university hospitals and state hospitals, but also maybe to commercial labs, at some point. And what we're going to see is the numbers are going to shoot up, because there's going to be a lot of people, like Jim was talking about, that are going to start getting tested. And so, they're now preparing for basically understanding what these numbers mean, just how much has this spread in the country.

COOPER: Sanjay, I want to bring in Dr. Jennifer Nuzzo. She's a senior scholar in the John Hopkins University Center for Health and Security.

Thanks so much for being with us. First of all, I think I just said there have been 15,000 tests in South Korea a day. I think -- I think you might have told me the number, but I might have gotten the number wrong. Was it right?

DR. JENNIFER NUZZO, SENIOR SCHOLAR, JOHN HOPKINS CENTER FOR HEALTH SECURITY: Right, they have unprecedented capacity and they are doing an extremely aggressive surveillance. So, yes, 15,000 tests a day.

COOPER: OK, good. It came from memory, I just wanted to make sure I was OK.

What do you make overall of where the response is now, yeah? Where should it be? Where is it now?

NUZZO: Well, I think you're going to see an expansion of cases, as Dr. Gupta said, and that is in part because we are finally testing people. But, you know, we're also going to hear about increasing numbers of deaths. And I think that's largely because of the outbreak that's been happening in Washington that centered around a long-term care facility.

So it's important to put those numbers into perspective. These are individuals who are unfortunately very vulnerable to severe illness and death, and the situation there is not necessarily reflective of the number of deaths we might see just in the general community.

[20:10:06]

COOPER: And, Sanjay, you see the news now from the governor in California, declaring a state of emergency. I assume that allows a certain funding or response to be kind of be triggered.

GUPTA: Yes, that's exactly right. And I think it also sends a signal to hospitals. I mean, you know, we have now identified a nursing home as being a potential reservoir for this virus. We want to make sure that doesn't happen in other nursing homes around the country, as Dr. Nuzzo was just saying, that is -- that's the most vulnerable population. Those are pockets of extremely vulnerable people. And, by the way, you know, the idea that someone again could be carrying the virus in their bodies, not have any symptoms at all, that's good. Obviously, for that person, they never get sick. But if that person visits a nursing home, then spends time with their parents or their grandparents, how do you prevent that transmission from happening?

That's the sort of focus that's going to be happening in California and in many places around the country.

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COOPER: Dr. Nuzzo, how much of the prevention or the spread of this virus depends on the honor system? Most of the people in quarantine are self-quarantined. They don't have doctors or other authorities looking in on them to make sure they're not in contact with others.

Really, individuals, all of us are, you know, the front line of this thing.

NUZZO: Yes, I mean, I think the most important thing is that we focus on isolating people who are sick. Quarantines refer to restricting the movement of people who are well.

There is some question about whether people before they're sick are able to spread the virus, but by and large, it's going to be spread by people who are sick. So it's absolutely essential that people who are sick stay home.

That said, not everybody is able to do that. And so we need to, as a society, examine ways to enable people to do that. One, make sure they have food and other resources if they live by themselves. And two, eliminate barriers so people don't feel like they have to show up to work because they're worried about missing a paycheck.

COOPER: Sanjay, what's your advice? I flew on a plane today, I coughed twice into my arm. And there are other people in the plane, you know, a couple of people coughing -- I think my cough is normal, it doesn't -- but I'm asking for all of these people who are out there who may have a, you know, a seasonal cough, an allergy, whatever it may be, and get freaked out or other people around them get freaked out.

GUPTA: Yes, I mean, you know, still the likelihood that that cough, your cough was from coronavirus is exceedingly low, you know?

COOPER: I'm happy to hear you say that.

GUPTA: I feel like I've given this sort of advice before and have not always been right. As you cough.

COOPER: Sorry.

GUPTA: But the idea that it is spreading, though, I think is real and the fact that people may have symptoms -- you know, may have mild symptoms and be carrying coronavirus is real. I think that that's going to increase in numbers. I don't know. I showed you this animation before, Anderson. If we have it, I want to show it to you again. You and I have covered so many of these outbreaks.

But when you look at what was happening with H1N1 back in 2009, I don't know if we have the animation, basically at the nine-week mark, the numbers over there, of H1N1 in the coronavirus were pretty similar. And H1N1 just took off. And by the end of that first year, it was around 60 million people.

So the idea that this is pretty contagious and eventually will start to recede in many places around the country is quite possible. So I don't think your cough is due to coronavirus, but there is a pathogen that is circulating around the country. Most people won't have much in the way of symptoms, but I think a lot of people, eventually, are going to be exposed to this pathogen.

COOPER: And, Dr. Nuzzo, at this point, you know, early on they were saying, if you have been to China or overseas to somewhere or in the China adjacent, if you know somebody who was infected, then you might be concerned. At some point, it's going to be the case where, I assume, if it continues to spread, where that will no longer be the only people who should be concerned.

NUZZO: Oh, absolutely. And I fall in the camp that doesn't necessarily ascribe to the belief that we've bought ourselves time through the travel restrictions that we've implemented and the -- even the restrictions that China has implemented, simply because up until now, we haven't actually been testing people. We know that people have been traveling from the affected area for long before those restrictions were put in place, and yet while the virus was still circulating.

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So, certainly, at this point, just given past pandemics caused by respiratory viruses, I think it's safe to assume that most communities will see cases, if they aren't already seeing cases. And whether or not they have cases, well, now is really going to be told to us by the increase in testing that we hope to see.

That said, I just want to caution. We very much don't want people to just rush out to try to go get tested, particularly -- well, first of all, if they are well, they shouldn't just show up to, say emergency rooms, because we're already hearing reports about that. That could put themselves at risk. That could put others at risk.

We have to wait for the public health authorities to decide who should be tested in this larger testing scheme that we're going to see, because it wouldn't be good if people started showing up in emergency rooms in masks.

[20:15:11]

This is something that happened in 2009, so I very much want to prevent that from happening this time around.

COOPER: So, I mean, people who are concerned should talk to their primary care physician?

NUZZO: Absolutely. Absolutely. And, you know, for the most part, the first emphasis is going to be on testing people who are quite ill, because those are the ones that we need to have that information about the most. For most people, 82 percent are probably going to have mild stops symptoms, more like a bad cold. And that's not necessarily right now our first priority for testing.

That said, we will have to do tests in the population to better understand where the infection is and how many are out there?

