

To all York Region Council Members and Dr. Karim Kurji,

I write to you citing irrefutable scientific evidence proving the harms of our current lockdown only Covid-19 public health measures. I urge you to consider the data and take a stance against this blanket provincial lockdown, I urge you to listen to your constituents and perhaps your own conscience in this matter to find the courage to do the right thing!

First off, dissenting against these unconstitutional violations of Canadian's charter of rights is not a fringe idea anymore, it has in-fact become a socially acceptable stance.

This is evidenced form the fact that 39 out of 45 police agencies in Ontario have issued public statements declaring that they won't be enacting Doug Ford's new draconian curfew like measures.

So, contrary to what Doug Ford caught saying in a 'hot mic' event ("no politician in this country that's gonna disagree with their Chief Medical Officer , that just aren't gonna do it. They might as well throw a rope around their neck and jump off a bridge"), advocating for what is right resonates with the people and is the politically right thing to do as evidenced by the actions of the police agencies.



Figure 1: Refer appendix, URL Source-1

As evidenced below, a deep dive analysis of the United States of America and plotting of the per capita Covid deaths and comparing the lockdown states against the no-lockdown states, clearly the no-lockdown states have achieved a far better result; Less fatality and no economic suicide, why aren't any provinces / regions in Canada advocating for this path of least resistance?

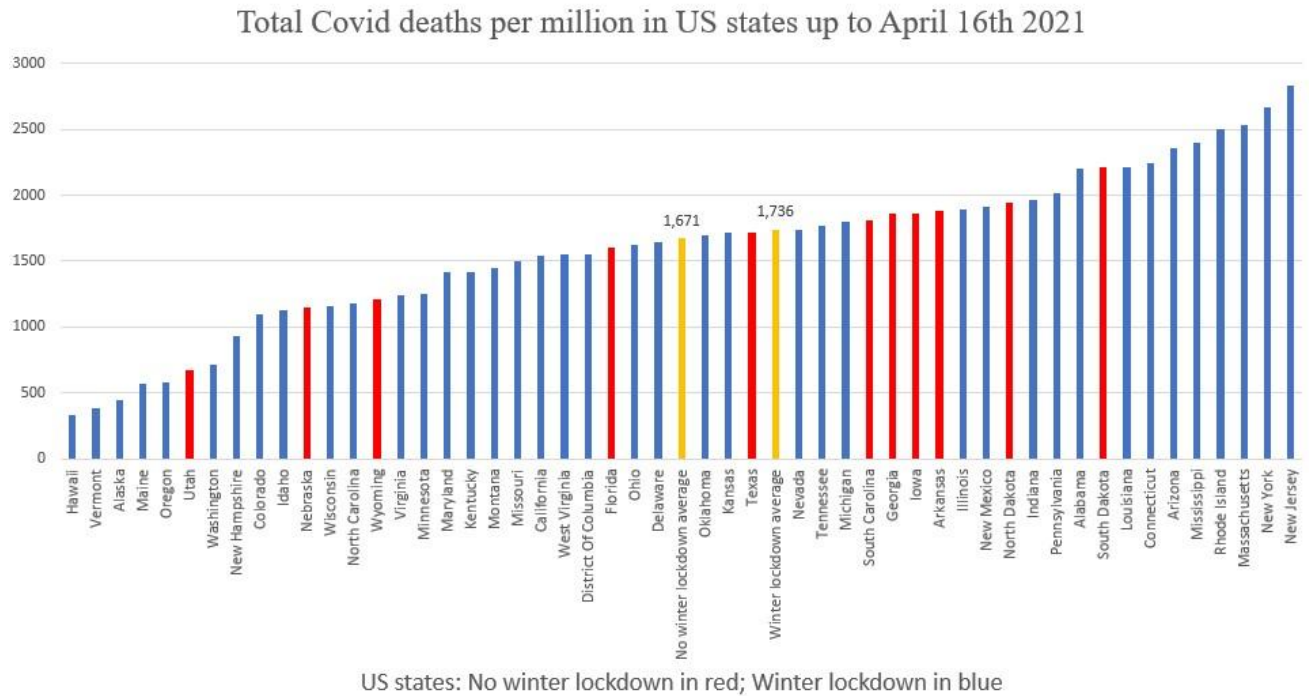


Figure 2: Refer appendix, URL Source-2

The above is an addition to my depositions from the past (January 2021 and December 2020), that I'd like to put it front of this council.

To all York Region Council Members and Dr. Karim Kurji,

I write to you via this deposition to highlight the exorbitant 'avoidable' human costs of lockdowns which I believe, is sadly NOT being accounted for in the discussions of the decision makers. I come to this conclusion because when you add up the costs from all forms of collateral damages caused due to these blanket lockdowns, one can logically only conclude NOT to enforce a lockdown.

WHO itself does NOT support lockdown measures!

Dr David Nabarro, WHO's Special Envoy on Oct 2020:

“Look what happens to poverty levels – it seems that we may well have a doubling of world poverty by next year. We may well have a doubling of child malnourishment because children are not getting meals at school and their parents, in poor families are not able to afford it.

...And so, we really do appeal to all world leaders: stop using lockdown as your primary control method.

....Lockdowns just have one consequence that you must never ever belittle and that is making poor people an awful lot poorer.”

