COVID-19 Social and Political Analyses

New Politics lists on this page a number of what we consider to be important social and political analyses as well as political statements concerning COVID-19, the coronavirus pandemic. Those who seek guidance for dealing with the health issues should see the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website and get in contact with their local government’s public health department or office of emergency management.

We update this list on a regular basis, but all articles are posted in chronological order. If you're looking for articles on a particular issue we recommend that you search our list by word, such as “agriculture,” “worker,” “women,” “Brazil,” and so on.

- Martha Mendoza and Juliet Linderman, “U.S. Bets On Small, Untested Company to Deliver COVID Vaccine,” Frontline, July 10, 2020. “As part of its strategy to administer the [COVID-19] vaccine as quickly as possible, the Trump administration has agreed to invest more than half a billion in tax dollars in ApiJect Systems America, a young company whose injector is not approved by federal health authorities and that hasn’t yet set up a factory to manufacture the devices.”

- Amy Goodman interviews Brazilian epidemiologist Cesar Victora, who coordinates the International Center for Equity in Health at the Federal University of Pelotas. “Brazilian Epidemiologist Slams Bolsonaro’s COVID Response as Far-Right President Tests Positive,” Democracy Now, July 10, 2020. “Bad political leadership is a major risk factor for the spread of the pandemic, not only in Brazil, but also in your own..."
Julie Hollar, “Corporate Media Team With Trump to Disparage Public Health Experts,” FAIR, July 10, 2020. “Public health experts, unaccustomed to the spotlight, have really taken a beating lately. As they tirelessly work to unravel the mysteries of the Covid pandemic (and are increasingly burning out), the president of our country has constantly attacked and undermined them—and, lately, so have corporate media.”

Alexis Goldstein, “Coronavirus Relief Funds Are About to Run Out for the Child Care Industry,” Truthout, July 9, 2020. “So far, despite how essential child care is to restarting the economy, Congress has been unwilling to meet the crisis with the resources required to stave off a crisis.”

Andrea Germanos, “‘The Last Straw’: As Pandemic Rages, Oxfam Warns 12,000 Could Die Per Day From Hunger,” Common Dreams, July 9, 2020. “Meanwhile, those at the top are continuing to make a profit.”


Gregg Gonsalves, “Protest and Survive!” The Nation, July 9, 2020. “We can’t wait until January 2021 to shift course. Our lives depend on disruption now.”

Alejandra Rosa and Frances Robles, “Pandemic Plunges Puerto Rico Into Yet Another Dire Emergency,” New York Times, Published July 8, 2020, Updated July 9, 2020. “The island has had to weather a hurricane, a political crisis and earthquakes, but those crises did not lead to the widespread unemployment caused by the response to the coronavirus pandemic.”

Health Service (NHS), general-practice clinics, and local authority health officials, has been repeatedly sidelined in favor of outsourced alternatives. As Allyson Pollock, a professor of public health at Newcastle University, put it to The New York Times recently: “They’re basically trying to build a centralized, parallel, privatized system.”

- Kevin Liptak and Nick Valencia, “Trump now in open dispute with health officials as virus rages,” CNN, July 8, 2020. “Five months into a still-raging pandemic that has killed more than 130,000 Americans, the long-simmering tensions between President Donald Trump and the health experts who staff his government have escalated from private griping to shrugging disagreement to now open dispute.”
- Mike Davis, “Anthony Fauci: The Last American Hero?” The Nation, July 7, 2020. “Handed a golden opportunity to speak truth to power, the good doctor remains a team player in an administration bent on disaster.”
- Will Peischel, “Inside the Facebook Group Where Doctors Process Their Immense Coronavirus Grief,” Mother Jones, July 7, 2020. “The premise was simple: Create a community of mourning by running a record of announcements about the deaths of US physicians from the coronavirus. A digital graveyard, group-sourced by members of the medical community and close readers of the obituary section.”
Chris Walker, “Jared Kushner, Trump’s Golf Buddy and McConnell’s In-Laws Cashed In on PPP Loans,” *Truthout*, July 7, 2020. “The White House released figures this week detailing which businesses received funds from the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), revealing a number of controversial payments made to lobbyists, political organizations, and Trump-linked businesses.”

David Bacon, “*Will the New NAFTA Make the Pandemic Worse for Mexicans?*” *Foreign Policy in Focus*, July 6, 2020. “For Mexican workers, farmers, and the poor, the pandemic and the new treaty replacing NAFTA are a devastating one-two punch.”


Chris Walker, “As COVID Ravages the US, Trump’s Campaign Insists It’s ‘Totally Harmless’,,” *Truthout*, July 6, 2020. Trump’s “plan going forward appears to be, whether true or not, telling voters they can safely live with the disease running rampant in the months ahead.”

Nina Martin, “*Agonizing Lag in Coronavirus Research Puts Pregnant Women and Babies at Risk,*” *ProPublica*, July 6, 2020. “After months of asserting pregnant women were not at high risk for the coronavirus, the CDC recently released a study with sobering findings for expectant mothers. Experts say the data gaps are almost as worrisome as the results.”

John Kroger, “*The Coming Fall Crisis: A Tragedy*” *Insider*
Higher Ed, July 5, 2020. Here’s the reality — most college and university presidents are declaring that their institutions will be open for on-campus education this fall because they face financial disaster if they do not."


- Motoko Rich, “Tokyo’s First Female Governor Sails to Re-Election Even as Virus Cases Rise,” New York Times, July 5, 2020. “Yuriko Koike has received high marks for her visible presence during the pandemic, but the coronavirus’s resurgence has raised anxiety in the Japanese capital.”

- Jordan Muller, “Florida reports record number of coronavirus cases amid nationwide surge,” Politico, July 4, 2020. “Health experts fear coronavirus cases will continue to climb after the July 4 weekend.”

- Kate Bennett, “White House hosts a party in the midst of a pandemic,” CNN, July 4, 2020. “Passing out masks and enforcing personal space feels incongruous at the home of a President who, while publicly saying he is “fine” with the idea of face masks, has shunned wearing one of his own in front of press. In fact, Trump’s anti-mask status has helped turn the decision to wear a mask or not into a political issue”.

- Sonam Sheth, “Dr. Fauci: It’s ‘pretty obvious’ the US is not ‘going in the right direction’ to control the spread of coronavirus,” Business Insider, July 4, 2020. The nation’s top infectious disease expert said Thursday that the US is not headed in a positive direction when it comes to controlling the novel coronavirus pandemic.”

health crisis by the authorities: an unbearable reality despite the cosmetic efforts of state propaganda. The anger triggered by the death of Doctor Li Wenliang, who had raised the alarm about a probable epidemic and the high popularity of the daily blog of the journalist Fang Fang, who criticized the health situation in Wuhan, are significant. Beijing is, however, carrying out a vast campaign on its “impeccable” management of the health crisis.”