COOPER: Also, Dr. Gupta, I want you to give your advice to folks out there right now. But also, again, we have talked about this before, not that the flu has anything to do with the coronavirus, but half of the people in America do not get a flu shot and the flu right now is far deadlier. So if you're freaked out at all about the coronavirus, you should be more concerned about the flu. And you can actually do something about it and get a flu shot.

GUPTA: Fifteen thousand people, roughly, have already died of the flu this season. A couple years ago, 60,000 people died of the flu.

This coronavirus may have a higher fatality rate than the flu does. But the flu, we have a vaccine for the flu. Half the country doesn't get it. Hopefully, that will change because of this.

COOPER: Dr. Sanjay Gupta, thank you. Dr. Nuzzo, thank you.

Dr. Gupta is going to join me tomorrow. Sanjay is going to join me tomorrow for a CNN global town hall on the outbreak, "Coronavirus: Facts and Fears," we'll be talking to top medical and public health experts answering questions so many people have. It gets underway tomorrow evening 10:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Coming up next for us tonight, Democratic Senator Chris Murphy with his view on whether the administration is doing enough on testing as well as transparency. What his concerns are about the outbreak.

Plus, a remarkable day in the presidential race. Former Vice President Biden savoring his Super Tuesday victories. Michael Bloomberg out already. Elizabeth Warren weighing her options. Senator Bernie Sanders regrouping.

A lot to talk about. More ahead.

[20:21:22]

COOPER: With all that's being reported right now about the coronavirus outbreak, including the state of emergency just now declared in California, and the growing number of cases nationwide, now 158 in 14 states, signs are this will get worse before it gets better. As experts have pointed out, including Dr. Gupta before the break, testing in this country has lagged far behind other parts of the world and there have been logistical problems as well as policy problems surrounding the effort. On top of

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that, there are mixed messages coming from the president and the expert, not to mention some outright misinformation on the president's part.

I want to talk about what he views of the crisis at this point. Senator Chris Murphy, Democrat of Connecticut.

Senator, how confident are you that the administration, this Coronavirus Task Force, that they have their arms around this problem?

SEN. CHRIS MURPHY (D-CT): Well, I think the administration was very, very late to understand the significance of this epidemic. Back in early February, the administration came to brief us and in that meeting, several of us essentially begged the administration to come to Congress for emergency funding. Many of us saw that this was going to take some pretty substantial resources in order to get testing ready, in order to get a head start on a vaccine, in order to get money out to local public health directors who were going to be on the front lines.

And, you know, in early February, the administration was telling us that they didn't need any money. That they were going to be able to handle this with existing resources. And then later that month, they asked for a paltry amount of money, relative to the threat, \$1.5 billion.

And luckily, this week, Congress in a bipartisan way is going to pass a \$7.5 billion emergency funding bill. But, unfortunately, it's a little late in the game to be putting this emergency funding in. And the administration really should have been there at the earliest stages, understanding that they weren't going to be able to do this with the money that they had available.

But I think it's good news that this week, Republicans and Democrats, together, are going to pass this emergency funding bill. And that will get us moving in the right direction.

COOPER: You know, today, we played earlier the president blamed the administration for what he said was a decision on testing, saying it slowed down his administration's ability to test people for the coronavirus.

You know, obviously, the president loves to blame President Obama. Unlike many presidents, he loves to go back and attack prior administrations for just about everything. It's -- I mean, there is no evidence, in fact, everybody we have talked to about this, said that what he said is just not true. And that people even on the task force were surprised by this.

I mean, it's kind of ridiculous in the midst of this he's doing this.

(CROSSTALK)

MURPHY: Yes, I mean, there are a lot of days in which you can laugh away the president's lies. You know, it's the theater of the absurd, often. But this is different. This is a moment of real peril for the country. Yes, it is true that it's still a relatively low-level risk for Americans, but the risk is growing and the threat is growing.

And the fact that the president can't get his facts straight, blaming the Obama administration with claims that seem to come out of thin air, suggestions that a vaccine is just around the corner, when we all know that a vaccine is not going to arrive for another year and a half, you know, that really makes it difficult for people to do their job.

And, you know, this was the danger of the Trump presidency from the beginning. When there was a real crisis, a national security crisis or a public health crisis, the president's lies and his inability to square with the truth was going to threaten the safety of Americans. And I do think we're at that moment. And I hope that he lets his scientists speak and he takes a backseat.

[20:25:00]

COOPER: It's also incredible just -- I mean, as you said, it's easy, sometimes, to let these lies, the -- the sort of -- the rambling thoughts, you know, to laugh at it or just ignore it or just say, oh, that's what he does. You don't have to necessarily listen to the facts of what he's saying, but as you say, in the midst of -- with an actual health emergency, it does take on a whole another tone.

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I just want to play something that -- I keep coming back to this and I can't sort of get over that he said this. And that it didn't get as much pickup as I kind of thought it would. This is him last week talking about the virus.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: It's going to disappear. One day, it's like a miracle, it will disappear. And from our shores, you know, it could get worse before it gets better. Could maybe go away. We'll see what happens. Nobody really knows.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

COOPER: I mean, in the midst of this, with, you know, fatalities already having occurred, for him to be saying sort of, it's just like a miracle, it's just going to go away. And to have, I guess it was Diamond and Silk, so-called, who were, you know, saying amen to that very quickly. It's just -- I find it kind of stunning that this is where we're at.

MURPHY: It would be better if the president didn't make statements about the coronavirus. It would be better if he remained silent and he let medical experts carry the message, because there are good people in this administration --

COOPER: Yes.

MURPHY: -- who are working to try to combat this epidemic. And I just really fear that the misinformation coming from the president is going to counteract the truth coming from scientists and medical professionals in his administration, because, you know, there is a cult of personality around the president. There are a lot of people who believe everything that he says.

And in this case, that could cost lives. So, let the experts talk. That's my hope for what happens moving forward.

COOPER: Senator Murphy, appreciate it. Thank you.

Coming up next, the political comeback of Vice President Joe Biden and the political maneuvering in the wake of it. Bernie Sanders' chances, Michael Bloomberg's departure, some late reporting on what could happen next.

[20:31:34]

ANDERSON COOPER, CNN HOST: More breaking news tonight. There's a new delegate count for the Democratic presidential race after Super Tuesday. Joe Biden has the lead with 509 delegates, Bernie Sanders is at 449 and Elizabeth Warren has 37.

