



**Your on the  
Street Reporter**



**Uyless Black**

**COVID and Varients**

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## Moral Manslaughter

January 27, 2022

### manslaughter

[ˈmɑːn,slɑːdər]

NOUN

1. the crime of killing a human being without malice aforethought, or otherwise in circumstances not amounting to murder.

### A Virtual Hospital Visit<sup>1</sup>

Katherine Jane Ripley showed up at the emergency room (ER) at Moscow’s Gritman Medical Center. She was suffering from a blood infection and needed “serious, specialized medical care.” What she also needed was an intensive-care unit bed that provided continuous dialysis.

COVID-19 patients were then and are now straining hospital capacity in the Northwestern part of the US. “She was in trouble,” her father, Kai Eiselein said, “In a normal year, she would be life-flighted out within the hour.”

Hospitals in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho were asked for help but without success. Thus, Ripley could not find adequate medical help: “There were no beds available,” read the obituary, published late last week in the *Lewiston Morning Tribune*, “thanks to unvaccinated COVID-19 patients.”

Twenty hours after she arrived at the ER, Ripley was dead. She was 33 and left behind a husband, Ian, and two kids.

Since June, more than 82% of the hospitalized COVID-19 patients at Gritman have been unvaccinated, a hospital official said. Similar patterns repeat at hospitals all over the nation.

The most recent report from Washington’s Department of Health, issued Wednesday, showed again that unvaccinated people are much more likely to get COVID-19 and to suffer serious consequences.

Hospitals are strained to the limit. A team of National Guard members is arriving to help at providence Sacred Heart Medical Center, Spokane WA.

Another hospital spokesman said, “Maybe she would have lived, maybe she wouldn’t have. But she didn’t even have a chance.”

### Entitled Athletes<sup>2</sup>

**Aaron Rodgers**, the legendary quarterback of the Green Bay packers, late last year after falsely implying that he had been vaccinated, claimed the NFL had a “two-class system” for vaccinated and unvaccinated players. “Class?”...category, but certainly not class. After all, he did not lose his starting position. Even more, he kept shouting and breathing on his teammates in last Sunday’s playoff game.

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<sup>1</sup> Shawn Vestal, *The Spokesman-Review*, January 23, 2022, A1, A6.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cnn.com/2021/11/09/nfl-fines-aaron-rodgers-and-packers-for-covid-violations-.html>.

He told ESPN: "I went through a multi-immunization process. And at the end of that, I don't know what you would call it, I would call it immunized." With what was he immunized? Z-Pak, prednisolone, and ivermectin, none recommended for COVID-19 treatment.

Rodgers is not a fan of anyone but himself. "At one point, he criticized President Joe Biden's "fake White House" for its messaging on Covid safety, and he questioned the legitimacy of the 2020 election. "<sup>3</sup> What in the world is a "fake White House?" And the election has been validated so many times---even by Republicans---it's delusional to think it is not legitimate.

I've been an admirer of Rodgers and his career for many years. It's not easy doing a turnaround in my feelings, but after being called out for deceiving people such as this writer, "he responded by being accused [by] a "woke mob" of trying to "cancel" him. Doctors be damned, in Rodgers' view, he knows who the true "experts" are."<sup>4</sup>

"Doctors be damned." That's a scary statement, because it comes from a man who has significance influence on so many people. One of those people was once this writer. As for his "experts," they have been selling the delusional football player snake oil.

**Novak Djokovic**, likely to be proclaimed the best male tennis player to have ever played the game, is another athlete who seems to have gained a sense of entitlement because of his fame. Several years ago, I visited tennis courts in Belgrade, Serbia, where he honed his uncanny skills. I came to admire him, both because of his on-court and off-court conduct.

He has been illusive in some of his statements, forthright in others, but has been reckless about his having COVID-19 and not social distancing. But he has been more open and less deceitful than Rodgers. Here is an excerpt from his interview upon entering Australia for the Australian Open:<sup>5</sup>

- INTERVIEWER: Are you vaccinated?
- DJOKOVIC: I am not vaccinated.
- INTERVIEWER: Thank you. Have you ever had Covid?
- DJOKOVIC: Yes. I had Covid twice ... in June 2020 and recently – I was tested positive. ... I have the documents as well to confirm that. If you want, I can provide.

In a statement published on social media, he also apologized for an apparently false travel declaration, saying it had been submitted on his behalf by a member of his support staff in "human error." Maybe so, but it is stretching credibility to think he was ignorant of Australia's not admitting travelers with no COVID-19 shot and having been tested for the disease.

Djokovic added that he had made an "error of judgment" in doing a media interview and photo shoot with a French sports newspaper after he had tested positive. He added: "I want to emphasize that I have tried very hard to ensure the safety of everyone and my compliance with testing obligations."