- Michelle Graff and Trevor Memmott, “Coronavirus is creating a crisis of energy insecurity,” Environmental Health News, July 1, 2020. “Fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic has led to unpaid bills and energy shutoffs in many vulnerable US households. Indiana University researchers warn we need to act now to avoid yet another health emergency.”


- Neil DeMause, “What Media Aren’t Telling You About Reopening Risks,” FAIR, July 2, 2020. Argues that science should determine the type of reopening and that we should learn from best practices, but argues the media has not made that clear.

- Anneken Tappe, “Unemployment rate won’t recover for the next decade, CBO projects,” CNN, July 2, 2020. “America’s recovery from the pandemic recession could last through the better part of the next decade, according to the Congressional Budget Office’s 10-year forecast published Thursday.”


- Susan Ram, “Garment workers in South India rise up against Covid-linked retrenchment,” Counterfire, July 2,
“Hundreds of unionised women workers are combating efforts by the fashion industry to pass the costs of Covid-19 onto the world’s most vulnerable.”

- Joe Buckley, “The role of labour activism in Vietnam’s coronavirus success,” Equal Times, July 2, 2020. In February, garment workers at Praegear Vietnam launched a strike to demand the factory implement measures to protect workers against the coronavirus. In response, local union officials organised training and talks by medical experts, and the company introduced such things as free masks, temperature checks, and spraying disinfectant. Other factories in the same region followed suit.”

- “How the American Worker Got Fleeced,” Bloomberg Businessweek, July 2, 2020. “Over the years, bosses have held down wages, cut benefits, and stomped on employees’ rights. Covid-19 may change that.”

- Alex Lawson, “Blood on His Hands: The Nursing Home Covid-19 Crisis is Donald Trump’s Fault,” Common Dreams, July 1, 2020. “The president is desperate to deflect from the truth: Over 54,000 nursing home residents and workers are dead. Those deaths were preventable. Their deaths are his fault.”

- Jake Johnson, “‘Deplorable Act in Face of Global Crisis’: Trump Condemned as US Buys Up Nearly Entire Supply of Covid-19 Drug,” Common Dreams, July 1, 2020. “It’s a very concerning precedent because if we see the vaccine coming from a U.S. company, we’re likely to see the same type of behavior and hoarding by the U.S. and other developed countries.”


- Tommy Beer, “Research Determines Protests Did Not Cause Spike In Coronavirus Cases,” Forbes, July 1, 2020. Protests against racism did not cause a significant
increase in coronavirus infections, according to a team of economists who have published a 60-page paper released by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

- Sasha Abramsky, “As Infection Rates Soar, Trump Says Virus Could Just ‘Disappear’ The president’s delusions put the entire country in danger,” The Nation, July 1, 2020. “The Signal this week: America has jumped the shark when it comes to the pandemic. After politicizing both mask-wearing and the reopening of state economies, Trump is now presiding over an out-of-control spread of the novel coronavirus, from sea to shining sea.”

- David Agren, “Mexican bishops call for more robust response to COVID-19 crisis,” Catholic News Services, July 1, 2020. “Mexico’s bishops have expressed alarm over the scope of the COVID-19 crisis, which they say is continuing to expand across the country even as health authorities allow the gradual resumption of economic activity.”

- No author, “U.S. Sets New Single-Day Case Record,” New York Times, July 1, 2020. “The United States set a single-day case record for the fifth time in eight days on Wednesday. More than 48,400 new coronavirus cases were announced by Wednesday evening, even before several states had reported final data. North Carolina, Tennessee and Texas also hit daily records, with Texas reaching more than 8,000 new infections.” Some states reverse reopening.

JUNE 2020


- Berkeley Lovelace, Jr., “Dr. Anthony Fauci says new
virus in China has traits of 2009 swine flu and 1918 pandemic flu,” CNBC, June 30, 2020. “The virus, which scientists are calling “G4 EA H1N1,” has not yet been shown to infect humans but it is exhibiting “reassortment capabilities,” Fauci told the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee during a hearing Tuesday.”

- Noah Smith, “Coronavirus Brings American Decline Out in the Open,” Bloomberg, June 29, 2020. “Without fixes for infrastructure, education, health care and government, the U.S. will resemble a developing nation in a few decades.”


- Marie McCullough, “COVID-19 has not surged in cities with big protests, but it has in states that reopened early,” Philadelphia Inquirer, June 27, 2020. Argues that protests produced no spike in cases but that reopening did.
• Sharon Lerner, “Scientists Pin Blame for Some Coronavirus Deaths on Air Pollution, PFAS, and Other Chemicals,” Intercept, June 26, 2020. “It’s already clear that environmental pollution is responsible for some portion of the hundreds of thousands of Covid-19 deaths around the world. Now scientists are trying to pinpoint how exactly industrial chemicals make people more susceptible.”


• Scott McLemee, “Publishing Season, Flu Season,” Inside Higher Ed, June 26, 2020. This article discusses books pertinent to COVID-19 that are forthcoming this fall.


• Jake Johnson, “‘Free Handout to Insurance Industry’: Trump Administration Tells Insurers They Don’t Have to Cover Covid-19 Tests for Workers,” Common Dreams, June 25, 2020. “According to the Trump administration, insurance company profits are more important than the lives of nursing home residents and workers.”


• Kia Lilly Caldwell and Edna Maria de Araújo, “In Brazil, Structural Racism Has Made COVID-19 Far Deadlier for Black People,” Foreign Policy in Focus, June 24, 2020.
“Brazil has joined the U.S. atop the list of worst-impacted countries. Both have far-right leaders — and a legacy of institutional racism.”


- Beth Gardiner, “In Pandemic Recovery Efforts, Polluting Industries Are Winning Big,” Yale Environment 360, June 23, 2020. “Oil and gas giants, mining interests, and coal-fired power plants have all received financial and regulatory relief as governments around the world enact pandemic recovery plans. These moves threaten to create a dirty, high-carbon legacy that long outlasts the current crisis.”

- Chris Brooks, “Fact Check: Have there been 500 wildcat strikes in June?” Organizing Work, June 23, 2020. “If you read the headlines on Payday Report, you might think so. But the evidence offered does not support this claim.”

- Mike Ludwig, “Trump Responds to COVID-19 Spike by Cracking Down on Immigration,” Truthout, June 23, 2020. “The number of new COVID-19 cases are spiking in several states, but President Trump did not announce new public health responses on Monday. Instead, he issued an executive order extending and expanding suspensions of
immigration and guest worker programs until the end of the year. “

- Roar Collective, “ROAR Roundtable: COVID-19 and the Climate Crisis,” ROAR, June 23, 2020. “The path the world takes out of lockdown will shape the climate struggle for decades to come. What can we do to seize the moment?”

- Celine McNicholas and Margaret Poydock “Workers are striking during the coronavirus,” June 22, 2020. “Labor law must be reformed to strengthen this fundamental right.”