Also breaking tonight, "The Washington Post" reporting that aides for both Warren and Sanders are in the early stages of discussions to unite and push a common liberal agenda if Warren withdraws from the race. Annie Linskey shares the byline. She joins us now by phone.

Annie, what's -- Annie, what are you reporting?

ANNIE LINSKEY, REPORTER, "WASHINGTON POST" (on the phone): "The Washington Post" reported today that allies of both Bernie Sanders' team and Joe Biden's team were in touch with Warren's camp today about a possible endorsement, if she does drop out, which is becoming something that at least people around the Biden and Sanders teams, they're beginning to expect.

COOPER: So both the Biden team and the Sanders team campaigns have contacted Warren?

LINSKEY: It's allies to both, so it's not actually the actual camp is getting in touch. Certainly in terms of the Sanders' outreach, there are members of Congress who have endorsed Sanders who are reaching out.

There have members of Congress who endorsed Warren to say, look, what's the path forward here? Is there a way that we can make sure we keep this progressive agenda and progressive energy, you know, alive in the event that Warren does decide to drop out of the presidential race?

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COOPER: And is it known anything about what Warren's thinking is?

LINSKEY: You know, what we've reported is that she is considering her options, that she has not yet made a decision about what to do, but she's -- the signals that are coming from the campaign are that she is, you know, very heavily leaning towards suspending her campaign.

COOPER: And is it known which way she would lean? Obviously as a progressive you would think Sanders, but maybe not.

LINSKEY: No, that is the big question. It's not known. You know, both camps have strong arguments to make. She clearly aligns ideologically far closer with Sanders, but she's also been campaigning for the last two months, three months as a unity candidate.

COOPER: Yes.

LINSKEY: And that would sort of suggest a different outcome. So those are -- that will be one of the biggest, you know, questions in the race in the next two days, if she does drop out.

COOPER: Annie Linskey, appreciate it. Thank you.

LINSKEY: Thank you.

COOPER: Let's get more perspective now. Joining us is Alexander Rojas, a Sanders' supporter and Executive Director of Justice Democrats, Angela Rye, the former Executive Director of the Congressional Black Caucus, both CNN Political Commentators, and former Vermont Governor, a Democratic presidential candidate, Howard Dean.

Governor Dean, you know better than what is -- that anyone what it's like to have a comeback during a presidential primary. What do you make of Joe Biden's near-sweep, 10 out of 14 states as of now last night?

HOWARD DEAN, FORMER VERMONT GOVERNOR: I'm still in some shock. And I must say, and you know everybody is talking about this all the time. This race is far from over. The number of delegates being awarded a week from yesterday is almost as many as were awarded this past Tuesday. So, we've still got a very, very long way to go here. And I'm -- I wouldn't be counting the confetti just yet for anybody.

COOPER: Angela, I mean, we mentioned "The Washington Post" reporting about talks between Sanders and Warren allies, obviously, the Biden campaign reaching out to -- or kind of probing about Warren. If Senator Warren gets out and endorses Sanders, how much could that offset, you know, the coalescing of Bloomberg, Klobuchar, Buttigieg around Biden?

[20:35:05]

ANGELA RYE, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: I think it could make a tremendous difference. If we go back to a debate altercation that they had just a few debates ago where Elizabeth Warren was challenging Bernie Sanders about him telling her that he didn't believe a woman could win this election. So there's, I think, a tiff that exists and a riff that exists that I they really have to overcome.

And I think her saying that she can look beyond that, which is major, is a really big deal, I think, especially, Anderson, when you consider the graphic that was just up. It had Biden, it had Sanders, and it had Bloomberg. One of the three has dropped out of the race and Warren was nowhere to be found on that map from yesterday, right?

And so I think that one thing that Elizabeth Warren could do if she's not ready to drop out is say that I'm here for all women, so that the voices of women are not silenced in this process and to ensure that my power going into this convention is strong enough to say, hey, you all still need me and you can't silence me. I'm going to make sure there's a woman on this stage. And even if I don't win, I'll put up a hell of a fight.

COOPER: Alexandra, I'm wondering your thoughts about last night. I mean, one of the arguments that Senator Sanders has been making is that, you know, we need a bigger voter turnout than ever before in history. And he's been, you know, hoping a lot on young people showing up, propelling him to victory.

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You know, certainly last night, that wasn't the case in many of these places and the senator acknowledged that himself today. It's not something anyone can blame on big money, because Biden hardly had any. What do you -- where are you today in terms of what happened last night and what needs to happen for the Sanders' campaign moving forward?

ALEXANDRA ROJAS, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: I mean, I think, you know, I think particularly on young people, just because they're not turning out, I think that the Democratic Party leader should see this as an existential crisis to the Democratic Party. It should not be swept under the rug that young people aren't coming out and drove. That's not just a concern for Bernie Sanders, it should be a concern for the whole party. But I think what we saw is that right now voters are concerned about electability and defeating Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders has a strong case to make here.

Joe Biden just a month ago, people were worried about his campaign and his ability to even be able to compete. And so it was a strong night for Joe, but let's remember the context at which this is. We saw party leaders, this is very reminiscent of 2016, stepping in and signaling very clearly to Democratic voters who they think should be the nominee and who they think should not be the nominee.

And right now, I think that it's absolutely critical that as a party we focus on drawing the strongest possible contrasts to Donald Trump. We don't want to have the same mistakes repeated from 2016. You know, the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result.

And it's pretty clear from private conversations I've had, from even the folks that have endorsed Joe Biden that he has run a lackluster campaign, that he has been a flawed candidate. And so, I think it's really, really critical that especially right now, in looking at how we defeat Donald Trump, that we talk about making the strongest possible contrast to him.

COOPER: Yes. Governor Dean, I mean, you obviously know Bernie Sanders from Vermont and you know Joe Biden, as well. The idea that Sanders has not been able to grow his core support and, you know, young people not showing up, and as Alexandra said, it's a problem for the Democratic Party, it's certainly a problem for Joe Biden, because they're certainly not showing up for him. But they're certainly not showing up for Sanders in the volume that he had hoped would propel him forward. What do you make -- I mean, how do you explain things?

DEAN: OK. So there are three groups that are the core of our party. Young people are one of them, people of color are the other, and women are the third. Women did show up. African-Americans showed up in huge numbers, and Bernie has brought huge numbers of Latinos out, as he did in Nevada, especially, was very impressive, and in California, as well. So the one piece we really do have to, I agree, is we've got to figure out how to get young people out.

