

A dangerous man in a dangerous time

It seems like shortly after President Trump took office—or maybe it was before the Grand Wizard Cheeto took the throne or whatever it is we have now—that we entered this strange dimension where there are “alternative facts.” In this realm, the information you’d rather ignore can be labeled, as he coined it, “fake news.” All you have to do is call it that—even when it’s something that has killed more than 125,000 Americans.



by
Cory Hunt

The author is a poet, hip-hop artist, activist and hobby historian who has lived in Chico on and off for 25 years.

Now, as we painfully stumble to the end of his fourth year in charge of a country that’s become increasingly agitated, the birth of this infantile ideology has grown into what feels like its terrible twos. Trump’s consistent demagoguery—and his dog-whistling and drumming of racist tropes—have flared both “sides” around any given subject. But when it comes to coronavirus, digging in one’s heels is especially risky.

In this new realm, the responses to the pandemic—something all

Americans should be united on—are extremely adversarial. Egged on by Trump, his supporters deny reputable sources and science, relying instead on faulty and flawed opinion purveyors that multiply like an unmitigated virus.

This past week I’ve seen several friends I respect argue online against the shelter-in-place and mask mandates, using the same colorful meme that bears no citation of sources. Several of their points were easily debunked, but that didn’t stop them from propagating lies and decrying safety measures and so-called “fake news.” Other friends challenged them with science-based facts, only to be disrespected and personally attacked around their “fear.”

In truth, both sides are fearful—one of purported government overreach and the other of the very real impacts of COVID-19.

While the president may be largely responsible for the recent change in a certain subset of American culture that now dismisses peer-reviewed studies and reputable sources, I realize we’re talking about a much deeper-rooted issue. Following his lead, many are willing to sacrifice facts in the name of their own myopic ideology. That’s dangerous in normal times, but in the time of coronavirus it could prove fatal. □

THIS MODERN WORLD

LIFE IN THE STUPIDVERSE ROUND AND ROUND AND ROUND IT GOES

MASKS ARE FOR LOSERS

THEY MAKE YOU LOOK WEAK! REAL MEN AREN’T AFRAID OF ENDING UP IN AN INDUCED COMA WITH A VENTILATOR TUBE SHOVED DOWN THEIR THROAT!

I’LL RISK ANYTHING TO OWN THE LIBS!



PERSISTENCE OF MEMORY

WITHOUT STATUES, HOW WILL PEOPLE REMEMBER OUR HISTORY, WHICH CONSISTS OF ALL THOSE OLD-TIMEY GUYS ON HORSES?

WHOEVER THEY WERE!



BY TOM TOMORROW

PHASE “PRETEND IT NEVER HAPPENED”

HURRAH! NOW WE CAN HANG OUT IN CROWDED BARS SHOUTING MOISTLY IN EACH OTHERS’ FACES—JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS!

THE CRISIS IS OVER AND WE NEED NEVER SPEAK OF IT AGAIN!

I MIGHT LICK SOME DOOR-KNOBS—JUST BECAUSE I CAN!



IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING SACRED

NOW THE LEFT-WING WACKOS ARE CANCELLING OUR BELOVED “AUNT JEMIMA” BRAND PANCAKE SYRUP?

I LOVE THAT CORPORATE LOGO AS IF SHE WERE SOMEONE WHO WORKED FOR MY OWN FAMILY!



OUR GREATEST ORATOR

ASK NOT WHAT TESTING CAN DO FOR YOU! ASK WHAT GREATLY REDUCED TESTING CAN DO FOR YOUR FAVORITE PRESIDENT, ME!



THE BRAVE TRUTHTELLER

I HAD NO IDEA TRUMP WAS A WEAK-MINDED IDIOT WHEN I WENT TO WORK IN THE WHITE HOUSE IN HOPES OF MANIPULATING HIM INTO WAR WITH IRAN!

PLEASE BUY MY BOOK TO READ ALL THE STORIES I MIGHT HAVE TOLD DURING IMPEACHMENT, IF I HADN’T HAD A BOOK DEAL!



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