- No author, “Covid-19 has led to a pandemic of plastic pollution,” The Economist, June 22, 2020. “As the world produces more protective equipment—and gorges on takeaways—pity the oceans.”


discussion of the COVID pandemic and agricultural workers, particularly in California.

- Josh Manson, “Prisons Are Responding to COVID by Putting More People in Solitary Confinement.” Truthout, June 19, 2020. “Corrections officials are confining people to their cells in prisons, jails, and detention centers at alarming rates in response to COVID-19, but advocates say the practice risks wider transmission of the disease, and are calling instead for large-scale decarceration.”


- Mauricio Savarese, “Brazil tops 1 million cases as coronavirus spreads inland,” AP News, June 19, 2020. “Brazil’s government confirmed on Friday that the country has risen above 1 million confirmed coronavirus cases, second only to the United States.”


- Heidi Shierholtz, “A quarter of a year in, job losses remain at historic levels,” Economic Policy Institute, June 18, 2020. “More than one in five workers are either on unemployment benefits or are waiting to get on.”

US government has the authority under existing law to break patent monopolies.”


- Peter Dorman and Lawrence Mishel, “A majority of workers are fearful of coronavirus infections at work, especially Black, Hispanic, and low- and middle-income workers,” Economic Policy Institute, June 16, 2020. “Those facing risks are not proportionately receiving extra compensation.”

- Jessica Corbett, “‘This Is Mass Murder’: Covid-19 Deaths in US Prisons Have Risen by 73% the Past Month,” Common Dreams, June 16, 2020. “The number of known cases in the facilities has doubled since mid-May to over 68,000.”

will contribute to further disease and death.


- **Salimah Valiani**, “COVID-19 and Patriarchy in the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife,” The Bullet, June 16, 2020. “In an effort to shed light on the vital but undervalued labour of predominantly female health professionals, the World Health Organization named 2020 the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife. It is an irony and a sickening reality that 2020 turned out to be the year when nurses and other health workers would be pushed to utter vulnerability in the effort to manage COVID-19.”

- **Janine Jackson**, “‘Immunity Shouldn’t Be Part of the Conversation’: CounterSpin interview with Remington Gregg on corporate immunity,” FAIR, June 16, 2020. “[T]here’s a push, led in Congress by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, to grant corporations legal immunity from liability for any harms workers may suffer from being forced back into workplaces that are unsafe.”


- **Madeline Holcombe**, Holly Yan and Theresa Waldrop, “Some states see Covid-19 cases surging as restrictions are
relaxed,” CNN, June 16, 2020. As states move forward with relaxing virus-compelled restrictions — and as people grow weary of complying with them — some areas are reporting a record number of new daily cases.

- Kaela Sanborn-Hum, “Striking McDonald’s Workers Block Entrance, Shut Store,” Labor Notes, June 15, 2020. “A strike by 33 workers at a McDonald’s in North Oakland has shut down the store since May 26. Twelve workers there have tested positive for COVID-19, and so have eight of their family members, including a 10-month-old baby. This is one of the longest recorded strikes ever by McDonald’s workers.”

- Dayton Martindale, “9 Statistics That Show What a Miserable Failure the CARES Act Is,” In These Times, June 15, 2020. “Major bailouts went to big corporations, giving them lasting security, while the rest of us got a temporary Band-Aid.”

- Jonathan Bernstein, “Don’t Blame the Public for Coronavirus Confusion,” Bloomberg, June 15, 2020. “With mixed messages and no leadership from the top, it’s little wonder Americans don’t quite know what to do.”

- Hannah Levintova, “The Administration Vowed Transparency on COVID Relief Spending—Until It Didn’t,” Mother Jones, June 15, 2020. “Now officials say they have no plans to release the names of companies getting funds.”

- Holly Yan, “Why a 2nd shutdown over coronavirus might be worse than the 1st – and how to prevent it,” CNN, June 15, 2020. “Weeks after lifting stay-at-home orders, some states are seeing record numbers of hospitalizations from Covid-19 as thousands more Americans get infected every day.”

- Raju Das, “The Pandemic and the Need for a New Society,” The Bullet, June 14, 2020. “The pandemic is, in fact, forcing us to think about what kind of society we wish to live in, what kind of society is worth fighting for. This article discusses the conception of a new society in relation to production, work and needs, ecology and
spatial development, and the political in the public sphere.”
- Brendan Montague, “Capitalism is the virus,” The Ecologist, June 13, 2020. “Capitalism, colonialism, and ecological devastation are all cause and effect of each other, and they coevolved together.”
- Adrienne Gladden-Young, “Give Black Scientists a Place in This Fight,” The Atlantic, June 13, 2020. “During the pandemic, African Americans need the health establishment to engage us not as victims, but as leaders and problem-solvers.”
- Bryant Furlow, “A Hospital’s Secret Coronavirus Policy Separated Native American Mothers From Their Newborns” ProPublica, June 13, 2020. “Pregnant Native American women were singled out for COVID-19 testing based on their race and ZIP code, clinicians say. While awaiting results, some mothers were separated from their newborns, depriving them of the immediate contact doctors recommend.”
- Steve Lopez, “Why are so many people not wearing masks? Here’s how they explain it,” Los Angeles Times, June 12, 2020. Personal opinion piece based on impressionistice interviews. “We implemented safety precautions too late in the U.S., costing lives, and we’ve given up on them too soon, which will cost more.”


· Derrick Z. Jackson, “A Second Wave of COVID-19 Looms Large—and It’s Not Because of Protests.” *The Union of Concerned Scientists*, June 11, 2020. Some scientists estimate that “the protests could ultimately lead to between 15,000 and 50,000 overall coronavirus infections and between 50 to 500 deaths….But [that] barely compares to the rioting of the virus and the looting of lives incited by the incompetence of the Trump administration and state decisions to prioritize reopening for business over public health. Those policies have seriously worsened a pandemic that has already caused 113,000 deaths in the United States…”

· Oliver Milman, “‘An American fiasco’: US hits grim milestone of 2m Covid-19 cases,” *The Guardian*, June 10, 2020. “Pandemic has devastated US, but experts warn lack of testing and early reopening mean ‘we’re only seeing the tip of the iceberg.”


· Imani countess and William Minter, “Racism and COVID-19:
The World’s Twin Pandemics,” Foreign Policy in Focus, June 10, 2020. “The U.S. may be at the center of both pandemics, but — as worldwide demonstrations show — each is global.”

- Evan A. Eskew and Colin J. Carlson, “Overselling Wildlife Trade Bans Will Not Bolster Conservation or Pandemic Preparedness,” Climate & Capitalism, June 10, 2020. “Indeed, expansive wildlife trade regulations driven by the threat of COVID-19 might seem to conservationists a double victory for human and wildlife health. But these calls to action, and their disproportionate focus on Africa and Asia, often ring hollow given that many high-income countries routinely outsource their biodiversity threats to other nations.”