You know, I'm neutral in this race because I'm doing this big data project for whoever wins. But I would -- and I don't like to give advice on television, but I do think that if Joe Biden becomes the nominee, he's going to -- he's not going to adopt Bernie's rhetoric, because I think that's one reason he's succeeding a little bit.

I think Bernie's -- I know a number of women who switched from Warren to Biden yesterday in the California primary, which shocked me, but it's not because it's not the ideology, it's that they just want piece and quiet after four years of having a lunatic in the White House.

So, but I think Biden is going to start talking about income and equality. And I think Biden is going to start. If he doesn't want to talk about Medicare for All, he better have something pretty good so everybody has coverage. And he's going to actually have to move towards the more progressive position if he's going to be the nominee and beat Trump, I think.

COOPER: Angela, he's certainly not going to be able to out-sanders Sanders --

DEAN: No, no, no.

COOPER: Right.

DEAN: No. They shouldn't try to do that.

COOPER: Yes. I mean, that would just come off as false, obviously.

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RYE: Right.

COOPER: But it is a real issue. I mean, his -- I hope that's not the Biden campaign calling right now for you.

[20:40:06]

COOPER: That wasn't my phone. Nice try, Anderson.

COOPER: OK. I don't know whose it was. But -- I mean, how does Joe Biden handle this? Because I mean, to Alexandra's point, he has -- it was been a lackluster, to say the least, campaign thus far. RYE: Yes. And one of the things that I think is so important in leadership, Anderson, and I think would go far to what Joe Biden is known for, and that is the diplomacy bona fides, he needs to demonstrate that he can listen, right? That he can listen and pivot. And it's really hard to get someone who's had a win like that, like we saw last night to a point of listening.

But Alexandra is right, we have a situation where not that many young people are turning out. We have a situation where there aren't that many people feeling Joe Biden. They want to see something very different from this candidate. That means he has to listen to people who are not just supporters, who are not just yes people on his campaign and they're interested in winning this election. That requires him to grow his base and to be a part of the big tent party.

COOPER: Thanks, everybody. Appreciate it.

Straight ahead, I'm going to talk with one of Michael Bloomberg's senior advisers about the decision to drop out and what lies ahead.

COOPER: Michael Bloomberg spent hundreds of millions of dollars of his personal fortune, hired an estimated staff of more 2,400 people, and flooded national and local televisions with campaign ads.

[20:45:03]

Last night, he only won in American Samoa. Earlier today, he dropped out of the Democratic presidential race, promised all of his support to former Vice President Joe Biden.

Joining me now is senior Bloomberg adviser, Tim O'Brien. Tim, thanks so much for being with us. How does the mayor --

TIM O'BRIEN, SENIOR ADVISER, BLOOMBERG 2020: Thanks, Anderson.

COOPER: -- look at what happened last night? I mean, is it obviously, you know, he got in the race late? Wasn't campaigning in those first states? You know, he spent the money he spent, the tough debate performances. How does he see what happened?

O'BRIEN: Well, you know, he got in the race in the beginning, Anderson. I think he saw the entire -- his entire effort as the culmination of his life's work. Mike Bloomberg is an accomplished businessman, philanthropist, and public servant. And he sees Donald Trump essentially as a five-alarm fire. And he wanted to do everything he could do to make sure Donald Trump is not in the White House come next November. And he's going to continue to do that.

I think the campaign -- you know, he came from, I think, you know, zero percent in the polls in early December. He was polling first and second for a big chunk of the time that he was in the race. He had a bad debate performance. That set him back.

I think we're in a season where voters are being very practical and Mike is not selfish enough or arrogant enough not to respect where voters are. I mean, he got 2 million votes. But there's a clear preference now, I think, for Joe Biden. And Mike has said from the beginning, he doesn't want to do anything to damage the party or whoever the ultimate nominee is. And I think his actions bear all of that out.

COOPER: President Trump, obviously, you know, so concerned about the coronavirus that he's able to tweet not only just about Mike Bloomberg, but about you as well. Tweeting earlier today, "Mini Mike Bloomberg will now fire Tim O'Brien and

At Least 157 U.S. Coronavirus Cases in 13 States As Death Toll Rises to 11; Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT) is Interviewed About the Government's Response to the Coron....

all the fools and truly dumb people who got him into this mess. This has been the worst, and most embarrassing experience of his life, and now on to Sleepy Joe."

Obviously you and the President have history. He -- you know, you deposed him. He unsuccessfully sued you for libel over a biography. You know more about his personal finances than anybody. You've actually seen the receipts. Does -- obviously -- yes, I'm wondering what you make over the President's gleefulness over this?

O'BRIEN: Well, you know, I think it's always interesting when the President falls off of his tricycle in the Oval Office and has time to tweet at me rather than focus on the fact that the coronavirus might become a global pandemic. The stock market is on a roller coaster, there are lots of vulnerable Americans who don't have affordable health care, housing, or education, and he's spending his time focused on me.

The fact is we're not going away. We're throwing our weight behind Joe Biden's candidacy. We are going to beat Donald Trump in November. I think the reason that Mike Bloomberg is still in Donald Trump's head is that he knows Mike Bloomberg will continue to be a force to be reckoned with and he's frankly scared of that.

And if the best he can do is get up in the morning and tweet at me, then he's got his work cut out for him over the next several months, because we're going to focus on the things that really matter to voters.

COOPER: Yes, so let's drill down on that. Mike Bloomberg is not going away in terms of wanting Donald Trump out of office. How much of his resources is he now going to devote to the Biden campaign? I mean, I've heard a lot about from Andrew Yang about this sort of data effort that Mike Bloomberg has set up, this state of the art. Is all of that directed to Biden? Do you know how much money? What's going to happen?

O'BRIEN: Well, you know, Mike will, to the fullest extent possible, back Joe Biden's campaign. We have a huge ground operation. I think there's been something of a myth that this was only an ad-driven campaign. You know, Mike rose in the polls because he had a great story to tell, but we also had a very sophisticated job -- ground operation.

Hawkfish is an enormously successful voter identification and turnout tool. We have great field offices across the country. Those are going to stay open in the battleground states. And there's a lot we can continue to do on advertising to support what's right for the American people, what's right for Joe Biden, and create a firewall between Donald Trump and the torching of the constitution.

