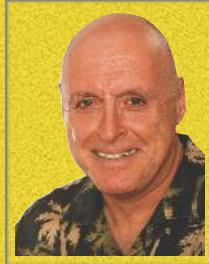


# THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 554 Understanding How We Really Feel

As the coronavirus conversation is now slowly shifting from what we all have to do to help contain the growth of infections, to how we're going to approach our initial recovery, there's a lot to talk about. I'm Jerry Roberts and today, we look at three key elements that will frame how we personally deal with it. That's next on The Extra Point.

A friend posted something on Facebook yesterday that is worth sharing. I've done a little editing to fit the circumstances, and you can call them the three main states of mind regarding how we view the virus and where we're headed.

Think of three circles. In the first it reads, "People taking COVID-19 seriously, and highly concerned about the health implications of opening things up again without adequate safety precautions in place."

In the second circle it reads, "People concerned about impending economic devastation, and that if we don't get the economy going again soon, the problems will be worse than anything the virus brings us."

Finally, in the third circle you see the words, "People worried about their freedoms being taken away through expanded government control, some freedoms we may never get back again."

If you lay these circles one on top of the other, with a little overlap between them, you may be able to envision a place smack dab in the middle where you can place the word "me," and this signifies that you are concerned about all three issues. The vast majority of us are.

However, it's highly unlikely that feelings about each one will be equal. You might come down on the side of the health issues, or the economy dominates your thoughts, or you've had your shorts in a bunch ever since the governor

decided to institute checkpoints and ask the legislature for increased powers.

The reality is this, whatever happens from this point forward, you will filter it all through your position as we've described here.

If health is your key focus you'll approve keeping most businesses closed longer, so that fewer people catch the virus and fewer lose their lives — even if it results in greater financial hardship.

If the economy is most important to you, then as long as things start rolling again, you'll be willing to tolerate any new surge in infections and fatalities as an acceptable tradeoff.

For the last position, as long as there is less overreach by elected leaders, you will likely line up with those in favor of restarting the economy sooner rather than later.

For those who say, "Now wait a minute Jerry, I feel equally concerned about all three of those issues. I want optimum health considerations... I want to get the economy opened up again fast, and I want to make sure the rights of individuals aren't stepped on." We all share each concern but it's simply human to feel more strongly about one over the others. Let me ask this: If you could only have one, which would it be?

The real issue is coming to grips with this and admitting to ourselves which one we prioritize — and then be able to stand on that? Where do you stand on that?

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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