Source:

<https://twitter.com/spectator/status/1314573157827858434?s=20>



In December 2020, via another written deposition I presented to you, statistics & projections on several collateral costs for you to consider, while you contemplate voting against the Provincial lockdown mandate (RC Carmine Perrelli's motion). In your reply, I have not seen any statements pointing to the fact that you are taking any steps to highlight or to minimize the misery caused by these lockdown mandates. I also did not see any statistics that depicts a real time pulse of the region with regards to the collateral damages (viz: depression, loneliness, suicides, poverty, unemployment, sexual abuse and more). Simply put, your reply was inapt to allay my fears on the dangers to our society due to your actions.

For your records, I will post further below the aforementioned statistics for you to consider them now. [refer Section-A]

Via this deposition I wanted to add that many national and international experts, having the chance to:

- Study the actual fatality rate of this illness,
- Visualize and compute future collateral damages due to our current lockdown methodology, and are changing their minds from being in favor of lockdowns, to being against it.



Here is one such expert: Dr. Ari Joffe – A specialist in pediatric infectious diseases at the Stollery Children’s Hospital in Edmonton and a Clinical Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at University of Alberta.

Dr. Ari states:

“emerging data showed that the median infection fatality rate is 0.23%, that the median infection fatality rate in people under 70 years old is 0.05%,.”

“Emerging data has shown a staggering amount of so-called ‘collateral damage’ due to the lockdowns. This can be predicted to adversely affect many millions of people globally with food insecurity [82-132 million more people], severe poverty [70 million more people], maternal and under age-5 mortality from interrupted healthcare [1.7 million more people], infectious diseases deaths from interrupted services [millions of people with Tuberculosis, Malaria, and HIV], school closures for children [affecting children’s future earning potential and

lifespan], interrupted vaccination campaigns for millions of children, and intimate partner violence for millions of women. In high-income countries adverse effects also occur from delayed and interrupted healthcare, unemployment, loneliness, deteriorating mental health, increased opioid crisis deaths, and more.”

“policy decisions on public health should require a cost-benefit analysis. Since lockdowns are a public health intervention, aiming to improve the population wellbeing, we must consider both benefits of lockdowns, and costs of lockdowns on the population wellbeing. Once I became more informed, I realized that lockdowns cause far more harm than they prevent.”

“I think that the initial modelling and forecasting were inaccurate. This led to a contagion of fear and policies across the world. Popular media focused on absolute numbers of COVID-19 cases and deaths independent of context. There has been a sheer one-sided focus on preventing infection numbers. The economist Paul Frijters wrote that it was “all about seeming to reduce risks of infection and deaths from this one particular disease, to the exclusion of all other health risks or other life concerns.” Fear and anxiety spread, and we elevated COVID-19 above everything else that could possibly matter. Our cognitive biases prevented us from making optimal policy: we ignored hidden ‘statistical deaths’ reported at the population level, we preferred immediate benefits to even larger benefits in the future, we disregarded evidence that disproved our favorite theory, and escalated our commitment in the set course of action.”

Source: <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/canadian-experts-research-finds-lockdown-harms-are-10-times-greater-than-benefits>

Section-A:

Lockdowns are having a mind-numbing level of collateral damages.

1. We know that the Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto has had to defer roughly 7,000 surgeries due to these extreme measures. Many of these surgeries were time sensitive and without going through it, we have collectively condemned many kids to a lifetime of living with illness, disfigurement or trauma.
 - a. Can you justify this egregious injustice in the name of saving the people from an illness which thankfully kills inline to that of the seasonal flu. [1]
2. Ontario Child Abuse cases projected to climb up to [2-3]:
 - a. Physical Abuse: 11,400 Cases
 - a. Sexual Abuse: 1,641
 - b. Neglect: 13,012
 - c. Emotional Maltreatment: 7,549
 - d. Exposure to intimate partner violence: 27,452
 - e. Can you sincerely put the kids who often are at the mercy of adults in harms way by voting to impose this lockdown?
3. Domestic Violence projected to increase [4-5]:
 - a. Against children & youth: 67,929
 - b. Against intimate partner: 110,880
 - c. Against seniors: 13,666
 - d. Will you NOT consider helping these vulnerable members by voting to end lockdowns?

In conclusion,

I can only hope that you are listening clearly to your constituents and following unbiased science.

I can only hope that you are the kind of leaders who can recognize a bad direction and have no qualms in calling it that, before setting the correct course.

I can only hope that you vote with your conscience and not get swayed by short term politically savvy things to do.

There are many eyes on you, there are many lives that are dependent on your actions.

Please do the right thing and demand the province to end these lockdowns.

Sincerely,
Karthik Raj

References:

[1] Ontario.ca as of today, Dec 21st posts: Resolved: 134,867, Deaths: 4,167 – Recovery Rate of Closed Cases: Resolved / (Resolved + Deaths) = 97.35%.

[2] Ontario stats on child abuse: <https://cwrp.ca/ontario-statistics>

[3] Alberta projection on child abuse climbing: <https://csacleth.ca/?p=0&action=article&oid=410>

[4] Stats CAN: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00018-eng.pdf?st=dsyH-r5O>

[5] Increase in domestic violence: <https://www.straight.com/news/police-agencies-report-increase-in-domestic-disturbance-calls-during-height-of-canadas-covid-19>

Please listen to your constituents, please listen to reason and act to let the Province know the people's and hopefully your feelings. Let's do the right thing and not force people against a wall which would lead to a disastrous outcome.

Sincerely,

Karthik Raj

Appendix:

Source-1: <https://thepostmillennial.com/ontario-government-backpedals-on-extraordinary-police-powers-that-would-have-allowed-police-to-randomly-stop-and-question-people-for-being-outdoors>

Source-2: <https://www.globalresearch.ca/lockdowns-needed-why-did-more-people-die-us-states-which-locked-down-than-those-which-did-not/5743107>