COOPER: Yes. Tim O'Brien, appreciate you talking to us tonight. Thank you.

O'BRIEN: Thank you, Anderson.

COOPER: Just ahead, remembering one of the pioneers in this business and the familiar part of the day for millions of viewers.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BOBBIE BATTISTA, CNN ANCHOR: Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to "TalkBack Live." Well, the recount continues.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

[20:53:45]

COOPER: Between coronavirus and presidential politics, a very busy night already. Let's check in with Chris to see what he's working on for "Cuomo Prime Time." Chris?

CHRIS CUOMO, CNN HOST: Well, like you've been doing, we've been banging on the federal government, specifically the White House, overseeing the CDC, to have more testing. Let states test. Why? Because it's the only way you get your hands around the situation.

The reason it's so scary to hear the World Health Organization put out a death rate like 3.4 percent is because so many places aren't testing, so you're only dealing with the most severe cases. We've got to get the real numbers in this country.

At Least 157 U.S. Coronavirus Cases in 13 States As Death Toll Rises to 11; Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT) is Interviewed About the Government's Response to the Coron....

We have Ron Klain who dealt with Ebola for Obama. We have Zeke Emanuel and, of course, Sanjay Gupta here about what the statuses of testing. When we'll know the real deal? What are the realities going forward?

We also have someone who is self-quarantined at home. Wait until you hear her story, Coop. Man, she up against it. She got it visiting her elderly mother. The father who's old too was with her and now he's in the hospital. Now, she's self-quarantined. She can't get tested. It's the whole mess going on in Washington. We'll take that on and what the political realities are after Biden's big night tonight.

COOPER: All right, a lot to look forward to. Chris, see you then in about five minutes from now.

Coming up, remembering a T.V. news trail blazer, CNN's own Bobbie Battista.

[20:58:36]

COOPER: Bobbie Battista was a CNN original. She first worked at headline news and then CNN where she really became a household name and recognizable around the world. She dedicated 20 years of her life to this network and this Tuesday she lost a four-year battle with cervical cancer.

What a career she had. She started at WRAL-TV in Raleigh, North Carolina in 1976. She was hired here in 1981, soon after the network first began. She was based in Atlanta and over the years anchored some of the most important moments, the 1980s and 1990s, including the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster, the Gulf War, the fall of the Berlin Wall.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BATTISTA: Hello, I'm Bobbie Battista. A lot has happened since Churchill's warning 44 years ago. The communist regimes in Eastern Europe have all but collapsed in the past year.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

COOPER: In many ways to many people, she was the face of CNN. She was a pioneer, hosting the first interactive talk show, "TalkBack Live." Back then it was a new format where audience members and viewers were able to ask questions on live television to the guests and newsmakers on the show that day. The program aired for three years.

Right before her final appearance as host of "TalkBack Live" in 2001, Bobbie participated in an online CNN chat room. She said she believed that CNN was the greatest news network in the world and said, "I expect them to carry on with all the integrity and the highest journalistic standards."

As a teenager, I watched Bobbie Battista, dreamed of working in a place like CNN. She is remembered here with love and respect and our thoughts are with her family and her friends. Thank you, Bobbie, for all you did for this network. Bobbie Batista was 67 years old.

And that's it for us. The news continues. I want to hand it over to Chris for "Cuomo Prime Time." Chris?

Load-Date: March 5, 2020

Appendix D

The New York Times | <https://nyti.ms/2RDnixD>

Beware the Pandemic Panic

Coronavirus is scary. How we respond to it may be worse.



By **Farhad Manjoo**
Opinion Columnist

Jan. 29, 2020

Coronavirus is starting to freak me out — not the illness itself but the amped-up, ill-considered way our frightened world might respond to it.

Yes, the novel virus appears to be spreading quickly at the outbreak's epicenter in the Chinese province of Hubei, but after a late start the Chinese government is now imposing unprecedented measures to contain it. As the World Health Organization declared last week, it remains too early to call the outbreak a global public health emergency.

So far, the Wuhan coronavirus is not much more frightening than the outbreaks of other recent coronaviruses like SARS in 2003 or MERS in 2012, each of which killed fewer than a thousand people around the world. The new virus's death toll has just exceeded 130; for context, according to the CDC, about 15 million Americans have been sickened by the seasonal flu so far in the 2019-2020 flu season, and 8,200 have died from it. (The flu kills between 300,000 and 650,000 people around the world annually.)

What worries me more than the new disease is that fear of a vague and terrifying new illness might spiral into panic, and that it might be used to justify unnecessarily severe limits on movement and on civil liberties, especially of racial and religious minorities around the world.

I also worry that the online world may give rise to dangerous skepticism, and that in the event of an actual pandemic a large number of people may delay treatment or refuse vaccines because they don't believe the science or are suspicious of the government.

"I predict that the next major outbreak — whether of a highly fatal strain of influenza or something else — will not be due to a lack of preventive technologies," warned Heidi Larson, the director of the Vaccine Confidence Project, in a 2018 article in the journal *Nature*. "Instead, emotional contagion, digitally enabled, could erode trust in vaccines so much as to render them moot." Social media, she added, "should be recognized as a global public-health threat."

Tech giants have been racing to tamp down conspiracy theories and hoaxes about the Wuhan virus, but I worry that their efforts won't be very successful, because society seems to have no good answer to the kind of emotional contagion Dr. Larson describes. It's not just that many people get their news from a medium given to rumor, exaggeration and wild misinformation, especially on issues about health or science — see the persistence of antivaxers or climate-change deniers. There is also a growing partisan divide over how Americans interpret scientific expertise and health policy, leaving decisions about public health vulnerable to the kind of partisan squabbling you hear on cable news every night.

I also worry about the hair-trigger state of geopolitics. From Donald Trump to Xi Jinping to Boris Johnson,

strongmen with authoritarian tendencies run many of the world's most powerful governments. It is worth remembering that disease, or the fear of disease, can bring out the worst in humanity — pandemics often feed scapegoating (Jews were widely blamed for the Black Death), creating a fertile field for demagogues. When you put all these factors together, you've got a dangerous recipe for global repression.

Already, China's response appears to be driven by political considerations more than epidemiological ones. The government has imposed a travel lockdown on more than 35 million people, which experts say is a quarantine of unprecedented size and scale, yet it may not even turn out to be very effective. Experts say that quarantines work best during the earliest stages of an outbreak, but that they can also backfire, causing medical shortages, corroding trust in health officials and pushing some people to look to evade care to escape any restriction on their rights. China took weeks to mount a full-scale response to the virus. According to Wuhan's mayor, five million people left the city before restrictions were imposed, suggesting the country is effectively locking the barn door after the horse has run off.