- Peter Daszak, “Ignore the conspiracy theories: scientists know Covid-19 wasn’t created in a lab,” The Guardian, June 9, 2020. “Instead of following false claims, we should focus our efforts on the regions where the next pandemic is likely to emerge.”

- Vinod Mubayi, “Criminalizing dissent and Covid-19 in India,” No Borders, June 9, 2020. “How Modi’s market-driven, scapegoating regime will weather the crisis will depend in part on whether or not India’s left, trade unions, and social movements can find ways to mobilize.”

- Allan Sloan, “The CARES Act Sent You a $1,200 Check but Gave Millionaires and Billionaires Far More,” ProPublica, June 8, 2020. “The stimulus checks were meant to get average Americans through the lockdown, but those $1,200 payouts were small change compared with the billions in tax breaks the CARES Act handed out to the country’s wealthiest.”

- Eleanor J. Bader, “Students and Staff Oppose COVID-Inspired Disaster Capitalism on US Campuses,” Truthout, June 8, 2020. “The current economic crisis is raising important questions about government responsibility and whether or not state and federal lawmakers will use COVID-19 to gut public programs, including access to a
high-quality public education, as they push more wealth to the top.”

- Christine Douglass, Molly Fyfe, and Amali U. Lokugamage, “Structural racism in society and the covid-19 stress test”, BMJ, June 8, 2020. “Racism has and continues to drive health and social inequality in the UK and is, we believe, a likely co-factor contributing to deaths in ethnic minority communities in this crisis.”

- Faculty Members at the University of California, Santa Cruz, “Why Is the University of California Punishing Students During a Pandemic?” Truthout, June 7, 2020. Though we have the COVID-19 crisis, “The chancellor and executive vice chancellor confirmed that UC Santa Cruz would continue punitive measures against students due to their peaceful involvement in the wildcat strike this past winter.”

- David Goodman, “How racism kills,” VTDigger, June 7, 2020. This is apparent when police kill unarmed people of color such as George Floyd and Breonna Taylor. But the lethality of systemic racism is also evident in the Covid-19 pandemic, which is killing African Americans at a staggering three times the rate of white people.”


- Michael Roberts, “Returning to Normal?” Michael Roberts
Blog, June 6, 2020. “Financial markets may be expecting a quick return (and investors riding this forecast are making huge profits right now). But the reality is that the financial market boom is floating on an ocean of free credit provided by the state and central bank monetary financing.”

- Susan Smith Richardson, “George Floyd, Coronavirus and the Inequality Stealing Black Lives,” Public Integrity, June 5, 2020. Agues that the killing of George Floyd and the coronavirus are two sides of the same coin.
- Lisa Song, “Tear Gas Is Way More Dangerous Than Police Let On – Especially During the Coronavirus Pandemic,” ProPublica, June 4, 2020. “In the middle of a respiratory pandemic, law enforcement agencies have used tear gas in especially dangerous ways. The chemical agent also seeps into homes, contaminates food, furniture, skin and surfaces, and can cause long-term lung damage.”
affected African-American workers and families.”


- Julie Hollar, “Proposals to Ease Covid’s Blow on the Hardest Hit All but Ignored by Corporate Media,” FAIR, June 3, 2020. “The poor and people of color are the hardest hit, not just by the novel coronavirus but also by the economic fallout.”

- Shannon Palus, “Public Health Experts Say the Pandemic Is Exactly Why Protests Must Continue,” June 2, 2020. “Facing a slew of media requests asking about how protests might be a risk for COVID-19 transmission, a group of infectious disease experts at the University of Washington, with input from other colleagues, drafted a collective response. In an open letter published Sunday, they write that “protests against systemic racism, which fosters the disproportionate burden of COVID-19 on Black communities and also perpetuates police violence, must be supported.”

rates among whites during the economic downturn brought on by coronavirus.”

- Dean E. Robinson, “Racial Disparities in COVID-19 Point to Need for Medicare for All.” Labor Notes, June 1, 2020. “Medicare for All would go a long way to beginning to address racial disparities in health care in general and for COVID-19 in particular.”

- John Bellamy Foster and Intan Suwandi, “COVID-19 and Catastrophe Capitalism Commodity Chains and Ecological-Epidemiological-Economic Crises,” Monthly Review, June 1, 2020. “COVID-19 has accentuated as never before the interlinked ecological, epidemiological, and economic vulnerabilities imposed by capitalism. As the world enters the third decade of the twenty-first century, we are seeing the emergence of catastrophe capitalism as the structural crisis of the system takes on planetary dimensions.”

- Elise Gould and Valerie Wilson, “Black workers face two of the most lethal preexisting conditions for coronavirus—racism and economic inequality,” Economic Policy Institute, June 1, 2020. “Evidence to date suggests that black and Hispanic workers face much more economic and health insecurity from COVID-19 than white workers.”


MAY 2020

- Derek Hawkins, “All coronavirus testing centers shuttered in Los Angeles over ‘safety worries’ during protests,” Washington Post, May 31, 2020. “Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti said the city’s coronavirus testing centers were closed Saturday because of “safety worries
across the city” as protests sparked by the death of George Floyd in police custody raged for a third day. The closures, which Garcetti said were necessary to clean up damage and restore order, underscored the potential for the demonstrations around the country to disrupt the coronavirus response in hard-hit metropolitan areas.”


- Basav Sen, “Coronavirus Denial and Climate Denial Have One Thing in Common: Greed,” Newsweek, May 29, 2020. “The Trump administration is waging an Inquisition-like “war on science” across the federal government, affecting the EPA, the Interior Department, and many other agencies. Official coronavirus minimization is completely consistent with the pattern of official climate change denial and dismissal of science.

- Saurav Sarkar, “Twin Cities Labor Mobilizes Against
George Floyd Murder,” Labor Notes, May 29, 2020. “The organized labor movement has begun swinging into action to support protests against the racist police murder of Minneapolis resident George Floyd.”

- Communications Workers of America, “Statement from the CWA Executive Board on the Need to Dismantle the Racism that Plagues Our Communities,” CWA Press, Releases, May 29, 2020. “The CWA Executive Board is committed to moving beyond an endless string of reaction statements and demonstrating our continued commitment to justice for Black people through our organizing, representation, political, and movement building work.”


- Jeremy Mohler, “A Philly suburb wants to sell its water, offering a glimpse of post-COVID America,” In The Public Interest, May 28, 2020. A Philadelphia suburb is trying to sell its drinking water system. “The city’s fiscal issues have been greatly exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis,” said Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland.


- Many signers, “Jair Bolsonaro is a threat to Brazil and global health,” an open letter, No Borders, May 29, 2020. “The open letter below was initiated by elected officials from the Party of Socialism and Freedom (PSOL) and is part of the Fora Bolsonaro (Bolsonaro Out) campaign, including filing a formal impeachment petition in the national congress.”

government’s citizen participation in health programs and the positive impact of that approach.

