Texas coronavirus cases fall after mask mandate is lifted

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott speaks at a news conference on the "Save Our Seniors" initiative at McAllen Central Fire Station on Thursday, March, 25, 2021 in McAllen, Texas. (Delcia Lopez/The Monitor via AP) more >

By Kelly Sadler - *The Washington Times* - Monday, March 29, 2021

ANALYSIS/OPINION:

Looks like the "Neanderthals" in Texas got it right – and President Joseph R. Biden and the mainstream media were terribly wrong.

Weeks after disregarding their mask mandate, the Lone Star State hasn't

seen a spike in coronavirus cases – in fact, coronavirus cases have decreased for the 18th day in a row. Texas has administered 10 million vaccine doses, with nearly 13% of its population fully vaccinated, hospitalizations have decreased, and death rates have plummeted, according to the Texas Tribune.

How does any of this make any sense?

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Vanity Fair predicted there would be another 500,000 deaths in Texas and Mississippi because of their decision to eliminate their statewide mask mandate. Former Rep. Beto O'Rourke said Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's decision was akin to a "death warrant," and that he was "sacrificing the lives of our fellow Texans...for political gain." CNN quoted an ICU nurse saying, "I'm scared of what this is going to look like," and Dr. Anthony Fauci called the move "inexplicable."

Meanwhile, cases are increasing in New York in New Jersey – two states with heavy coronavirus restrictions – businesses and schools are still not fully reopened and there are mask mandates. New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy took a swipe at Gov. Abbott's decision to lift his state's mask mandate by saying he was "stunned" and couldn't "conceive of lifting a mask mandate inside."

Yet, mask mandates and limiting business capacity doesn't seem to be helping New Jersey or New York.

Perhaps, just perhaps, all of these coronavirus restrictions don't make any difference in stifling the virus. The mainstream media was quick to predict disaster in the southern states which have largely returned to normal, like Georgia, Florida and South Carolina, yet just as with Texas, the data doesn't bear out any of these dire predictions.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention allows you to track cases among open and closed states – and it clearly shows lockdowns are not successful in controlling the spread of the virus. Locked down states have had no statistically observable effect on the virus trajectory and resulting in severe outcomes, the American Institute for Economic Research (AIER) notes.

"On the other hand, the lockdowns destroyed industries, schools, churches, liberties and lives, demoralizing the population and robbing people of essential rights. All in the name of safety from a virus that did its work in any case," AIER reports.

It's audacious to think the government and the politicians working within it can control a pathogen – yet our mainstream media and Democratic leaders have worked overtime in the past year to make you believe they could.

It's time to reopen our country, and once everybody is vaccinated who wants to be, ditch the masks. Americans have acted responsibly during this pandemic – it's time Democrats and the mainstream media also act responsibly and look at the data before they use hyperbolic scare tactics to try to conform people to their will.

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The graphs at the bottom of the page are a good argument for not masking. See the high points and the low points on the map? Mississippi had no mask mandates in September 2020, but the mandates were reinstated in various counties in mid-October. January saw a rollout of the vaccine and, unsurprisingly, people were less likely to wear masks. March 2, 2021, Gov. Reeves rescinded the mask mandates a second time. I get it: correlation does not imply causation. However, it's very interesting that the peak of the virus cases and deaths roughly correspond with the peak of mask wearing in Mississippi.

https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,420.html

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James B   ⋮

30 March, 2021

The simple truth is masks and most lockdown measures do not work but there
are other reasons as well.   First, the vast majority of masks can not contain the
virus unless it is in water droplets. Only the N95 and higher rated masks can do
that BUT only if worn properly.   There is a reason OSHA, FDA, and every state
medical agency requires all doctors, nurses, techs, EMT's and even police
undergo formal and rigorous training about using he masks.   Yet Saint Fauci
and the other medical elites have yet to issue a single PSA demonstrating proper
techniques.   The biggest tell that they think it is Bull is nothing has be publicly
stated about men's beards. Facial hair renders the mask partially or even
completely useless.   The rules issued for medical staff are clear on that.

The second thing is lockdowns put people inside closed boxes and ALL the
evidence now points a finger at sealed buildings as a critical element in each
surge of the virus.   Lockdowns are like jumping into the tiger pen at lunch time
and locking the door so you can't escape. That is exactly what Governors
Cuomo, Murphy, Wolf and Whitmer did by putting covid patients in the nursing
homes.

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