"They're doing it because people who are in political leadership always think that if you do something dramatic and visible that you'll gain popular support," Lawrence O. Gostin, a professor of global health law at Georgetown University, told The Washington Post. "They couldn't have any sound public health advice."

We should keep this sense of caution in mind in case American politicians begin pushing for travel bans, overbroad quarantines or other measures that might not be supported by the science.

You might wonder what the great harm is — if the government needs to temporarily limit people's movements or prevent some people from entering the country, shouldn't it take those measures in the face of dangerous illness? Perhaps, but given the checkered history of quarantines — throughout history, they have been used to persecute the marginalized — lawmakers and the media should rigorously examine the bases for any such restrictions. We should especially make sure any restrictions imposed are indeed temporary and adhere to the science — something we don't always do. Consider that 30 years after the AIDS outbreak, men who have sex with men are still restricted from donating blood in the United States, long after the scientific basis for such a ban has passed.

So far, President Trump has offered a measured response to the virus. "We have it totally under control," he said this week. But online, misinformation about the scale of the virus is already trending. (It is not, as you might have read on Twitter, "thermonuclear pandemic level bad.") So are racist memes blaming Chinese people and Chinese culture for the virus.

I fear that the conditions are ripe for a situation similar to what occurred in the summer of 2014, when an outbreak of Ebola overran West Africa. After the Obama administration scrambled to bring home two American health workers who had become infected with the disease in Liberia, Trump went on a monthslong Twitter tirade about Ebola.

The future president favored extreme isolationism, seeing no benefit to American help in Africa. "People that go to far away places to help out are great-but must suffer the consequences!" he wrote — ultimately sparking a growing partisan movement against the government's response to the virus.

Today, Trump runs an administration that is hemorrhaging scientific expertise, and his political agenda is rife with efforts to target immigrants, minorities and the poor. In 2016, a terrorist attack prompted Trump to propose banning Muslims from the country; when he won the White House, he instituted a version of that ban.

I fear that panic about a foreign virus offers society another chance to target marginalized people. So let's keep

our fear in check; panic will hurt us far more than it'll help.

Office Hours With Farhad Manjoo

Farhad wants to chat with readers on the phone. If you're interested in talking to a New York Times columnist about anything that's on your mind, please fill out this form. Farhad will select a few readers to call.

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Appendix E

The New York Times | <https://nyti.ms/398Os5w>

Who Says It's Not Safe to Travel to China?

The coronavirus travel ban is unjust and doesn't work anyway.

By Rosie Spinks

Ms. Spinks is the global tourism reporter for Skift.

Feb. 5, 2020

The coronavirus outbreak seems defined by two opposing forces: the astonishing efficiency with which the travel industry connects the world and a political moment dominated by xenophobic rhetoric and the building of walls.

Respiratory infections, however, know no borders. The virus has spread regardless of extreme measures taken by governments around the world, which include the cancellation of flights, the shutting down of borders and the issuance of travel advisories usually reserved for conflict zones.

Time and time again, destinations perceived as “Western” benefit from a kind of cultural familiarity and presumption of safety that so-called foreign or exotic places do not. When we, as travelers, decide what places are too unsafe to travel, those decisions are determined not just by actual conditions on the ground but also by perceptions shaped by the media, the travel industry and the foreign offices of governments. Whether travelers realize it or not, that is subtly informed by the same power structures that underlie much unfairness in the world.

Valid arguments may exist for shutting down the world to travelers originating in China — and shutting down China to the world — as a reasonable public health response. But the World Health Organization explicitly did not advise that any restriction of trade or travel was necessary when it declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern last week, and it still doesn't. Instead, it has called for exit screening in international airports and domestic hubs in China.

The United States State Department is denying entry to foreign nationals who have recently been to China, is screening American citizens who arrive home from China as well as asking them to self-quarantine for 14 days. It has told American citizens not to visit the country at all. Major airlines including British Airways, Lufthansa and all three major American carriers have halted all flights to China, while the cruise line Royal Caribbean is denying boarding to any person who has traveled to, from or through China or Hong Kong in the past 15 days. Travel companies such as those airlines are motivated both by pressure from employees and by the

falling demand for flights. Flying empty planes to and from China is, after all, not profitable.

But what has motivated the response from governments? It doesn't appear to be evidence. Measures like screening at airports, quarantining cruise ships or flights with confirmed cases and isolating communities at the center of an outbreak can be effective, said Erin Sorrell, an assistant research professor at Georgetown University who studies emerging infectious diseases. However, she and other experts say the available evidence suggests that total border shutdowns are not an effective means of containment of respiratory viruses. Resources are better used, she argued, treating sick patients and developing vaccines and other countermeasures.

Sadly, one doesn't have to look far for evidence of these top-down decisions morphing into outright racism within the general population, a trend that has a long history in the narrative of outbreaks such as this one.

Coronavirus shares something in common with other kinds of civil disruption, natural disasters or emergencies that affect localized travel industries: Its destructive power lies not in the actual risk but in the perception of that risk. Numerous experts have said that the majority of people who contract coronavirus will experience it as a respiratory infection they will fully recover from. But the extreme reactions — the canceling of flights, closing of borders and level-four travel warnings — seem more appropriate for something much worse.

Therein lies a familiar unfairness. When it comes to travel, the perception of risk is rarely meted out objectively. Consider the level-two travel warning imposed by the State Department last month in the wake of the continuing Australian wildfires. It advised travelers to consider postponing their trips because of extremely poor air quality and the threat of evacuation in the monthslong fires. Just a few days later, it was reduced to level one, reportedly in response to the direct appeal of Prime Minister Scott Morrison to the Trump administration. Similarly, in the 2017-18 flu season, when the United States had a particularly bad outbreak, the respiratory virus resulted in an estimated 61,000 deaths and 45 million symptomatic cases — but no travel warnings.

Coronavirus is different from other tourism disruptions in a significant way: The potential loss of tourism revenue and gross domestic product will hurt not only China but also other countries. In the decade and a half since the SARS crisis, Chinese travelers have become the most powerful source market in the world, surpassing all other nations in its volume of outbound travelers in 2012. In 2017, Chinese citizens took more than 143 million trips abroad; in 2029, Skift Research predicts that figure will be 286 million. Luxury retailers all over the world rely on Chinese travelers for their consistent trip spending, and destinations develop and target sophisticated marketing strategies to cater to them.

