



An  
Intro  
to  
Propaganda

Hiram R. Diaz III

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Scripturalist  
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## **Objective, Subjective, or Pseudo-Objective?**

When I wrote about the logical fallacies used to justify covid-19 “lockdowns,”<sup>1</sup> I did so with the aim of empowering Christians to confidently think for themselves and, consequently, rationally decide for themselves how they will respond to covid-19. Since then, as I anticipated would happen, covid-19 and “lockdowns” have once again been given a prominent place in the mainstream media's reporting. And, as I also anticipated, the same fallacious lockdown pro-illegal-detainment/house arrest arguments are used.

Today, I want to begin a new series on how to spot propaganda. There is presently a dearth of understanding with respect to the nature of propaganda, and this is damaging for all people, especially Christians. If you desire to love God with all of your mind, then you need to be as wise as serpents yet as meek as doves. This means being able to think like the enemies of God, understand how they

operate, expose their operations, and bring their operations to an end. If you desire to love your neighbor in a way like unto the first commandment, then this entails that you become a watchful and careful reader lest you consequently believe what is false, promote what is wicked, and harm your neighbor.

### **Defining Propaganda**

Encyclopedia Britannica online defines propaganda as follows –

Propaganda is the more or less systematic effort to manipulate other people's beliefs, attitudes, or actions by means of symbols (words, gestures, banners, monuments, music, clothing, insignia, hairstyles, designs on coins and postage stamps, and so forth).<sup>2</sup>

Propaganda is then differentiated from other forms of communication as follows –

Deliberateness and a relatively heavy emphasis on manipulation distinguish propaganda from casual conversation

or the free and easy exchange of ideas. Propagandists have a specified goal or set of goals. To achieve these, they deliberately select facts, arguments, and displays of symbols and present them in ways they think will have the most effect. To maximize effect, they may omit or distort pertinent facts or simply lie, and they may try to divert the attention of the reactors (the people they are trying to sway) from everything but their own propaganda.<sup>3</sup>

Now, depending on who is doing the manipulating, the degree of obviousness will vary. In this series, we will be dealing some obvious examples, but will spend more time looking at the subtler forms of manipulation we encounter online, in the paper, on television, etc.

### **Unproven Allegations or False Allegations?**

One of the more subtle forms of propaganda can be seen in writers who promulgate the idea that President Donald J. Trump is “refusing” to “concede” to Joe Biden, but is

instead taking Biden to court over “unproven allegations” of voter fraud. While many have rightly underscored that the words “refusing” and “concede” suggest to most readers that the question of who won the 2020 presidential election is already settled, no one that I have come across has pointed out that the phrase “unproven allegations” is redundant. This is not good, seeing as the phrase is not accidentally used, but serves to manipulate the reader. Let me explain.

Firstly, let us note why the phrase “unproven allegations” is redundant. The Oxford English Dictionary defines the word allegation as follows –

The action or an act of alleging something; an unproved claim or assertion (in later use esp. of illicit or illegal behaviour). Also: an unfounded statement or accusation.<sup>4</sup>

This means that an allegation is, by definition, unproven. If an allegation regarding some person’s action is proven in court, then it ceases to be an allegation; it is to be understood as an historical fact. If I allege

that x has killed y, and it is proven that x has, indeed, killed y, then it is no longer an allegation, but a statement of historical fact – it is the case that x has killed y. Prior to being proven, my assertion was an unproven assertion, which is to say an allegation. Subsequent to being proven, my assertion is a proven assertion, which is to say an historical fact.

We must now ask why the author has chosen to use the phrase “unproven allegation,” seeing as the phrase is redundant. In non-professional composition,<sup>5</sup> the phrase could be passed over as a basic error stemming from a conversational looseness of diction that we typically do not expect to conform to compositional norms. However, professional writers are trained to use language with precision – and this is especially true of journalists. Most, if not all, introductions to journalistic composition teach that one must eliminate redundant phraseology in order to more concisely and accurately report his information.<sup>6</sup> In persuasive writing, the situation is different. Within that practice, the phrase “unproven allegation” is known as a rhetorical tautology. The use of the word

unproven colors the reader's interpretation of Trump's allegations, in order to make him feel as though something bad has been, or is being, done by Trump. Consider, for example, the following sentence from an NBC article:

Trump has refused to concede defeat and made unproven allegations of voter fraud, even though state election officials from both parties have rejected the allegations.<sup>7</sup>

Note here that the equation of unproven and false is rather subtly accomplished by the writers. They assert that Trump has made unproven allegations which election officials from both parties have "rejected." If the allegations have been rejected by "officials," this suggests that they are, in fact, false. In this article, therefore, an "unproven" allegation is an allegation that has been rejected on the grounds that it does not correspond to objective reality – i.e. it is a false allegation, a lie.