- Nomi Prins, “The Great Depression, Coronavirus Style Crashes, Then and Now,” TomDispatch, May 28, 2020. “Nomi Prins considers what the two haunting bookends of ‘the American century,’ the Great Depression and the Coronavirus Crash, have in common and what the earlier one has to tell us about the otherwise unknown world of catastrophe we’ve now entered. In the process, she imagines what it might truly mean to “reopen” such a ghostly world.”


- Mike Ludwig, “Trump and GOP Want COVID-19 Protections for Bosses – But Not Workers,” Truthout, May 27, 2020. The GOP has consistently sided with employers over issues of workplace safety as pro-business forces push to reopen the country and jump-start the economy, which Trump sees as crucial to his reelection.

- Juan Grigera, “Salt in the Wound: The Crises of Covid-19,” Spectre, May 27, 2020. “The crisis that triggered the global pandemic is a radical crisis for global neoliberalism. Unlike the climate crisis, which has begun to unfold slowly, the ongoing viral crisis emerged suddenly and without warning. In both cases, we can observe an unexpected relationship between humans and nature, as well as a contradiction between use value and value—theoretical concepts we will elaborate in what follows.

causing tens of thousands of preventable deaths.’”


- Colin Wilson, “The pandemic lays bare a government out of its depth,” RS21, May 26, 2020. “As Boris Johnson desperately clings on to Dominic Cummings, Colin Wilson argues that the Tory government is woefully unprepared to resolve a crisis of such historic proportions as the current pandemic.”

- Danny Katch, “The Day My Coworkers and I Chose Our Survival Over Our Supervisor,” Jacobin, May 26, 2020. “Like many during this pandemic, my coworkers and I were told on September 11, 2001, to possibly risk our lives by staying on the job. Instead, we walked out.”

- Sharon Lerner, “Despite the Hype, Gilead’s Remdesivir Will Do Nothing to End the Coronavirus Pandemic,” The Intercept, May 26, 2020. Remdesivir has been heralded as our best hope in fighting the coronavirus pandemic. Unfortunately, the antiviral drug doesn’t seem of much help to patients with Covid-19…. [while] a combination of generic drugs that appears to be more effective in fighting the coronavirus has flown under the radar.”

- Lisa Adkins and Marijn Konings, “COVID Life and the Asset Economy,” The Bullet, May 27, 2020. The authors of a forthcoming book titled The Asset Economy argue that the understanding of an economy dominated by the logic of assets and especially by the logics of asset appreciation and depreciation is essential to analyzing the current pandemic and its political and social implications.

- Shasta Darlington et al, “Latin America is now the ‘epicenter of the outbreak,’ says health official,” CNN, May 26, 2020. “Latin America has surpassed Europe and the United States in the daily number of reported Covid-19 infections, the director of the Pan American
Health Organization (PAHO) said Tuesday, putting the region at the center of the global outbreak.”

- Ian MacDougall, “Bill Barr Promised to Release Prisoners Threatened by Coronavirus — Even as the Feds Secretly Made It Harder for Them to Get Out,” ProPublica, May 26, 2020. “Celebrity prisoners like former Trump campaign chair Paul Manafort have been granted home detention, but a secret Bureau of Prisons policy has kept all but 1.8% of federal inmates behind bars, where the virus rages.”

- Jessica Corbett, “Survey Shows 1 in 5 Teachers—Citing Covid-19 Concerns—Likely Won’t Return to US Schools This Fall,” Common Dreams, May 26, 2020. “Polling also showed that nearly six in 10 parents may refuse to send their children back to classrooms next semester.”


- Lisa Song, “The Financial Catastrophe That Coronavirus Brought to Small Towns,” ProPublica, May 26, 2020. “The federal government has abandoned America’s small towns as the coronavirus depletes their budgets. It’s flood season and local leaders have no idea how to help residents through natural disasters. “We do not see how we will survive,” one told us.”

- Various organization, “Over 40 million Health Professionals Urge G20 Leaders to Put Public Health at the Core of Covid-19 Recovery,” International Council of Nurses, May 26, 2020. “This letter is supported by the Global Climate and Health Alliance, Every Breath Matters, and the World Health Organization. Over 40 million nurses, doctors and other health professionals from 90 countries, including many working on the frontlines of the Covid-19 pandemic, sent a letter today to G20 leaders urging them to put public health at the
centre of their economic recovery packages, to help avoid future crises and make the world more resilient to them.”

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- Max Elbaum, “The People’s Bailout: New Center of Gravity for the Resistance,” Organizing Upgrade, April 3, 2020. Summary of a program of the Working Families Party that included the President of National Nurses United and organizers from Mijente, It Takes Roots, the National Domestic Workers Alliance and several other groups.


- Nicole Aschoff, “Pandemic Bonds Are a Scam Holding the Global South Hostage,” Jacobin, April 2, 2020.” The World Bank’s ‘pandemic bonds’ demonstrate how global capital has an uncanny ability to profit from social ills. So far, investors have earned about $96 million in
interest on the pandemic bonds, but developing countries have yet to receive desperately needed money.”

- Meagan Day, “Decades of Hospital Closures Led to This Disaster,” Jacobin, April 2, 2020. “The United States has been closing vitally needed hospitals for decades. Now, with a pandemic afoot and triage tents popping up in Central Park, we need to stop holding our hospital system hostage to the whims of the market.”

- Elie Mystal, “Republicans Are Using the Covid-19 Crisis to Kill Abortion Rights,” The Nation, April 2, 2020. GOP governors have begun banning abortion during the Covid-19 crisis, creating a precedent that might be too cruel for conservative judges to pass up.”

- Michael T. Klare, “Avenger Planet: Is the Covid-19 Pandemic Mother Nature’s Response to Human Transgression?” Tomgram, April 2, 2020. “The coronavirus may not, in retrospect, prove to be the tipping point that upends human civilization as we know it, but it should serve as a warning that we will experience ever more such events in the future as the world heats up. The only way to avert such a catastrophe and assure ourselves that Earth will not become an avenger planet is to heed Mother Nature’s warning and cease the further desecration of essential ecosystems.”


- Vishwas Satgar, “Covid-19, the Climate Crisis and Lockdown,” The Bullet, April 2, 2020. “Complex and holistic systems thinking, grounded in an ethics of care rather than war has to prevail….if Covid-19 helps jettison the Thatcherite neoliberal subject – competitive, greedy and possessive individual – for a more humane state of being and solidarity-based society, it would have produced our strongest defense against a crisis-ridden world. It would have also affirmed an
ethics of care for our natural relations that nurture us, feed us and enable us to have life.”

- Frida Ghitis, “The New Divide in a Polarized Latin America: How to Respond to Covid-19.” World Politics Review, April 2, 2020. “In Latin America, the responses from national leaders have ranged from buffoonish irresponsibility to stern action. The region is a good place to try to identify what it is about a government that makes it act so recklessly in the face of a looming public health crisis.”