The world often thinks of travel and tourism as being a collection of different industries, operating separately yet alongside one another. But in reality, it's a web of economically interconnected parts. While it is subject to the political environment it operates in, it also has a chance to stand up to the political norms of the day, especially when policy goes against best practices recommended by international agencies.

With the rhetoric surrounding coronavirus, however, it appears the astonishing growth of the Chinese travel market in the past 15 years did little to rid the industry of the impulse to treat Chinese travelers as “others” in the face of doubt and uncertainty. Canceling flights, cruises and locking down borders when it's not advised by international agencies will be not only an act of economic self-harm but also a wasted opportunity to learn from the mistakes of the past.

Rosie Spinks (@rojospinks) is the global tourism reporter for Skift, a travel industry news and research company.

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Appendix F

Other Fox News Statements Regarding Coronavirus

Speaker	Show	Air Date	Statement(s)
Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Jan. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “[T]he Chinese coronavirus, which is something you should worry about, is spreading around the world. There are now multiple confirmed cases in the United States.” Tr. 7. <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/Carlson-Jan-24 (LexisNexis).</p>
Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Jan. 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “[A]t this very moment, a serious viral outbreak is spreading across China, the world’s biggest country. In just a matter of weeks, this new strain of coronavirus has generated almost as many new cases as SARS did. Remember SARS? And SARS did in three full months. So two weeks versus three months. More than a hundred people have died so far, and that’s just the official total, the real number likely higher than that. Hong Kong has closed its borders with Mainland China, but as of tonight for reasons that are not at all clear, planes are still landing in this country from Chinese cities. So by any objective standard, that is the biggest story of the day, maybe of the moment, a potential pandemic rising from Asia.” Tr. 1-2. • “[T]he Chinese coronavirus is starting to look like not a small thing, but possibly a serious threat.” Tr. 6. • “All of a sudden the Chinese coronavirus is looking like a real threat that could be a global epidemic or maybe even pandemic. It’s impossible to know. But it’s the kind of thing that could be very serious -- very serious. Thousands of cases already confirmed, more than a hundred are dead, and with the two-week incubation period, more cases are a certainty.” Tr. 6. <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/Carlson-Jan-28 (LexisNexis).</p>
Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Feb. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “[T]he coronavirus is a very serious concern to the Chinese and . . . we should be vigilant as well. We have infections already in this country.” Tr. 8. <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/Carlson-Feb-4 (Lexis Nexis).</p>

Speaker	Show	Air Date	Statement(s)
Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Feb. 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “The Chinese coronavirus continues to spread tonight. Friday brought another 5,000 confirmed cases in China. Again, these are the official numbers. That includes at least 139 new deaths; 1,700 healthcare workers have been infected themselves hindering efforts to stop the disease. Fortunately, there’s still only 15 confirmed cases here in this country. But last night, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control said the virus will likely be a problem for months, if not years and will eventually have a sustained presence here. So despite many people in the media ignoring this crisis or downplaying it, Americans ought to be paying attention to the story.” Tr. 12. <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/Carlson-Feb-14 (LexisNexis).</p>
Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Feb. 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “In this country, there are more than 50 confirmed cases. Today, the Centers for Disease Control confirmed that a generalized outbreak is inevitable here, ‘It’s not a question of if this will happen, but when.’ Officials warned Americans to be ready for severe disruptions to their lives.” Tr. 2. “So what exactly will a coronavirus pandemic mean for this country? Well, of course, you can’t really say, it’s impossible to predict with precision. But here’s one forecast that caught our eyes from <i>The Atlantic</i>. It is titled, ‘You’re Likely to Get the Coronavirus.’ That piece quotes extensively a Harvard epidemiologist. The article describes him as a cautious professional, the kind of person who carefully considers every word and then backs it with data. What the professor told the magazine is this, ‘I think the likely outcome is the coronavirus will ultimately not be containable.’ He went on to predict that in the next year 40 to 70 percent of the people on Earth will be infected with coronavirus. No, not all of them will become ill. Many he says will be asymptomatic or feel no worse than they do with a cold. But nevertheless, 70 percent of the world’s population -- that is a big number. In fact, it’s 5.4 billion people. Currently, the coronavirus appears to kill about two percent of the people who have it. So let’s be generous for a moment and imagine that asymptomatic carriers are not detected and the real death rate is only say half a percent that would be one quarter of the current estimates. Even under that scenario, there would still be 27 million deaths from coronavirus globally. In this country, more than a million would die. And according to <i>The Atlantic</i>, many experts fear this may not be a one- off epidemic. Cold and flu season could become cold, flu and coronavirus season for the foreseeable future. Will that happen? Well,

Speaker	Show	Air Date	Statement(s)
			<p>obviously we're praying that it doesn't. But we know one thing. Right now, as of tonight, America is not ready for this or for any major epidemic." Tr. 2.</p> <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/Carlson-Feb-25 (LexisNexis).</p>
Ethan Bearman	Fox News @ Night	Feb. 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "We need to be very careful about this. This is changed in a way that scientists had predicted was going to happen. We don't have the technology to stop this yet. We need to be concerned. We need to stay focused on finding solutions and working together to find them." Tr. 16. <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/News-Night-Feb-27 (LexisNexis).</p>
Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Mar. 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Coronavirus remains a major concern" Tr. 10. • "[T]he coronavirus epidemic is far from over. In fact, it's barely begun." Tr. 10. <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/Carlson-Mar-2 (LexisNexis).</p>
Sean Hannity	Hannity	Mar. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Now, let's start with facts, not fear. Make no mistake, the coronavirus, every viruses we've been telling you, you must take it seriously. It has been and it is being taken seriously. As a nation, we must take every and all necessary precautions. But we also -- we need to be calm, we need to be strategic, we need to be smart, we need to have the right perspective." Tr. 2. • "Make no mistake, all viruses are dangerous. Serious stuff. Make sure to keep an eye out for your older loved ones, your grandparents, your parents, those that perhaps have underlying medical conditions, immune compromised of some kind, COPD, lung disease." Tr. 6. • "I actually don't mind the closings because that will help isolate the virus and probably help us level this off as quickly as possible and hopefully end this." Tr. 8. <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/Hanifty-Mar-12 (LexisNexis).</p>