However, even if we grant for the sake of argument that the rhetorical tautology is not intentional, we are still forced to ask the question –



Are unproven claims  
equivalent to false claims?

The answer is simple – No. If I claim my son has stolen cookies from the cookie jar, but I have not established this as true, nor has it been rejected as false by the analysis of evidence proffered, then my claim remains unproven. Until evidence is proffered, analyzed, and a conclusion is reached, my claim’s logical value remains undetermined.

### **What Does It Matter?**

The real life consequences of propaganda are many, but in this article we will only look at one – the subversion of the rule of law. Presenting President Trump as “undermining the democratic process” by making “unproven allegations” and “refusing” to “concede” the election, the media is insinuating that questioning the results of an election is anti-democratic behavior, even if it is done through the proper legal means afforded to the standing president of the US. In a word, the media is urging us to forgo the proffering and analysis of evidence in favor of Trump’s claims, as well as attempting to

pressure the president into conceding (a word which could either mean admit or surrender) the election. And this is not as distant of a concern for the rest of us as we might think.

You are not merely being told to “accept that Biden won” (a highly contested claim), but to ignore the fact that governing authorities can be challenged in court. You are, moreover, being told to ignore the legal process of (1.)making allegations, (2.)proffering evidence in support of your allegations, (3.)having that evidence objectively analyzed in a court of law, and (4.)proving your allegations true or having them disproved by an objective assessment of your evidence and argumentation.

If the President of the US is being told to accept as true and binding the declarations of opposing governing authorities and powerful media personnel made against him, and that if he doesn't then he is undermining the democratic process, what makes you think you would be exempt from such behavior when they turn their sights on you?

## **Evaluative vs. Informative Writing**

Whereas our first exploration of propaganda was concerned with defining propaganda and exposing one of its more subtle forms, this article will examine the use of adjectives in propaganda. As I noted in the first article, journalists are trained to be objective reporters of historical facts. Such writing does not make for good entertainment, but that is not the point of journalism. Journalism is supposed to embody objectivity, which Walter Kronkite once defined as –

‘...the reporting of reality, of facts, as nearly as they can be obtained without the injection of prejudice and personal opinion.’<sup>8</sup>

This means that purported news articles which color our interpretation of reality by explicitly, implicitly, or suggestively demonstrating their authors’ prejudice and personal opinion do not qualify as objective reports of what was the case, is now the case,

and will likely be the case, but are instances of propaganda.

In this article, we will learn how to spot prejudice and personal opinion communicated via evaluative judgments and, thereby, not be deceived into promoting ideas and practices which we do not actually support. This will, I hope, enable us to better identify those authors who are willing to abuse language in order to achieve a particular political end, and avoid partaking in their sins.

### **Unnecessary Adjectives & Phrases**

Firstly, we need to acknowledge that adjectives are a necessary component of communication, and they play different roles in different forms of discourse. It is within the context of journalism – which is supposed to be objective – that adjectives can be used to subtly influence readers' feelings and opinions about some person, place, practice, or thing. Non-journalistic writing and speaking occurs in contexts where a speaker's

idiolect can usually be understood fairly well by his audience, given he and his audience share a common, geographically distinct way of speaking. If that way of speaking is not shared by the interlocutors, however, then each party will likely misinterpret one another.

For instance, as David Marcus notes, in the outer boroughs of New York City – The Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island –

...hyperbolic analogy is extremely common along the lines of, “This freakin’ guy, I’m waiting three days for a cup of coffee.” Obviously this is not meant to be taken literally, it’s a way to... express displeasure.<sup>9</sup>

This way of speaking is common among native New Yorkers, but it is not common among native Idahoans. An Idahoan vacationing in New York City, therefore, may find himself at a loss for understanding as to why people on the subway are “rude,” “pushy,” or “crass.” The New Yorker is speaking to a non-native as he would speak to

a native New Yorker (and expecting a New Yorker's response), and the Idahoan is interpreting the New Yorker as if the New Yorker were speaking as an Idahoan would (and subsequently giving an Idahoan's response).<sup>10</sup>

