

What I don't understand!

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Let me just cut straight to the point: I don't understand! What I do understand is that Corona is a very dangerous virus. In its current form it can make people very sick and from the second half of life and especially in the elderly it can prove fatal. Very intensive medical/nursing care is then indispensable. I also understand that hospitals – and more broadly – the health service will not be able to cope with the effects of this virus if it is not slowed down by taking measures.

Such measures affect our economy, as well as our social system, and thus our social and mental health. But releasing the virus (including all its potential risks) is unacceptable, and pretty much all the countries of the world agree. In my opinion, people who deny the virus aren't quite right in their head. And let's be honest, if the virus mutates into a variant that would be fatal for many children up to 15 years old - at least without extensive high-tech intensive care - these deniers are likely to choke on their conspiracy theories quickly. Unfortunately, it cannot be ruled out that such a mutation will occur, multiple viral diseases have proved dangerous for both children and the elderly. So much for what I understand. I don't understand why the press and government treat the Dutch public like idiots, as the "information" we are dealing with shows. In my opinion, this evokes exactly what one is trying to prevent: people are becoming suspicious and believe less in the measures and the real virus threat, and they are going to act as "woo-woos". What about that?

A foolish doctor

A few weeks ago, during an illegal demonstration against Corona measures, a 75-year-old man was interviewed by a (local) TV channel in Amsterdam who claimed, among other things, that Corona was nonsense and that doctors in the hospitals were paid (20 k euro / patient!) to pretend that people were really sick from COVID-19. The man seemed confused by the excitement surrounding the banned demonstration. He also mentioned in passing that he was a doctor. Since then, just about every Dutch newspaper and news channel has started to find out whether the man was indeed a doctor (yes), whether he has made such (woo-woo) statements before (yes). The Dutch health inspectorate is even investigating whether measures can be taken to deprive him of his registration as a doctor. Again, I don't get that.

Yes, the interview is remarkable because apparently even someone with an excellent education can get completely lost. But that is it, an incidental case, no more and no less. Anyone who believes this man seriously, despite all the information we've been getting on a daily basis about Corona and the victims for a year, is just as much lost as the old doctor. Such a (woo-woo) person does not suddenly become rational by observing the disproportionate attention and disapproval of these strange ideas in all media and press releases. On the contrary. The nuance that can be expected from good journalism seems to have been lost in the Corona chaos.

Every now and then we all get lost. Let me just say it bluntly, I feel sorry for the man. He gets all the ridicule and disapproval from all those, journalists, moral knights and even great politicians. And why? Because his statements are considered dangerous! But that's really dangerous nonsense! Again, if a large number of Dutch people who hear this man speak do not conclude that this doctor is now speaking like a fool, despite all the information provided daily about the virus and the situation in the world, it should be better not to give any more news and information at all. Calling this dangerous is such disdain for the Dutch that it is absolutely counterproductive and thus dangerous in itself. If you try to kill a mosquito with an entire army force, everyone's going to think there's something terrible about that mosquito. Or was it a virus?