What? After traveling to several cities, making numerous public appearances, and conducting interviews, he tried to ensure the safety of those around him? Who is this man trying to fool

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/11/09/nfl-fines-aaron-rodgers-and-packers-for-covid-violations-.html>.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/11/09/nfl-fines-aaron-rodgers-and-packers-for-covid-violations-.html>.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/jan/10/i-am-not-vaccinated-novak-djokovics-interview-with-australian-border-force>.

As Rafal Nadal, a fellow tennis player, said: *He knew the rules long before the tournament began.*

**No Huddles and Don't Come to the Net.** What other conclusion can be reached other than these professional athletes somehow thought they were entitled to special treatment.

It is hard to believe when trying to grasp the callowness of these men. By their merely trotting onto the football field or the tennis court, they were putting others at risk: Rodgers in the huddle; Djokovic with net play and walking nearly next to his opponent during change-of-sides. On and on.

Don't they get it? COVID-19 is highly contagious. If a person recovers from a severe form of the disease, it appears they will have suffered serious side effects for...well, no one knows at this time. But we do know many of those who have recovered from the most severe effects of the disease complain of pain in various parts of their bodies. Thus far, 5.6 million people have died from the disease.

### **A Fairy Tale with a Less-then-happy Ending**

Just between the two of us: Let's pretend you and I refuse to be vaccinated for COVID and its variants. I am opposed to getting the shot because I've been informed by authoritative social media postings---from people with zero hours of experience or training on the subject---that the COVID vaccination that courses through my body will do the following: (a) Alter my DNA. (b) Cause ringing in my ears. (c) Result in many other long-term side effects. Overall, social media informs me the shot will cause a list of maladies longer than my genetic strand.

Regarding (a), I look forward to some changes to my DNA. They can only help me make it through these later times on earth. Who knows? My aging genes might stop aging. Regarding (b), I look forward to yet more ringing in my ears. Twenty-four hours a day, I could be ringing in a New Year. Regarding (c), I doubt I will outlive any possible long-term side effects of the vaccinations anyway, especially since the anti-vaccination proponents have not identified exactly what the side effects might be, with the exception of various assertions on social media---a renown bastion of accuracy and objectivity.

I am hoping the side effects will be *special* effects, like the surrounding sound in movie theaters. That is, the movie theaters that were open before COVID came along with its own special effects.

I'm not young anymore, but I'm younger than some of my very old friends. One of my ageless buddies ("ageless" in that his being alive is less a matter of natural body functions than his consuming 30 pills a day) refuses the COVID shot because the social media informed him it would make him infertile. Imagine that. He's at an age when most men have stopped spawning.

He and I took shots when we were kids to guard against measles, chicken pox, mumps, smallpox, polio, and such. We lived through the shots. Fact is, we likely lived because of those shots. They probably prolonged our lives. As studies have shown, they did prolong the lives of those around us.

Turning to your situation. You refuse to be vaccinated because you do not want the government telling you what to do, dictating your life as you watch the traffic light turn yellow in your declining years...and maybe turning red if your old carcass gets a disease. You told me you're one more heart attack away from standing before the Pearly Gates, and one of those COVID shots would definitely open those gates.

**Selected Government Interference.** I don't like having government in my life either, especially with the government doing all it can to get us vaccinated and social media also telling us other diseases are a side effect of the vaccination. Seems like a lose-lose situation.

Besides, Uncle Sam gets in our way with cluttering up our mailboxes with checks from Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps, unemployment insurance, etc. I read recently that over 90 programs are in operation in which the government gets in our way by sending us checks. We don't mind this "getting in the way" as long as Uncle Sam's monthly checks get in the way of our monthly bills in the mailbox.

I think you and I would give way to Uncle Sam coming along on occasion. Say, to require us to take DWI tests. There's so much drinking on the roads, there are not enough curves in the highways.

If you or I drink too much and end up killing others in a car crash, we're lucky if we get off with manslaughter. If you and I refuse to be vaccinated for COVID, and we become infected, we are rushed to the hospital. There, we are given a bed, accompanied with hours of medical attention and tons of life-saving equipment.

With that said, let's say, theoretically of course, that you and I catch the COVID bug. Our COVID condition may have caused the death of someone. However, no one can prove it. It's completely subjective. COVID has proven to be highly contagious, but who will ever know if you or I could be spreading the disease? No one, so we're off Scot-free. After all, COVID is a silent, invisible killer, which makes you and me silent and invisible killers.

Hm, increasingly, I've been reading the newspapers and seeing on TV that some hospitals have so many COVID patients they are running out of beds to put them in. In addition, other people in need of care, one example is Ms. Ripley, who died in a hospital corridor, did not have a bed available at any of those hospitals...nor the needed personnel and equipment to treat their sicknesses.