Consequently, in an effort to produce objective reports academics, lawyers, judges, police officers, scientists, and journalists are trained to eliminate as many of these interpretive problems by reducing their use of evaluative language.<sup>11</sup> If a news report is laden with evaluative assertions, then, it is not objective reporting but propaganda. For example, consider the following example from the Mark Scolforo and Colleen Long of the Associated Press –

“In blistering ruling, judge throws out Trump suit in Pa.”<sup>12</sup>

The word “blistering” is evaluative, an adjective that represents the interpretation of the authors rather than the mere facts of the event under consideration. Their intention is

to portray Trump's case as being an annoyance or insult to serious legal work. This is confirmed by the opening paragraphs. There we read –

A federal judge issued a *scathing* order Saturday dismissing the Trump campaign's *futile* effort to block the certification of votes in Pennsylvania, *shooting down* claims of widespread irregularities with mail-in ballots.

*The case was always a long shot to stop President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration*, but it was President Donald Trump's best hope *to affect the election results* through the courts, mostly because of the number of electoral votes, 20, at stake in Pennsylvania. His personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, stepped into a courtroom for the first time in decades to argue the case this past week.

If we remove the emphasized words and phrases, we are left with the following –

A federal judge issued an order Saturday dismissing the Trump campaign's effort to block the certification of votes in Pennsylvania, rejecting claims of widespread irregularities with mail-in ballots.

It was President Donald Trump's best hope to challenge the projected election results through the courts, mostly because of the number of electoral votes, 20, at stake in Pennsylvania. His personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, argued the case.

We can now look at the words removed from the article.

**Scathing** – This is an interpretation of the mood/attitude of the judge.

**Futile** – This is an interpretation of the Trump campaign's legal case.



**Shooting down** – This is an interpretation of the judge’s action.

**The case was always a long shot** – This is an interpretation of the Trump campaign’s legal case.

**President-elect Joe Biden** – This is an interpretation of the results of the election, which is precisely what is being argued in the court system by the President.

**Inauguration** – This is an interpretation of the results of the election, which is precisely what is being argued in the court system by the President.

**Stepped into a courtroom for the first time in decades** – This colors Giuliani as ill-equipped or “rusty”.<sup>13</sup>

To argue the case – This suggests that Giuliani is arguing the case in order to overturn the election results, i.e. he is engaged in partisanship and not concerned with the

law and, by logical extension, the voting system.

Speaking in this way in a personal conversation does not amount to propagandizing. However, presenting this kind of writing as objective journalism does amount to propagandizing. Whereas actual news reporting tells readers what has occurred, leaving it up to them to evaluate the facts, propaganda relays the politicized stance of the propagandists under the guise of objectivity. More concisely stated:

Propaganda tells readers how to feel and think about the subject under consideration, actual news does not.

### **Bearing Witness to the Truth**

Given that Christians are to be witnesses to the truth, it follows that we are morally obligated to reject propaganda as wicked. The reasons for this are several.

1. Propaganda is deceitful. It is opinion presented as objective reporting. To endorse propaganda – directly or indirectly – is to endorse the lie that what is being endorsed is actual news when it is, in fact, nothing of the sort.
2. Propaganda is an attempt to short-circuit critical thinking. To endorse propaganda, therefore, is to endorse the bypassing of critical thinking, thereby indirectly encouraging unrighteous judgment.
3. An endorsement of propaganda is an endorsement of communicative chaos. Propaganda purposefully blurs the line between distinct forms of communication. This destabilizes communication and, therefore, rational, moral, and spiritual activity.

The Christian faith does not endorse epistemological, moral, or spiritual relativism. These things are opposed to God himself

who is the way, the truth, and the life. Let us, therefore, be critical readers, interpreters, and publishers of the truth – whether we publish by the written or spoken word.

## Repetition

In popular political rhetoric, it seems, the word propaganda signifies information, supportive of one's particular party and/or individual goals, that is a complete fabrication. This is not how I have been using the term in my articles. Instead, I have followed the standard definition given by Encyclopedia Britannica. They write –

Propaganda is the more or less systematic effort to manipulate other people's beliefs, attitudes, or actions by means of symbols (words, gestures, banners, monuments, music, clothing, insignia, hairstyles, designs on coins and postage stamps, and so forth).

[...]

