

# **No Compliance, No Cooperation, No Service**

by *Publius Corpus*

In the late 1960s, hippie counterculture began to thrive. Public response to this sudden insurgence of “rebels” varied, but a great majority of regular, middle-class, middle-aged Americans were not fond of it. As a Eugene, Oregon columnist wrote in 1972, “Hippies have taken over the north end of town, and the business people don’t like it.”<sup>1</sup> So, just how did community businesses fight back? Stores began posting “No Shirt, No Shoes, No Service” signs to keep out those whom they deemed to be undesirable patrons. That’s right, folks. Bare feet and hairy chests had nothing to do with health concerns. They only had to do with control and manipulation. Similar things can be said about seatbelt and helmet laws, all of these purported to be “for your own good,” and all of them removing your right to choice in the way you live your life.

As you may have guessed by the conservative, right-leaning nature of my ideas, I do not condone many of the ideals of the Flower Children culture explosion of the 1960s and 1970s. In fact, I disagree with most of what they believed. However, the blatant lies told about the motivation behind the “No Shirt, No Shoes, No Service” signage were unnerving. While most people presume, even today, that these rules have to do with contagions and sanitary issues, this was simply not the case. In fact, “what is clear from the history of [this signage] is that it never had anything to do with enforcing health codes, despite the fact that several early versions of the sign included the [false] addendum, ‘By order of the Board of Health.’”<sup>2</sup> In essence, the so-called requirement for shoes and shirts had little to do with public health and much to do with divisiveness and control. Sound familiar? If you glance down and find a diaper on your face, it should.

The relevance for us today is the similar narrative regarding face masks. Simply put, if there was one common, factual, truly scientific (“probable” is not science, folks), aligned story about the effectiveness of face masks, then there could not be suspicion that there is something else beneath the flood of mandates and governors’ orders (which are not actual laws, by the way). Rather, there has been constant disunity among the health “experts” regarding whether or not face masks are 1) truly preventative for COVID-19 and 2) safe and healthy for

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<sup>1</sup> <https://people.howstuffworks.com/where-did-shirt-shoes-required-come.htm>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

the wearer. Even the two bureaucratic, politically motivated guru organizations, the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control, cannot get their stories straight. Per the WHO, “There is currently no evidence that wearing a mask (whether medical or other types) by healthy persons in the wider community setting, including universal community masking, can prevent...infection with respiratory viruses, including COVID-19.”<sup>3</sup> The CDC, on the other hand, “has recently recommended everyone wear a (cloth) mask.” It’s also important to note that the Centers for Disease Confusion also state, “This is to prevent infected people passing on the infection, *not to prevent the wearer getting infected.*”<sup>4</sup> Interesting, since the mass media seems to love claiming that Donald Trump (the would-be wearer) contracted the virus due, in part, to his stubbornness when it comes to face diapering. Even *Business Insider* reports, “His [Donald Trump’s] diagnosis might serve as a warning of the serious risk facing those who eschew mask-wearing recommendations.”<sup>5</sup> So, who are we supposed to believe? The WHO, who says masks are useless, the CDC who claims masks are only protective of others, or the media, who claims that our POTUS got sick because he did not wear a mask? Trying to sort out their lies and contradictions gives me a headache. (Of course, I don’t want to admit that to anyone, or I’ll be diagnosed with the virus and add to their inflated “case counts, since every possible human ailment symptom seems to be on the COVID symptom list these days).

Given the circumstances, the best option is to believe your own gut and do as a free citizen of a supposedly free nation would. If you want to wear a mask because it makes you feel safer and comfortable, wear one. If you don’t, don’t. Remember, in most cases, those signs at your local Walmart and grocery stores are not laws; they are simply “mandates” or “health orders” that the stores themselves do not have to enforce. Case in point: A recent visit to a local arcade I enjoy landed me in a conversation with the small business owner who operates it. He was forced by the tyrannical, fearmongering governor of our state to waste his ink and paper to create signage to put on his door stating that masks are required; however, he emphatically said to me—and with great pride in his status as a free, American entrepreneur backed by a Constitution that outweighs any governor’s COVID tirade—“All I have to do is put the sign on the door. Beyond that, I’m not going to enforce something I don’t believe in.”

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.sciencealert.com/this-is-why-advice-on-whether-you-should-wear-a-mask-is-just-so-confusing>

<sup>4</sup> Ibid

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.businessinsider.com/why-anti-maskers-ignore-risks-after-trumps-covid-19-diagnosis-2020-10>

That encouraged me that some people are still thinking, still choosing for themselves, and it made me spend a lot more quarters in his Area 51 vintage cabinet while I was not covering any part of my face.

It is a crying shame that government agents sitting in their quarantined Zoom sessions are signing off on mandates and orders that they admittedly have neither the staff nor the legal authority to enforce, yet they expect business owners to act as the mask police. Worse, in some cases, they even send out task forces (spies) to fine and punish businesses who do not do the policing for them.

The face mask debate has gone on since March or early April, and there is good reason why it lingers. The powers-that-be wish to use it as a control mechanism: “Although 75 percent of Americans support masking requirements, there are continued *difficulties in achieving cooperation* with universal masking ordinances. Thus, despite a growing number of mandatory mask requirements nationwide, *enforcement strategies* that have been used in other areas of public health must now be considered.”<sup>6</sup> The simple fact is that we must not blindly and silently stand by or stand down if we are to retain our freedoms in this country! Wear a mask if you want to...but only if you *want* to.

Whether it is meant to discriminate against undesirables (aka “deplorables”), to divide and conquer the population, or to test just how far we can be pushed into compliance before we will think for ourselves and demand adherence to the freedoms guaranteed to us by our Constitution, beware of mandates and orders that are framed with “for your own good.” The fact is, they are typically for the good of someone seeking power, and that power is often gained by planting seeds of fear.

## About the Author



*Publius Corpus* is an American citizen who understands that a government of the people can only fairly be accomplished when that government focuses on being *by* and *for* the people. Publius writes for *The Oracle* because tyranny cannot be tolerated or accepted in the so-called Land of the Free, and our Constitution and Bill of Rights must be upheld and vigorously defended by We the People in word and deed. In the wise words of Thomas Sowell, “The Constitution cannot protect us unless we protect the Constitution.”

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20201002.655610/full/>