- Candice Bernd, “Amid Pandemic, Workers Walk Out, Building Momentum Toward General Strike.” Truthout, April 2, 2020. Reviews recent worker protests and strikes and claims, “Calls for a new massive general strike are again surfacing as workers recognize the need to force corporations and state and federal governments to implement sweeping changes, including wealth redistribution and a guaranteed right to health care, housing and jobs.”

- Sarah Jones, “The Coronavirus Is Radicalizing Workers,” New York, April 1, 2020. “Protests at Amazon, Instacart, and Whole Foods – where low-paid workers have found themselves on the frontlines of a global disaster – have created a public relations nightmare for the companies, who say they’re providing essential services to Americans stuck at home.”


- Labor Notes staff, “Shut It All Down Now!” Labor Notes, April 01, 2020. “More unions are demanding that all non-essential workplaces be shut down, to slow the spread of the coronavirus.’

- Farooque Chowdhury interviews John Bellamy Foster,

- Melissa Rakestraw, “Postal Workers and Covid-19: A Dispatch from the Front Lines,” Rampant, April 1, 2020. “A Chicago-area letter carrier discusses the situation on the ground in the midst of the pandemic. In spite of widespread failures on the part of management, postal workers are organizing to win safer conditions for themselves and the public they serve.”

- Alexandra Berzon, Jacob Bunge, Alejandro Lazo, “U.S. Plant Workplaces Emerge as Coronavirus Battlegrounds,” Wall Street Journal, April 1, 2020. “Tensions are breaking out between employers and workers across the U.S. as some companies push to keep producing during the coronavirus pandemic and some employees push back over health concerns and other issues.”

- Blake Farmer interviews James Hildreth, “The Coronavirus Doesn’t Discriminate. U.S. Health Care May Be A Different Story,” NPR, April 1, 2020. A 3-minute audio with text, including archived interview with Georges Benjamin, of CDC and then head of APHA, about importance of getting data on who is being affected by the disease.

- Pat Armstrong, “Viruses and Care,” The Bullet, April 1, 2020. Looks at long-term care and labor issues in the context of neoliberalism and the privatization of health care that has taken place.

- Valerio Arcary, “A revolutionary strategy to beat Bolsonaro,” No Borders, April 1, 2020. “Valerio Arcary argues for a revolutionary strategy that will not only push Bolsonaro out of power, but will also strengthen the left and the working class in the process.”

behind the U.S.’s failed response to the pandemic.”

- *Labor Notes staff, “A Worker Agenda Against Coronavirus,” Labor Notes, April 1, 2020. “This week and last, Labor Notes invited labor leaders and organizers to talk via Zoom about what we can do to organize during this pandemic. These are the beginning steps we came up with.”

- Katie Ferrari, “Organizing without a Union During the Coronavirus / Organizándose sin sindicato durante el coronavirus,” Labor Notes, April 01, 2020. “Almost 200 people joined last night’s video call to hear from nonunion workers in agriculture, grocery, transit, and hair styling.” This article gives the summary of the conversation.

March 2020

- Sonia Shah, “The microbes, the animals and us,” Le Monde diplomatique, March 2020. “The novel coronavirus came out of a ‘wet market’ in Wuhan. We don’t know its animal origin, but we do know that if we protect wildlife habitats, animal microbes are less likely to cross over into humans.


- Adam Hanieh, “This is a Global Pandemic – Let’s Treat it as Such,” The Bullet, March 31, 2020. “One clear example of how this disaster is human-made is the poor state of public health systems across most countries in the South, which tend to be underfunded and lacking in adequate medicines, equipment, and staff. This is particularly significant for understanding the threat presented by COVID-19...”

- Sasha Abramsky, “As the Covid-19 Crisis Deepens, Grassroots Organizers Take Action,” The Nation, March
“Progressive ideas on housing, health care access, wage subsidies, and more are entering the mainstream at a startling pace.”

- Margaret Flowers, “The US’s Wave of Hospital Closures Left Us Ill-Equipped for Covid-19,” Truthout, March 31, 2020. Discusses the impact of putting profits before patients on health care and hospitals, asking where did all the hospitals go?
- Eamonn McCann, “The Connivance of Capitalists,” The Rebel, March 31, 2020. “Socialist ideas have been jeered and sneered at by the same establishment now faced with the consequences of their profit driven contempt. We should be done with those bellowing cheerleaders of capitalism, argues Eamonn McCann.”
- Rebecca Gordon, “The Future May Be FemaleBut the Pandemic Is Patriarchal,” Tomgram, March 31, 2020. Looks back at earlier plans for May Day without women, turns to impact of corona virus on women suggesting they face many risks, and asks what will come after.
- Sonia Shah, “How Trump Is Going to Get Away With a Pandemic,” The Nation, March 31, 2020. “There are lots of ways for the Trump administration to cook the data to hide the extent of the coronavirus outbreak—in fact, it already is doing so.”
- Dan La Botz, “The Coronavirus Strikes and their Significance, So Far,” New Politics, March 31, 2020. “If wildcat strikes continue and grow they could propel new rank-and-file movements that rise to seize the leadership of the union and to turn them into fighting organizations of the working class.”
- Peter C. Baker, “‘We can’t go back to normal’: how will coronavirus change the world?” The Guardian, March 31, 2020. “Times of upheaval are always times of radical
change. Some believe the pandemic is a once-in-a-generation chance to remake society and build a better future. Others fear it may only make existing injustices worse.” A useful review of recent discussions.

- Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, “Reality Has Endorsed Bernie Sanders,” The New Yorker, March 30, 2020. “The argument for resuming a viable social-welfare state is about not only attending to the immediate needs of tens of millions of people but also reëstablishing social connectivity, collective responsibility, and a sense of common purpose, if not common wealth.”


- Brazilian left parties, “Bolsonaro’s coronavirus denialism will cost lives” (text and video), No Borders, March 30, 2020. The left parties criticize the Brazilian president and threaten legal action.


- Democratic Socialists of America, New York Chapter, “The
People’s Bailout for New York: A Socialist Response to the COVID-19 Crisis,” NYC DSA website, no date but late March. Proposes urgent steps and long-term measures.

- Vijay Prashad, Paola Estrada, Ana Maldonado and Zoe PC, “IMF Refuses Aid to Venezuela in the Midst of the Coronavirus Crisis,” The Bullet, March 30, 2020. The IMF “policy to provide special assistance to countries should have been sufficient for the IMF to provide the assistance that the Venezuelan government had requested. But, very quickly, the Fund declined the request from Venezuela.”

- Edgar Franks, “Fighting for justice while feeding the nation during a pandemic,” No Borders, March 29, 2020. “Puntorojo interviews Edgar Franks, Political Director of Familias Unidas por la Justicia...in Washington State. The majority of the members are Mixteco and Triqui people from Guerrero and Oaxaca, Mexico.”