The beds are occupied with unvaccinated COVID folks who don't like government interference in their lives. They take up many of the beds, mainly because they refuse to take a needle in their arms. Such as those smallpox needles that saved millions of lives many years ago--back in the times when we didn't think much about government interference. ...Those times were before Uncle Sam started sending us welfare checks.

**Anti-Government Government Employees.** Here's a twist on this situation. A Supreme Court Justice refuses to wear a mask during the court's sessions. Granted, nothing in this matter implies the man is anti-government, but his fellow justices all wear masks and the justice who normally sits next to him now participates in the sessions virtually. Nonetheless, the majority of governments in the US have recommended the wearing of masks in public places. He does not believe in wearing them even though they are scientifically known to help prevent the spread of the virus.

Admittedly, he does display a more user-friendly face in the justice's group photos than the other Supremes, although he is scientifically certified to be user unfriendly to those around him.

In Spokane, one of the members of city council refuses to wear a mask while he is at City Hall, which violates a city ordinance. His statement includes his "principled stand against unconstitutional mandates that are more about government control than science."<sup>6</sup> The vast

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<sup>6</sup> *The Spokesman-Review*, January 27, 2022, A1, A9.

preponderance of scientific findings state the use of masks act as filters of droplets of moisture coming from human speech. This government employee is openly violating the very laws his local government has passed. Hm. And inside outsider, breaking the law and still drawing his salary. Seems inconsistent with how laws are enforced in this country.

**A Game!** Let's play a game. The first one of us---say yours truly, is sent to the hospital with COVID. Let's also pretend that I gave the disease to you. But you're asymptomatic, not showing any symptoms of the disease; just a bit tired and coughing a lot, but still walking around. But for sure, you are infected with the COVID disease, which does not set well with your weakened heart.

I take up a hospital bed---hypothetically, of course---while the doctors and nurses go about mending my COVID-ravaged body. Damn! That COVID can affect so many parts of a body that medical investigators are still trying to learn of all its effects.

Anyway, you have that heart attack you've been predicting, but you don't get a place at the hospital because I'm taking up your bed and all the treatment equipment in the room. You're in a hospital corridor waiting for complete treatment while I'm in your room on a ventilator and eating your food in between the ventilator helping me breathe---and consuming the energy and emotions of the doctors and nurses who are tending to me and hoping I don't make them sick.

You pass away from your heart attack---aided by that non-visible COVID bug that you had been carrying around that was unknown to others. Your heart problem was ill-tended because the hospital had exhausted its human and technical resources with a saturation of unvaccinated COVID patients. I recover from COVID and leave the hospital to make my room and bed available for another unvaccinated COVID sickee.

You consider suing me for manslaughter. You claim I was the cause of your death because I gave you a disease which, although asymptomatic in you, exacerbated the poor health of your poor old heart. I ended up getting the hospital treatment at your expense. Well, "expense" not in money terms, but "expense" in terms of your kicking the bucket.

But you can only sue me if law enforcement can prove you're getting the COVID disease was the culprit that finally did in your heart, and I gave the disease to you. But they can't. The truth is, they will never be able to prove unvaccinated people are killing-off other people. Plus, you couldn't sue me anyway because you're dead.

An outside observer, listening in on the discussion between these men, offers some thoughts:

*Many of the statements spoken by this man are as obvious as day is light, and night is dark---one reason it is so tragically heartbreaking. It is also breaking down the health---mental and physical---of untold numbers of dedicated medical people who are exhausting themselves and risking their lives to save unvaccinated people from dying.*

*It is also a tragic irony: unvaccinated people are killing-off one another. Who knows? Maybe that is the long-term cure for the disease. The problem is, other diseases inevitably lie in wait for us humans. This COVID virus might be eradicated, but that will only be a temporary respite as other viruses will surely come along. They will have mutated to be more deadly, and it will more difficult to find a cure for the diseases associated with them. Consulting humans' history, we know these diseases have been around for a long time and will be with us for as long as we are around.*

The observer turns the discussion over to the two men:

Okay, back to our pretending: I have COVID, and I transmitted it to you. My previous actions of not wearing masks, taking no COVID shots, and doing no social distancing... inactions actually...caused you to contract the disease. But it also caused your death because you could not obtain proper medical aid from the hospital. Its staff was inundated by people like me: free from the government but prisoners of a virus. Trouble is, you'll be dead, and you can't collect any manslaughter damages from me. The joke's on you: I'm still alive.

Okay, I grant you that a point should be made here. The definition of manslaughter cited above includes the word *aforethought*, although it states *without* *aforethought*. Let's say we are wandering amidst crowds with no vaccine in us, with no masks on our faces. I do admit that is *aforethought* on our part.