Deliberateness and a relatively heavy emphasis on manipulation distinguish propaganda from casual conversation or the free and easy exchange of ideas. Propagandists have a specified goal or

set of goals. To achieve these, they deliberately select facts, arguments, and displays of symbols and present them in ways they think will have the most effect. To maximize effect, they may omit or distort pertinent facts or simply lie, and they may try to divert the attention of the reactors (the people they are trying to sway) from everything but their own propaganda.<sup>14</sup>

In today's installment of articles on propaganda, I want to discuss the propagandistic use of repetition.

Like any good aspect of language, repetition can be, and often is, abused by immoral persons. The abuse of repetition does not refer only to the repetition of falsehoods (e.g. "There is no evidence of voter fraud..."<sup>1</sup>), but also to the repetition of phrases and individual words that implicitly reinforce the propagandist's intended communication. For instance, consider how heavily the following

terms have been circulating social discourse since the beginning of the fauxpocalypse –

**1. “New normal”** – While searching the New York Times, I came across more COVID-19 articles containing the phrase “new normal” than I can list here. Searching other newspaper outlets, national and international alike, yielded similar results. The phrasing is being used to communicate that (a.)the way we view life and operate in it is no longer viable, (b.)this is universally agreed upon, and (c.)we need to reject what we think we know about life and how to operate in it, and instead begin to adopt a “new normal.”<sup>15</sup> This leaves open the question of who is able to, and who will, define what the new way of living entails.

**2. “Trust the Experts”** – The continued message here is simple: Given that the public is largely

comprised of non-experts, it is in their best interest to trust those who are experts. This fallacious reasoning<sup>16</sup> is typically liberally seasoned with implicit claims about the immoral, selfish, and dangerous nature of thinking for oneself during a so-called pandemic.<sup>17</sup>

**3. “Mask up”** – This is the continued call to wear face surgical masks, cloth masks, and, well, anything that covers your nose and mouth because you care for others.<sup>18</sup> Despite scientific evidence to the contrary, the media push for continued masking – going so far as to advocate for double<sup>19</sup> and triple masking<sup>20</sup> – has only worsened.<sup>21</sup>

**4. “Trump incited a riot,” “Insurrection,” “Threat to our Democracy”** – These are the latest trigger terms saturating mainstream media propaganda in an attempt to



paint Trump as a demagogic,  
tyrannical, fascistic ruler.<sup>22</sup>

The use of repetition propaganda is something we should all be concerned about for several reasons. Firstly, propaganda stultifies thinking, bypassing critical analysis either by aiming for the emotions or, in the case of repetition, superficially eliminating one's need to obtain, comprehend, and analyze information. As God's image bearers humans are called to judge with righteous judgment, and not by appearances.<sup>23</sup> Secondly, the use of repetition as a means of propaganda is a perversion of its original intended purpose, namely to aid learning the truth. Christians ought to use repetition to teach what is true, and denounce the use of repetition to encourage false beliefs and/or wicked behavior.

Finally, there is a historical reason for us to be concerned with repetition propaganda. It is the case that the totalitarian regimes of the past used repetition propaganda in order to

manipulate people into supporting their evil actions, thereby making them complicit accomplices in those crimes. For instance, in his book *Mein Kampf* Hitler states that “all effective propaganda must harp on a few slogans until the last member of the public understands what you want him to understand by your slogan.”<sup>24</sup> Elsewhere, Hitler again declares that –

“The most brilliant propagandist technique will yield no success unless one fundamental principle is born in mind constantly and with unflagging attention. Propaganda must confine itself to a few points and repeat them over and over again.”<sup>25</sup>

Similarly, Islamic terrorist groups utilized repetition in their radicalization efforts. These groups, Robyn Torok explains, used

...repetition as the foundation tool coupled with the other propaganda tools aims to create a new belief system in which individuals reject

Western values and norms as well as viewing the West as responsible for not only the historical suffering of Muslims globally, but also the current targeting and victimisation of Muslims. In conjunction, the positive sense of a just cause, the obligation of Muslims to take action and the esteeming of those who do help to reorient the belief system of the individual.<sup>26</sup>

In our own day, the same kind of repetition is being used by mainstream media outlets. Joe Biden's occupation of the presidency has only heightened the repetition technique, with the media daily identifying anyone right of center as a domestic terrorist worthy of government sanctioned "rehabilitative" punishments.<sup>27</sup> This would include Christians as well, given that we have been born again, and therefore have "immutable [spiritual] characteristics"<sup>28</sup> that inexorably place us outside of whatever contradicts the Law of God.<sup>29</sup>

Identifying the use of repetition propaganda that currently saturates mainstream media productions may, Lord willing, help us remember our duty to love God and neighbor by preserving the rule of law, thinking rationally, and thereby preserving life.

