

August 15th, 2020

To: Rt. Hon Jacinda Ardern <Jacinda.Ardern@parliament.govt.nz>

Dear Prime Minister,

Shocking incompetence has unnecessarily wiped billions of pounds from the UK economy

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/12/swedens-success-shows-true-cost-arrogant-failed-establishment/>

[WT.mc_id=e_DM1276350&WT.tsrc=email&etype=Edi_Edi_New_Reg&utm_source=email&utm_medium=Edi_Edi_New_Reg20200813&utm_campaign=DM1276350](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/12/swedens-success-shows-true-cost-arrogant-failed-establishment/)

"So now we know: Sweden got it largely right, and the British establishment catastrophically wrong. Anders Tegnell, Stockholm's epidemiologist-king, has pulled off a remarkable triple whammy: far fewer deaths per capita than Britain, a maintenance of basic freedoms and opportunities, including schooling, and, most strikingly, a recession less than half as severe as our own."

Selective scientivism is not science and labelling disagreement as *conspiracy* ideation (Statist NZTV) is undisguised incipient tyranny.

The population of New Zealand is being coerced into believing that the country is marooned for its own 'safety', an ironic use of the word, in what might instead be termed '*coffin corner*', an apt term borrowed from high altitude aviation, whereupon the smallest deviation from the correct airspeed results in destruction of the aircraft.

The metaphor applies to New Zealand doubly, because as was highlighted early on in the pandemic, it appeared inevitable that the novel SARS virus variant would become yet another endemic corona virus with a reasonably well defined infection risk profile and low mortality/morbidity when compared to a notable seasonal 'flu. Perpetual isolation and quarantine measures must therefore be considered impractical and unacceptable in a society that purportedly values liberty, prosperity and happiness. Such restrictions are both unrealistic and unsustainable. The policy mantra of '*flattening the curve*' has been surreptitiously replaced by, '*new normal*'. Further, a vaccine remains an uncertain proposition as it appears from a UK study that the longevity of *post hoc* immunity does not appear enduring beyond a few weeks.

Relying as New Zealand did on the flawed modelling output of Professor 'Lock-Down', Neil Ferguson of Imperial College, patently a deeply flawed individual, was not an encouraging start to management here. One is inclined to view such a start and its subsequent policy trajectory in the same light as the secret vote taken by the UN International Health Rules Committee delaying its recommendation to the WHO to issue a PHEIC, a vote upon which you have still declined to make any comment, although asked directly. The secret machinations of a UN committee are not science, nor are they an expression of democracy. They are unadulterated politics of the worst sort, a fact that is increasingly self-evident.

A generationally wrecked economy drowned by the concrete boots of debt and unemployment, struggling with on-going social, medical and economic consequences too dire to contemplate, or a country that resembles the destination Sweden has achieved through the wise engagement of science and policy?

The choice seems as clear.

Yours sincerely,
Dr Maurice McGrath PhD