- Partido Revolucionario de los Trabajadores, “Declaración del PRT frente a la emergencia que representa la pandemia de Covid-19,” PRT website, March 28, 2020. Political statement that describes the coronavirus crisis, criticizes the Mexican government an its president, argues that workers and women should receive pay and support, and calls or a struggle against capitalism.

- Laura Spinney, “Is factory farming to blame for coronavirus?” The Guardian, March 28, 2020. “Scientists are tracing the path of Sars-CoV-2 from a wild animal host – but we need to look at the part played in the outbreak by industrial food production.”

- Robert Galbraith, “Cuomo Puts Private Equity Vulture in Charge of Coronavirus Economic Recovery,” Truthout, March 28, 2020. Cuomo’s former aides and appointees have deep ties to Wall Street: William Mulrow is a senior advisory director at the private equity giant Blackstone Group and Steven M. Cohen is chief administrative officer of MacAndrews & Forbes, the conglomerate owned
by billionaire Cuomo donor Ronald Perelman.

- Joan Benach, “The Official Story of the Coronavirus Hides a Systemic Crisis,” The Bullet, March 28, 2020. “…Covid-19 is not only a global health problem, but is also a problem with interconnected facets of an economic, ecological and social nature, making it a systemic and political problem on which it is necessary to reflect.”

- Katie Halper, “Media Silent as Poll Workers Contract Covid-19 at Primaries That DNC, Biden Campaign Claimed Were Safe,” FAIR, March 28, 2020. “…one of our most urgent tasks is accurately informing the public about Covid-19 to counter his lies. Instead, the chair of the DNC and the Biden campaign decided to amplify Trump’s message that Covid-19 was no real impediment to public gatherings, and endangered millions of their own voters. And instead of reporting on this urgent story, the media have enabled this dangerous behavior.”


- Gregg Gonsalves and Amy Kapczynski, “Claims that the cure is worse than the disease rely on a false tradeoff between human needs and the economy,” Boston Review, March 27, 2020. “Claims that the cure is worse than the disease rely on a false tradeoff between human needs and the economy.”

- Mike Elk, “Memphis Teamsters Wildcat Strike at Kroger’s Crucial Southern Warehouse,” Payday Report, March 27,


- Marc Steiner interviews, Dr. Sonia Shah, “Covid-19, Ebola, And SARS Outbreaks Were All Unleashed By Humans,” The Real News,” March 27, 2020. “Some of the most devastating outbreaks of the modern era can be traced to rapacious development and habitat destruction that brings wild creatures into our domestic spaces.”

- No author, Health care workers across Mexico protest shortages of supplies,” Mexico News Daily, March 27, 2020. “Staff from Mexico City to Yucatán, doctors and nurses are demanding face masks, gowns and gloves.

- Eamonn McCann, “Ireland nationalizes hospitals–‘It Can be Done’,” No Borders, March 27, 2020. “Written just before this announcement, here Eamonn McCann looks at how production can be reorganized to solve the coronavirus crisis and more.”

- Rachel M. Cohen, “To Develop a Covid-19 vaccine, pharma and the Federal Government Will Have to Break Old Patterns,” The Intercept, March 27, 2020. Asks, if and when a vaccine for Covid-19 is approved, then what? “Will distributing a vaccine resemble the embarrassing efforts to distribute coronavirus tests? Does the government even have the capacity to manufacture a vaccine as quickly and widely as needed?”

- Justin Akers Chacón, “Bailouts are class warfare” Puntorojo, March 26, 2020. A new phase in the crisis of neoliberalism is now unfolding in the form of a battle between capital labor and labor.
- Ontario Health Coalition, “Austerity and the Crisis in Healthcare,” The Bullet, March 26, 2020. Calls for increased funding and shifts in funding to deal with all health care issues as well as coronavirus.
- Kathleen McLaughlin, “When Butte wouldn’t shut down: The devastation of the 1918 flu and our collective trauma,” Mountain Time, March 26, 2020. “So many people buried in these grounds died 102 years ago in a flu pandemic, in part because powerful people in the city refused to shut everything down to stop the spread of the virus.”
- South African Federation of Trade Unions, “The state isn’t pulling its weight!” March 26, 2020. The federation argues that the anti-viral lockdown is a social-distancing start – but fiscal stinginess and tight monetary policy risk a rebellion born of extreme
Roberto Luzzi, “Facing the coronavirus-capitalist epidemic in Italy,” No Borders, March 26, 2020. Union leader Roberto Luzzi “explains how the compulsion for profit has transformed Italy into the most intense Covid-19 killing zone in the world.”


Martin Thomas, “Lessons from past pandemics,” Solidarity, March 25 2020. Earlier experiences in “…1891-2 and 1918 suggest that if socialists organise well in the crisis, then after it our message of democratic social solidarity can gain ground to change things for good.”

Daniel Boguslaw, “Dock Workers Threaten to Shut Down Ports After Risking Coronavirus Exposure,” Vice, March 25, 2020. “Members of a historically-militant union are demanding sanitary conditions while working ports that serve as major shipping arteries.”

Mike Davis, “Lessons from Wuhan,” The Nation, March 25, 2020. Discusses the question of why China was successful in containing the virus.

Science for the People, Statement on the COVID-19 Pandemic, March 25, 2020. Makes demands on government and private institutions. This is a short version of the statement with link to complete statement.


Javier Pineda, “Popular revolt, feminist mass strikes,
and Covid-19 in Chile,” No Borders, March 25, 2020. Provides an account of the growth of the pandemic in Chile, the government response, the reaction of the left, social movements, and the trade unions.


- Christine Berry, “The Covid-19 pandemic will change everything — for better or worse,” Verso, March 24, 2020. Author “…argues, crises aren’t only opportunities for the left, and the conditions that are emerging could well play into the hands of a renewed far-right.”


- Tyler Zimmer, “Capitalism Has Failed—We Need a Planned Economy,” Rampant, March 24, 2020. March 24, 2020. The “free market” offers no solutions to the problems we face. “To overcome the present crisis, we have to take the reins into our own hands and democratically plan a future for all.”

- Alan MacLeod, “In Pursuit of Chinese Scapegoats, Media Reject Life-Saving Lessons,” FAIR, March 24, 2020. “For weeks, conservative media echoed the explicit Trump line that the reaction to COVID-19 was a liberal “hoax” weaponized against the White House.” Also discusses Trump’s racism and the question of China.


- International Crisis Group, COVID-19 and Conflict: Seven Trends to Watch, Crisis Group, March 24, 2020. ‘The
COVID-19 pandemic unquestionably presents an era-defining challenge to public health and the global economy. Its political consequences, both short- and long-term, are less well understood.