- 1 See “Language, Logic, and Action” Pts.1-5, here:  
<https://www.invospec.org/search?q=language%2C+logic%2C+and+action>.
- 2 <https://www.britannica.com/topic/propaganda>.
- 3 *ibid*.
- 4 “allegation, n.”. OED Online. September 2020. Oxford University Press.  
<https://ezproxy.lcsc.edu:2366/view/Entry/5200?redirectedFrom=allegation> (accessed November 11, 2020).
- 5 e.g. Text messages, emails, and handwritten notes shared between friends and/or family members, etc.
- 6 For more on this, see Berner, R. Thomas. *Language Skills for Journalists*, Second Edition (Eugene: Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2003), 11-12.
- 7 De Luce, Dan; Williams, Abigail. “‘There Will Be a Smooth Transition to a Second Trump Administration,’ Pompeo Claims,” NBC News, Nov. 10, 2020,  
<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/there-will-be-smooth-transition-second-trump-administration-claims-pompeo-n1247309>, Accessed November 14, 2020.
- 8 Quoted in Steve Maras’ *Objectivity in Journalism* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2013), 7.
- 9 “To Understand Trump Talk, You Must Speak Outer Borough,” *The Federalist*, January 8, 2018,  
<https://thefederalist.com/2018/01/08/understand-trump-talk-must-speak-outer-borough>. Accessed Nov 20, 2020.
- 10 In his article “Are New Yorkers Really as Rude as Everyone Thinks They Are?”, E. J. White explains that in one study by Deborah Tannen it was shown that

...differences in conversational style between New Yorkers and non-New Yorkers led to frequent hiccups in the conversation. For example, the New Yorkers took for granted that pauses between conversational turns would be shorter than the others expected: “It happened frequently that while the Californians and the British speaker were waiting for a pause that would signal an open floor, a New Yorker, perceiving that the turn-exchange length of pause had come and gone, began speaking.” Because of this, the non-New Yorkers believed they were being interrupted, talked

over, ignored. Moreover, during a given speaker's turn, the New Yorkers would often add side commentary, which linguists call cooperative overlaps: of course, I hate that, I would have done the same. "Because the non-New Yorkers did not use overlap in this way, they frequently mistook these 'cooperative overlaps' as attempts to take a turn, that is, to interrupt." Thus more hiccups in the conversation: a non-New Yorker would be holding the floor; a New Yorker would make a comment sotto voce; the non-New Yorker would pause, tactfully, to yield the floor; the New Yorker would fail to take the floor; and the non-New Yorker would continue. After the conversation, one Californian commented that he had often struggled to "fit in."

Lit Hub, September 10, 2020, <https://lithub.com/are-new-yorkers-really-as-rude-as-everyone-thinks-they-are>. Accessed Nov 20, 2020.

11 For more on the distinction between everyday language speakers and language use among professionals in a given institution see, Zetterberg, Hans L., "The Grammar of Social Science," in *Acta Sociologica*, Vol. 49, No. 3 (Sep., 2006), 245-256.

12 <https://apnews.com/article/election-2020-joe-biden-donald-trump-constitutions-pennsylvania-87eaf4df86d5f6ccc343c3385c9ba86c>

13 See Marc Levy & Mark Scoloro, "A rusty Giuliani returns to the courtroom on Trump's behalf," AP News, November 18, 2020, <https://apnews.com/article/rudy-giuliani-returns-courtroom-trump-b81328c5a74ab348d8b7e21f93eed3f9>. Accessed November 21, 2020.

14 <https://www.britannica.com/topic/propaganda>.