Appendix G

Other Media Coverage of the Coronavirus

Speaker	Outlet	Show	Air Date	Statement(s)
Dr. John Torres	NBC	Today Show	Jan. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “I think at this point you should definitely listen to the news, listen to the health authorities what they’re saying but don’t be too terribly concerned about it.” Tr. 2. Source: https://tinyurl.com/Today-Show-Jan-24 (LexisNexis).
Dr. Jennifer Ashton	ABC	Good Morning America	Jan. 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “People should be more concerned right now with the flu in this country.” Tr. 2. Source: https://tinyurl.com/GMA-Jan-25 (LexisNexis).
Dr. John Torres	NBC	Nightly News	Jan. 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “A lot of people are concerned about the Coronavirus because they’re hearing a lot of news about it right now. But the reality is comparing it to the flu, for example, it’s not even close to being at that stage.” Tr. 2. Source: https://tinyurl.com/NBC-News-Jan-25 (LexisNexis).
Dr. David Agus	CBS	CBS This Morning	Feb. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Coronavirus is not going to cause a major issue in the United States. If we have it here, we’re very -- we have health care institution that can cordon people off. We can take care of them. Give what we call supportive care. Remember, this happened in a part of China where there wasn’t great medical systems, which is why they had to build these thousand-bed hospitals in a matter of a week. So in the United States, it won’t be an issue. But it just begs you and pushes you, why that -- why isn’t everybody getting a flu vaccine? We’re going to have forty to sixty thousand deaths this year in the United States from the influenza and it’s preventable.” Tr. 5. Source: https://tinyurl.com/CBS-Morning-Feb-8 (LexisNexis).
Dr. Natalie Azar	NBC	Today Show	Feb. 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “We throw out these numbers. That for flu it’s about 0.1 percent mortality, for coronavirus, it’s about two percent. SARS was ten percent. Ebola, the average was fifty percent. And I think that that is just something that people need to keep in mind because we are going to be seeing more cases in the U.S. that are currently tabulated,

Speaker	Outlet	Show	Air Date	Statement(s)
				<p>but for the vast majority of people it's going to be a mild illness and of course, the fatality number is not nearly as striking or concerning as some outbreaks we've seen in the past." Tr. 1-2.</p> <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/Today-Show-Feb-25 (LexisNexis).</p>
Dr. Sanjay Gupta	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Mar. 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "So it's bad new and good news. Bad news because people are going to hear about this sudden increase in numbers but I think it's also going to be reflective of that point exactly, that there's a lot of people out there who did not, you know, get particularly sick with this. And if you look at the data, some 80 percent of people really don't have much in the way of symptoms." Tr. 6-7. <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/AC-360-Mar-2 (LexisNexis).</p>
Dr. Jennifer Nuzzo	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Mar. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "[W]e're . . . going to hear about increasing numbers of deaths. . . . [I]t's important to put those numbers into perspective. These are individuals who are unfortunately very vulnerable to severe illness and death, and the situation there is not necessarily reflective of the number of deaths we might see just in the general community." Tr. 4-5. <p>Source: https://tinyurl.com/AC-360-Mar-4 (LexisNexis).</p>

Source	Statement(s)
Dan Vergano, <i>Don't Worry About The Coronavirus. Worry About The Flu</i> , BuzzFeed News (Jan. 28, 2020), available at https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/danvergano/coronavirus-cases-deaths-flu (last updated Mar. 16, 2020).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The risk of getting infected is high in China—but people in the US should be way more worried about the flu."
Farhad Manjoo, <i>Beware the Pandemic Panic</i> , New York Times (Jan. 29, 2020), available at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "So far, the Wuhan coronavirus is not much more frightening than the outbreaks of other recent coronaviruses like SARS in 2003 or MERS

Source	Statement(s)
https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/29/opinion/coronavirus-panic.html .	<p>in 2012, each of which killed fewer than a thousand people around the world.”</p>
@voxdotcom, Twitter (Jan. 31, 2020, 2:01 PM). ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Is this going to be a deadly pandemic? No.”
Lenny Bernstein, <i>Get A Grippe, America. The Flu Is A Much Bigger Threat Than Coronavirus, For Now</i> , Wash. Post Blogs (Feb. 1, 2020), https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/time-for-a-reality-check-america-the-flu-is-a-much-bigger-threat-than-coronavirus-for-now/2020/01/31/46a15166-4444-11ea-b5fc-eefa848cde99_story.html .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “But this year, a new coronavirus from China has focused attention on diseases that can sweep through an entire population, rattling the public despite the current magnitude of the threat. Clearly, the flu poses the bigger and more pressing peril; a handful of cases of the new respiratory illness have been reported in the United States, none of them fatal or apparently even life-threatening.”

¹ This Tweet has since been deleted. @voxdotcom, Twitter (Mar. 24, 2020, 12:42 PM), <https://twitter.com/voxdotcom/status/1242537366620966912?lang=en> (“We have deleted a tweet from Jan 31 that no longer reflects the current reality of the coronavirus story.”).

1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

2 I, Erin Fujita, declare that I am employed by the law firm of Harrigan Leyh Farmer &
3 Thomsen LLP, a citizen of the United States of America, a resident of the state of Washington,
4 over the age of eighteen (18) years, not a party to the above-entitled action, and competent to be a
5 witness herein.

6 On April 14, 2020, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing document to be served
7 on the persons listed below in the manner indicated:

<p>8 Elizabeth Hallock, WSBA #41825 9 Law Office of Elizabeth Hallock PLLC 10 420 S. 72nd St., Suite 180 11 Yakima, WA 98908 12 Phone: (360) 909-6327 13 Email: ehallock.law@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Attorney for Washington League For Increased Transparency And Ethics</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via King County Clerk E-Service</p>
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<p>14 Catherine C. Clark, WSBA #21231 15 Law Office of Catherine Clark PLLC 16 2200 6th Ave., Suite 1250 17 Seattle, WA 98121 18 Phone: (206) 838- 2528 19 Fax: (206) 374- 3003 20 Email: Cat@loccc.com</p> <p><i>Attorney for Washington League For Increased Transparency And Ethics</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Via Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Via First Class Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Via Electronic Mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via King County Clerk E-Service</p>
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21 DATED this 14th day of April, 2020.

22 s/ Erin Fujita
23 Erin Fujita, Legal Assistant
24 erinf@harriganleyh.com