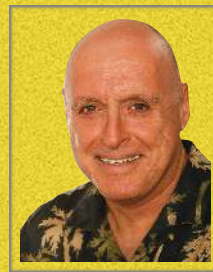


THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



537 The News Will be Crazy – Just Follow Your Plan

Yesterday was an insane day in terms of news on the Coronavirus. I'm Jerry Roberts and I'll highlight some of the craziness, next on The Extra Point.

Story after story yesterday, showing how the virus and its impact is revealing character, lack of character, and how leadership is so critical at such a critical time.

A French study has touted a 100% cure rate in a small group of people infected with the Coronavirus, using well known generic drugs. President Trump jumped on it, proclaiming that it could be one of the biggest game changers in medical history.

Fox News began beating its drum about the possible breakthrough, then the Surgeon General of the U.S. came on to lend a calm hand, saying more studies would need to be conducted. Doctors have now checked in to discuss potential risks. Social media erupted and the drugs began disappearing from pharmacy shelves as doctors wrote a lot of prescriptions for people in search of a fast end to virus woes.

In Europe and elsewhere, people who are already tired of being indoors have started to rebel, holding parties and other gatherings. It's not widespread as yet, but authorities are cracking down to control and disperse them.

Trump made jaws drop when he said he is considering relaxing the social distancing rules as early as next week, even though the virus is currently raging throughout many places in the U.S. and the healthcare system is reaching the breaking point. He said he wants to make sure the cure isn't worse than the virus itself.

He and other Republican leaders say the U.S. economy will crash should we continue restrictions for a period of months. Texas Lt. Governor Dan Patrick came on Fox to say much the same thing, that we should get back to

work in order to protect the economy, and to let chips fall as they may. Patrick went on to say grandparents would be happy to sacrifice themselves in order to give their grandchildren a better shot at the American dream.

Why are both of these men oblivious to what China, Japan, Israel, South Korea, and other places have done and are doing? They have shut down with much tougher restrictions than we have in Guam and other U.S. jurisdictions, and are now on their way to opening up again, after weathering the storm brought by the virus.

What's wrong with a picture that has other countries able to do this and protect all of their citizens, while the U.S. says it's too much to deal with, let's sacrifice a segment of the population and get back to making money? Does anybody else have any problem with this? Scientists and the medical community are outraged by these positions. We should all be outraged. In which American dream is it okay for officials to identify groups of people that are more expendable than others? That's a slippery slope. Once you go there it won't be hard to do it again the next time we're scared.

Hopefully, state and territorial governors will stay the course, tightening restrictions as they see fit, and protecting the healthcare system. If they do and if we do our part by staying at home, then more people will survive this threat. The news is going to be crazy, confusing, often contradictory. Just keep your head and do the little things, day after day. That's how we win.

That's The Extra Point. Stay home and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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