15 See Grzeszczak, Jocelyn, "No Evidence' of Voter Fraud, Says Federal Election Commission Official," Newsweek, Nov 7 2020, <https://www.newsweek.com/no-evidence-voter-fraud-says-federal-election-commission-official-1545747>; Durkee, Allison, "FBI Director Says No Evidence Of 'National Voter Fraud Effort,' Undercutting Trump," Forbes, Sept 24, 2020, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/alisondurkee/2020/09/24/fbi-director-says-no-evidence-of-national-voter-fraud-effort-undercutting-trump/?sh=1b3ed6204974>; Bump, Phillip,

“There is not and has not been any credible evidence of significant fraud in the 2020 election,” The Washington Post, Dec 14, 2020, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/12/14/there-is-not-has-not-been-any-credible-evidence-significant-fraud-2020-election/>. For evidence of voter fraud, see Baumann, Beth, “Trump Campaign to the Media: Here's Actual Proof of Voter Fraud, Just as You Asked,” TownHall, Nov 7, 2020, <https://townhall.com/tipsheet/bethbaumann/2020/11/07/the-media-ignores-the-trump-campaigns-evidence-of-voter-fraud-to-celebrate-joe-bidens-socalled-victory-n2579670>; O’Keefe, James, “Michigan USPS Whistleblower Details Directive From Superiors To Back-Date Late Mail-In-Ballots Nov 3,” Project Veritas, Nov 4, 2020, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fS6xOuhsijw>; “Central OAC Exec Admits Org Registers Thousands Of Homeless To Vote At Same Address In Fulton Co,” Project Veritas, Jan 4, 2021, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tArtYkILiHc>; “GA Recount Auditors Call Multiple Ballots For Joe Biden That Were Actually Marked For Donald Trump,” Project Veritas, Nov 16, 2020; “ELECTION INTERFERENCE: Google Ads Exec Boasts Company Can Censor ‘Right-Wing’ & Republicans,” Project Veritas, Oct 20, 2020, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BuCg3I2V3xc>. For an extensive collection of various kinds of evidence of voter fraud in the 2020 election, see [Hereistheevidence.com](http://Hereistheevidence.com).  
16 Here are just a few examples of what I’m talking about.

a. The Times of India –

“Moving forward in the New Normal”  
“Students won’t be back in class in Unlock 4 but colleges are adjusting to the new normal...”  
“Adapting to the new normal...”  
“ON A SHOPPING SPREE: The bustling city is unlocking newer shopping avenues adapting to the new normal of social distancing”  
“How Entrepreneurs are Moving Forward in the New Normal”

b. The Ottawa Citizen –

“The ‘new’ normal, the ‘old’ normal, and the ‘still’ normal; In pandemic times...”  
“Brave new world; wide-ranging citizen series explores what the ‘new’ normal will look like...”  
“Back to the new normal...”  
“This shouldn’t be the ‘new normal’...” [N.B. This article deceitfully appears to be opposed to the concept of citizens adopting a new normal, but actually promotes it unashamedly.]  
“It’s time to get ready for the new normal...”

c. The New York Times –

“How Does My Art Find the New Normal?”  
“Renovating for a New Normal” [N.B. This article calls our present time a “New World Order.” I’m sure that’s just a coincidence.]  
“¿Cómo será nuestra nueva vida normal? Tenemos algunas pistas” [trans. “What will our new normal life be like? We have some clues”]  
“Creating a New Normal, Duly Masked”  
“For Chess, New Normal Is Not a Problem”  
“Should a Neutral-Site World Series Become Baseball’s New Normal?”  
“Easing Back After Lockdown to a Peculiar New Normal”  
“When Life Changes, Embrace the New Normal”  
“The New Normal: Pokémon Don’t Go”  
“Bettors Take a Chance As Atlantic City Opens Under a New Normal”

I could go on; however, I think I sufficiently demonstrated my case.

3 See “Debunking the ‘Expertise Rule’”, ThornCrown Ministries, July 10, 2020, <https://thorncrownministries.com/blog/2020/7/10/debunking-the-expertise-rule>.

17 The extensive propaganda regarding face mask wearing involves news articles, but also includes videos from the CDC and other medical outlets. Here are some examples of this



propaganda in its various formats –

**CDC:** “I Wear a Mask *Because [I Care]*”

**Indiana University Health:** “Wear a Mask *Because You Care*”

**Vermont Department of Mental Health:** “I Wear a Mask *Because...*” [N.B. This site lists various reasons why different health professionals wear a mask. Among them is, you guessed it, “I care.”]