But there's no *malice aforethought*. After all, we are only doing it to prove the point that Uncle Sam has no business getting in the way of our possibly killing our neighbors, or maybe someone passing by us in a store.

Our observer again interjects some thoughts about the subject:

*Whether these two men like it or not, that's aforethought. With all the facts about masks and social distancing being effective and vaccinations being even more effective, they are showing a disregard for scientific facts and a disregard for others' lives as well as their own.*

*Their behavior does not constitute legal manslaughter, as no one can prove a specific unvaccinated person, one who does not wear a mask or practice socially distancing, transmits the COVID disease to a particular human.*

*But is there such a thing as moral manslaughter? Does a death wish play a factor?...A death wish not only for oneself, but a death wish for one's fellow humans?*



## Views from a Nurse

Below is an email I received from a friend and relative. She is a noted, respected nurse. She had been in Mexico, but had to return to the States as her father had become ill from a heart problem. She makes other points about COVID beyond my satire. I have deleted names and personal references to relatives and friends. She writes the following:

I did not sleep before flying home. Slept a couple of hours before driving to [her father's home-town]. We went straight to the hospital to see my dad. I am fortunate to have been able to say goodbye. [Her father died from coronary problems.]

Many have not been able to do so due to COVID. Many have had to say goodbye over a phone. People are left to die alone. One can hope a nurse can be there to hold a hand. However, with short staffing and the acuity of the situation, I do not see how that is possible.

I was able to hold my dad's hand as he took his last breath. I will be forever grateful for that.

I have a lot of anger towards those who are refusing to be vaccinated. Their rights are infringing on the rights of those trying to access care. Those unvaccinated COVID patients should plan to be cared for by their community of like-minded individuals at home and leave the hospitals free to care for those needing medical care. [A point I made in my essay above.] Many cannot have surgeries. Many cannot get the treatments they so desperately need.

Sadly, I am becoming jaded towards a large portion of our community. I have compassion fatigue. I had covid fatigue in the beginning when we did not have answers or a vaccine.

I believe the ICU doctor taking care of my dad was showing signs of the same condition I have. As he was leaving my dad's room, he said to me, "Now I have to go take care of the unvaccinated." [He had his priorities straight.]

Mexico made sense. Mazatlán is in the green as far as COVID goes. They got this disease hard with the delta variant. However, there was a modified shut down that worked. Proof of vaccines to enter restaurants required.

People wanted vaccines. People are getting their vaccines. There is a shortage there. Meanwhile, we are under-dosing thousands of doses of vaccines in the US while some countries are begging for more. It's Insane.

## Views from a Mexico Tourist

Here some thoughts from another person who also has been spending time in Mazatlan Mexico:

The Mexicans are laughing at us for our COVID-19 response, especially the delta variant. In early July, Mexico was particularly hit hard by the delta variant. [Name not furnished] was in Mazatlan in September and told me the virus was well under control and actually fully under control by the end of September. I was there in September, and everyone was going about their business, but still wearing masks and maintaining social distance. How did that happen?

Everyone entering a business entered an entry door and left via a separate door. The doors were spaced apart from each other. At the entry, each person had their temperature taken and was required to have a mask on, and also required to use hand sanitizer. Anyone with a fever had to be quarantined until they received a COVID-19 test. Everyone there was anxious to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

They are mocking us for our inability to control the disease.

### **This writer's response:**

Yes, but we Americans have our own way of killing our fellow citizens: We resort to self-imposed extermination. As of this writing, almost all the COVID-19 deaths are from people who were not vaccinated. I just read a report that the percentage of the population dying from COVID-19 who were not inoculated was 99%.

As of 21 January 2022, 860,341 Americans are dead because of this virus. Seventy million people in the US have contacted the disease. To place this number into perspective, US Census statistics show the United States lost 364,511 people in the Civil War and 405,399 in World War II (see <https://www.census.gov/history/pdf/wwi-casualties112018.pdf>). We are losing more of our citizens to a virus than we did fighting among ourselves and later, fighting German Nazis and the Japanese military zealots.

The people who refuse to be vaccinated and do not stay out of our sight are a threat to our safety...as well as theirs. Yes, they are well-meaning and they believe in what they are not doing. Fine, as long as their inactions do not endanger others. But they do.

**Religion Inoculates me!** Then there is the issue of being exempt from getting the shot for religious reasons. Perhaps that includes you. Suppose I have religious reasons for getting the shot, such as Christian doctrine against committing suicide. My religious convictions do not jeopardize your well-being. Your religious convictions place me in danger. Not very Christian-like on your part.

In addition, the Catholic Church has decreed it is permissible for Catholics to take the vaccine.

Government getting in your way of free choice. Using your religion as a crutch to endanger others. It's simple, you could very well be committing moral manslaughter.