- Jeet Heer, “Trump Toys With a Let-Them-Die Response to the Pandemic,” The Nation, March 23, 2020. Explains that goaded by the right-wing media, the president is arguing for a dangerous nihilistic strategy of letting the virus run wild in order to save the economy.
- William Rivers Pitt, “The Virus of Capitalism Has


- Walden Bello, “Coronavirus and the Death of ‘Connectivity’,“ *Foreign Policy in Focus*, March 22, 2020. Bello argues that China rescued globalization after the financial crash in 2008, but the coronavirus crisis has put deglobalization back on the agenda. Whether this will move in reactionary or progressive direction remains to be seen.


- Doug Henwood, “Now Is the Time to Fundamentally Transform America,” *Jacobin*, March 21, 2020. State that with this crisis, “The market will never do it on its own. It may not be socialism, but if we do it well, it will legitimate a public sector badly in need of legitimation.” And proposes a social democratic program.


- Adam Gaffney, “America’s extreme neoliberal healthcare system is putting the country at risk,” *The Guardian*,
- Daniel Denvir interviews Mike Davis on Coronavirus Politics, The Dig, (Audio), March 20, 2020. Davis discusses coronavirus in terms of history, politics, and the left.
- “Chinese Virus,” World Market, N+1, March 20, 2020. Despite the title, argues that “Chinese virus” is a racist and xenophobic term, discusses Chinese origins, the role of the market in spreading the disease, and the search for a vaccine.
- Amy Goodman Interviews Mariame Kaba, “Solidarity Not Charity: Mutual Aid & How to Organize in the Age of Coronavirus.” Democracy Now, March 20, 2020. “We look at the incredible community networks across the country that are coming together to protect their neighbors during the coronavirus pandemic – and how you can get involved.”

Emmanuel Saez and Gabriel Zucman, “Social Insurance in a Time of Pandemic: A Proposal for the Government to Act as Buyer of Last Resort,” Dollars and Sense, March/April 2020. Argues that “a buyer-of-last-resort program would alleviate the hardship of workers and businesses and maintain the cash flow for families and businesses, so that the coronavirus shock has no secondary impacts on demand—such as laid-off workers cutting down on consumption—and a quick rebound can take place once demand comes back.”

Ellen Engelstad, “Norway’s Workers Insisted They Shouldn’t Pay for Coronavirus — And They Won,” Jacobin, March 19, 2020. Explains that a split in the government allowed the trade unions to pressure the government “to pass a new and much more social set of measures” giving workers full pay for 20 days and then 80 percent of pay and 62 percent of all else.


Valerio Arcary, “Nothing will be the same. Notes on the Covid-19 emergency in Brazil,” No Borders, March 19, 2020. Arcary writes, “We cannot predict to what extent today’s determining political factors will remain in place. Nothing will be the same.”

Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), “We demand a COVID-19 response that puts people over profit,”

- Huron Valley Labor, “Community Response to COVID-19,” undated but March 2020. We post this as an example of many local initiatives being taken.
- Charles Davis, “Sanders proposes $2,000 monthly cash payments until the end of the coronavirus crisis,” Business Insider, March 18, 2020. Sanders calls on the U.S. government to give each household $2,000 per month until the crisis ends.
- Danny Katch, “NYC Public Hospital Worker Warns ‘We Should Expect the Worst’ From Coronavirus,” Indypendent, March 18, 2020. An interview with Sean Petty, a
pediatric emergency room nurse, who argues that, because of government policies, the hospital are ill prepared for pandemic.


- Fourth International Bureau, “Covid-19 pandemic: let’s protect our lives not their profits!” March 18, 2020. Describes the current situation as a crisis of the capitalist system and puts the emphasis on self-organization.


Explains how a British model of the disease led Trump administration to take more drastic action. (See article below.)

- Dr Sabine L. van Elsland and Ryan O’Hare COVID-19, “Imperial researchers model likely impact of public health measures,” March 17, 2020. British scientists argue that various mitigation methods could reduce deaths by half.
- Rampant editorial collective, “A Light at the End of the World,” Rampant, March 17, 2020. States that COVID-19 inaugurates a new era and that the future will be shuttered by repression or it will be built upon solidarity.
- John Westmoreland, “Lessons from the Spanish flu of 1919: internationalism and people before profit,” Counterfire, March 17, 2020. Looks at the origins and impact of the 1919 flu and argues it had no particular national origin but was cause by capitalism and war.
- National Nurses United, “Nurses: Time to sharply ramp up health care capacity for COVID-19,” March 16, 2020. Argues that there is inadequate equipment for nurses and criticizes the CDC and the American Hospital Association; makes demands for personal protective equipment for nurses.
- Naomi Klein, “Coronavirus Capitalism and How to Beat It,” The Intercept, March 16, 2020. A video and short text claims that the coronavirus provides opportunities both to capital and to people; argues for a green future.
- Zapatista Army of National Liberation (EZLN): “We call for not a loss of human contact but only a temporary change in its forms,” March 16, 2020. Call for closing off the Zapatista communities, for extraordinary hygiene measures, and for continuing with other struggles.
- Working Class Studies, “Class and the Challenge of COVID-19,” March 16, 2020. Notes that workers will be most impacted, that class will affect the response, calls for solidarity and internationalism.
• Daniel Tanuro, “Eight Theses,” International Viewpoint, March 15, 2020. Calls upon the left to analyze the dynamic interaction of capitalism, the environment, and health to understand the crisis.


• Michael Roberts, “It was the virus that did it,” March 15, 2020. The effect of the pandemic on an already fragile world economy.

• Ryan Grim, “Dispatch from a Nurse on the Frontlines of the effort to Contain Coronavirus,” The Intercept, March 14, 2020. A nurse from a rural state in the United States states that there has been inadequate preparation, leadership, and resources.

• Anticapitalistas, “A social and political emergency plan to fight Covid-19,” No Borders, March 14, 2020 (Originally published March 10). The political organization Anticapitalistas makes political, social, and health demands on the Spanish state.


• Eric Schewe, “With the Coronavirus, Science Confronts Geopolitics,” Daily Jstor, March 13, 2020. Argues that the coronavirus scare proves that scientific research has a political component.


Mike Davis, “COVID-19: The monster is finally at the door,” Links, March 12, 2020. On the roots of the pandemic and why we need peoples’ movements to break the power of Big Pharma and for-profit healthcare.

Wallace, author of *Big Farms Make Big Flu*, discusses coronavirus with an emphasis on its origins in industrial agriculture.

- Chris Hill, ‘’The Cripples Will Save You’: A Critical Coronavirus Message from a Disability Activist,” March 6, 2020. Makes the case for the inclusion and importance of the disabled and argues that their perspective can contribute to dealing with coronavirus.
- Eric Toussaint, “No, the coronavirus is not responsible for the fall of stock prices,” Committee for the Abolition of Illegitimate Debt, March 5, 2020. Argues that coronavirus only detonated an economic crisis that was to be expected.
- [No author], “Social Contagion: Microbiological Class