**Pierce Washington Government Site:** “I Wear a Mask *Because I Care, Not Because I Fear*”

**Northern Illinois University poster:** “We Wear *Because We Care*”

**St. Albert Gazette:** “LETTER: I wear a mask *because I care*”

**The Salt Lake Tribune:** “Letter: I ask you to wear a mask *because I care*”

**Touro Infirmary:** “*Take Care. Wear a Mask.*”

**Lincoln Journal Star:** “Wear [a mask] *Because You Care*”

**The Durango Herald:** “Letters: We must wear masks *because we care*”

18 See Rancourt, Dennis G., “Masks Don’t Work: A Review of Science Relevant to COVID-19 Social Policy,” *River Cities’ Reader*, Jun 20, 2020,

<https://www.rcreader.com/commentary/masks-dont-work-covid-a-review-of-science-relevant-to-covide-19-social-policy>;

Mair, Lisa “Many Studies Find That Cloth Masks Do Not Stop Viruses Like COVID,” *The Federalist*, Nov 23, 2020,

<https://thefederalist.com/2020/11/23/many-studies-find-that-cloth-masks-do-not-stop-viruses-like-covid/>;

Miltimore, John, “New Danish Study Finds Masks Don’t Protect Wearers From COVID Infection,” *Foundation for Economic Education*, Nov 18, 2020,

<https://fee.org/articles/new-danish-study-finds-masks-don-t-protect-wearers-from-covid-infection/>;

Brousseau, Lisa M., Sietsema, Margaret, “COMMENTARY: Masks-for-all for COVID-19 not based on sound data,” *Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy*, April 1, 2020,

<https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/04/commentary-masks-all-covid-19-not-based-sound-data><https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/04/>

commentary-masks-all-covid-19-not-based-sound-data.

19 See Lapin, Tamar. "Fauci: Wearing Two Masks is Better than One," *New York Post*, Jan 25, 2021,

<https://nypost.com/2021/01/25/fauci-wearing-two-masks-is-better-than-one/>.

20 See Curl, Joseph. "CNBC Touts TRIPLE-Masking For Best Protection Against COVID-19," *The Daily Wire*, Jan 27, 2021,

<https://www.conservativereview.com/cnbc-touts-triple-masking-for-best-protection-against-covid-19-2650155414.html>.

21 See Josephs, Leslie, "Biden signs order requiring travelers wear masks on planes and at airports as pandemic rages,"

*CNBC*, Jan 20, 2021,

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/01/21/biden-mandates-masks-for-interstate-travel-airplanes-airports.html>.

22 See Savage, Charlie, "Incitement to Riot? What Trump Told Supporters Before Mob Stormed Capitol," *The New York Times*, Jan 10, 2021,

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/10/us/trump-speech-riot.html>; Kakutani, Michiko, "How Trump Is a Threat to American Democracy,"

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23 cf. Deut 19:15 & John 7:24.

24 *Mein Kampf* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1943), p. 180.

25 Cited in Toland, John. *Adolf Hitler* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1976), 221.

26 "Symbiotic radicalisation strategies: Propaganda tools and neuro linguistic programming," in *Proceedings of the Australian Security and Intelligence Conference* (Nov-Dec 2015), 61.

27 See Kraychik, Robert, “Project Veritas: PBS Counsel Says Trump Supporters’ Children Should Be Taken, Put in ‘Re-Education Camps,’” Breitbart, Jan 12, 2021, <https://www.breitbart.com/the-media/2021/01/12/project-veritas-pbs-counsel-says-trump-supporters-children-should-be-taken-put-in-re-education-camps/>; Watson, Joseph Paul, “Leftists Suggest “Re-education Camps,” “Firing Squads,” Banning Talk Radio to “Deprogram” 75 Million Trump Supporters,” Summit News, Nov 19, 2020, <https://summit.news/2020/11/19/leftists-suggest-re-education-camps-firing-squads-banning-talk-radio-to-deprogram-75-million-trump-supporters/>; Nelson, Joshua Q., “Howard Kurtz: Media personalities' call to 'deprogram' Trump voters 'deepens the divisions' in US,” Fox News, Jan 19, 2021, <https://www.foxnews.com/media/howard-kurtz-reacts-katie-couric-deprogram-trump-supporters>; Geller, Pamela, “ABC News Calls for ‘Cleansing’ of Trump Supporters in Terrifying Piece,” Geller Report, Jan 9, 2021, <https://gellerreport.com/2021/01/abc-calls-for-genocide-trump-supporters.html/>.

28 In legal terminology,

The term “immutable characteristics” generally refers to a physical trait that is extremely difficult to change, such as race or gender.

[<https://www.legalmatch.com/law-library/article/protected-classes-under-anti-discrimination-laws.html>]

Christians, being a new race in Christ (cf. 1 Pet 2:9), have spiritual traits that are immutable (cf. 1 John 3:4-10).

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