

**CENSORSHIP LAW:
We Are Sad To Report That
"Truth" Is Not Expected To
Survive COVID-19**

Prepared by Shawn Buckley LL.B., President of the Natural Health Products Protection Association on April 21, 2020.



The Toronto Sun reported on April 15, that the Trudeau Government is planning censorship laws to prevent “misinformation” about COVID-19. The article can be found here: <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/furey-feds-planning-laws-against-covid-19-misinformation-is-ultimate-irony>. NDP MP Charlie Angus is quoted as supporting the measure signalling that “protecting” you from freedom of speech may be broadly supported in Parliament.

The problem with censorship laws, is that it is the government that gets to decide what “truth” you will be allowed to access.

There is not yet draft legislation for us to comment on, but the proposal is very concerning. Censorship and a free society cannot co-exist. It is as simple as that. If you want to remain at least partially free, you must resist this initiative.

When this proposal gains momentum, we will be given persuasive arguments – “there are ‘scam artists’ pedalling fake cures” and “there are ‘conspiracy theorists’ pedaling fake news”. In short, you will be told why you need to be protected by the government. The fear and outrage will be so great you will be focussed on it, so that you do not ask important questions like:

- Are Canadians really so stupid that they cannot be trusted to make reasonable choices?
- Is this really a problem? We always have diverse views that we sort through, is this so different?
- Am I really so stupid that I need the government to decide what I can be exposed to?
- Can I actually trust the government to decide what I am told?

Censorship is the government deciding what information you can have access to. Censorship never ends well.

We are in an unprecedented situation where we are effectively imprisoned in our own homes and the justification for the lock down has already changed. We were first told this was necessary so that we could flatten the curve of infections. Now, a second theme has been introduced, that restrictions of one sort or another will stay until a vaccine is ready. We are, in effect, being told that our freedoms may be restricted until we are all vaccinated.

For greater clarity, our freedoms have never in our lives been so restricted, and the narrative to explain “why” is changing. It does not matter whether you agree or disagree with the restrictions on our freedoms. You must pay close attention to the mainstream media narratives to identify any agendas that are present (whether benign or not).

It has never been more important for you to pay attention to what is happening.

So, here we are:

- Your freedom is being restricted like it never has been before, and
- The government wants to control the information you receive while restricting your freedom.

How is this different than what police states do?

So it is with some irony that on April 15, 2020, our government broadcaster, CBC, ran a story telling kids how to shut down “conspiracy theories” voiced by adults

https://twitter.com/CBCTheNational/status/1250536878484447233?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw.

In this incredible piece the reporter actually says: “conspiracies can be just as infectious, just as dangerous as a virus”. The example given of a conspiracy is the suggestion that the novel coronavirus was created by China in a lab. This is an interesting example, as why would it matter if people believed the virus came from a lab as opposed to being naturally occurring? Surely our belief about the origin of the virus does not change whether or not we should stay in our homes to avoid it. It is also an interesting example, as it may be wrong. I have not researched this issue, but in just checking news for myself have run across suggestions that there is a legitimate debate. For example, Fox News reported on April 15, that U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the U.S. Government is trying to figure out if the virus did come from a Chinese lab (see <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/coronavirus-wuhan-lab-china-compete-us-sources>).

Similarly, I came across a story reporting that Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Luc Montagnier claims the virus was man-made (see <https://www.gilmorehealth.com/chinese-coronavirus-is-a-man-made-virus-according-to-luc-montagnier-the-man-who-discovered-hiv/>). I am not offering an opinion on whether the virus was man-made or naturally occurring. I am offering an opinion that there appears to be a rational debate about this.

I remember watching what I believe was CNN, in October 1990, a piece about soldiers from Iraq throwing babies out of incubators in Kuwait and leaving them to die on the floor. I was incensed and wanted something done. The story was fake news, peddled on mainstream news networks to manipulate public opinion to support the first Gulf War. I also remember becoming very concerned about Iraq weapons of mass destruction peddled on the mainstream news prior to the second Iraq War for the same purpose. This was also fake news. Both fake stories worked and many of us supported wars that have killed large numbers of innocent people. Shame on us, as we are complicit in those deaths.

Soon we will be scared into supporting government censorship, all for your safety and the safety of your loved ones.

Of course, anyone from the former Soviet Union or in Communist China can tell us how safe we are when the government gets a monopoly on the truth. We need to listen.

Although there is not yet an actual Bill before Parliament, we need to let all MPs in all parties know that we are not going to support this censorship. Almost all of you have never phoned an MP. Almost all of you have never written a letter to an MP. Personal complacency is the only reason we are constantly losing our freedoms.

I am personally asking each of you to:

- **Call your local MP** and demand a phone meeting. Tell them you do not support any type of government censorship. You can find their contact information here: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en>
- **Call the Prime Minister's Office** at both 613-995-0253 & 514-277-6020. You likely will have to settle speaking to staff, but they will be listening.
- **Call Conservative Leader** Andrew Scheer at both 613-992-4593 & 306-332-2575
- **Call NDP Leader** Jagmeet Singh at both 613-947-0867 & 604-291-8863
- **Call Bloc Quebecois** Leader Yves-François Blanchet at 613-992-6035 & 450-658-0088
- **Write a letter** to your MP and each party leader. You can also email, but email is not the same as a letter, and letters are taken more seriously. Addresses can be found here: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en>

I would like to leave you with one of my favourite quotes, because it drives home that if we do not take personal responsibility for protecting our rights we will lose them.

"Power concedes nothing without a demand.

It never did and it never will.

Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them."

-Frederick Douglass (1818-1895), author, former slave.