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Democrat Hypocrisy: Coronavirus Stay-at-Home Protests Bad; Antifa, Anti-cop, Anti-white Riots Okay

While Democratic mayors and governors have been unbending on lockdown orders and social-distancing guidelines during the coronavirus outbreak, they've proven their hypocrisy in response to the mass demonstrations and riots over the in-custody death of George Floyd.

In Minneapolis, where George Floyd died in police custody, Mayor Jacob Frey responded to claims that his coronavirus lockdown orders violated the First Amendment by [claiming](#) in-person worship services could spell a "public-health disaster." But while Minneapolis has been burning for days as a result of riots and demonstrations over the death of Floyd, Frey's response is to hand out masks to rioters and allow public gatherings of more than 10 so that "protesters" can burn buildings.



"The city encourages everyone to exercise caution to stay safe while participating in demonstrations, including wearing masks and physical distancing as much as possible to prevent the spread of COVID-19," a news [release](#) read. "The city has made hundreds of masks available to protesters this week."

In other words, it is justifiable to burn a police station, but you better not cough without a mask when you do.

Fox News recalls New York Governor Andrew Cuomo's intolerance of protesters who demanded an end to the coronavirus lockdowns last month. Cuomo [declared](#), "You have no right to jeopardize my health ... and my children's health and your children's health" at a news conference and has fined business owners who have attempted to reopen.

But for Cuomo, the protests against George Floyd are another story. Cuomo [said](#) on Friday he "stands" with those who defy stay-at-home orders to demonstrate against the death of Floyd.

"Nobody is sanctioning the arson, and the thuggery and the burglaries, but the protesters and the anger and the fear and the frustration? Yes. Yes, and the demand is for justice."

What about the anger and fear and frustration of individuals who are fed up with the state's response to the coronavirus and the lockdown orders, scared that their businesses will never be able to recover, and angry that they have lost their rights? And what right does the governor have to determine which laws are okay to break and by whom?

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said on Sunday that he supports the "non-violent protests" over



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Floyd's death, a very different tune from April, when he told the Jewish community that "the time for warnings has passed" after a funeral gathering violated the social-distancing guidelines.

"I want to just say anyone who wants to protest, we're going to protect your right to protest, but please also respect [that] the cop in front of you did not create the problem," de Blasio [told](#) listeners on *The Brian Lehrer Show* on WNYC radio.

The *New York Post* reports the protesters in New York City have "largely flouted social distancing rules," but prompted no criticism from de Blasio, who said last month that large gatherings "spread the disease and help kill people."

Just last month, de Blasio declared public protests over advocating for reopening the city were prohibited.

"We're not allowing any kind of gathering, period," the mayor [said](#) at a press briefing.

"I don't care if it's 20 people or a hundred people or a thousand people, it's not going to be allowed. So the point is, if you gather, NYPD is coming there to give you a summons and if you resist, to arrest you, period, across all communities.

Astoundingly, de Blasio at the time said protesters could hold online rallies to express their views.

"So no, of course this organization is not allowed to hold a rally that goes against every rule we've got. They can express themselves online. There's all sorts of other ways, but if they attempt to hold a rally, they will be summonsed immediately, and that's true for people of any viewpoint. We're not doing rallies at this point. They spread the disease and help to kill people. It's unacceptable," he said.

The rules have changed dramatically, however, when it comes to the Floyd rallies, even as they, unlike the coronavirus protests, have devolved into full-fledged riots with violence and looting.

What's more, de Blasio has asked police to respond to the violent and destructive protests with "a light touch" because the protesters are "undeniably angry for a reason."

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti [threatened](#) to cut power and water to businesses that reopened during the stay-at-home orders and vowed to stop "irresponsible and selfish" behavior during the so-called public health crisis. But mass gatherings are suddenly acceptable as protesters violently demonstrate against "racism."

"I will always protect Angelenos' right to make their voices heard," Garcetti [said](#).

In Washington, D.C., Mayor Muriel Bowser (shown) [threatened](#) violators of coronavirus stay-at-home orders with jail time and fines of up to \$5,000, but Bowser's stance on social-distancing and lockdowns has changed in response to the mass demonstrations over Floyd's death.

"We are grieving hundreds of years of institutional racism.... People are tired, sad, angry and desperate for change," the Democrat [said](#).

Never mind the fact that the rioters attacked a news crew or injured dozens of Secret Service agents. They are just "tired, sad, angry, and desperate for change." A bit like business owners who are "tired, sad, angry" over having to shutter their businesses for months on end over a virus that has a death rate of less than one percent. They belong in jail while the rioters and looters have *carte blanche* to destroy the city, at least according to Democratic leadership.

Americans are waking up to the double standard, however. The riots and public demonstrations that



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have been allowed to take place over the last few days are prompting individuals to ask what we have been doing locked up in our homes for months in fear of a virus that suddenly has taken a backseat to “justifiably angry” protestors.

“Democratic elected officials have now all-but destroyed any remaining political deference in terms of policies needed to enforce social distancing, limit crowd size and the like,” journalist Michael Tracey said.

“WE LITERALLY STAYED IN OUR HOUSES FOR A MONTH BECAUSE OF FEAR OF A VIRUS WITH A 99.74% SURVIVAL RATE AND NOW ARE SUPPOSED TO IGNORE NATIONAL COP-KILLING RIOTS?!!” Kentucky State political science professor Wilfred Reilly tweeted, the Daily Wire reports. “SERIOUS question, as re these riots — where are all these Governors that gave daily three hour press conferences about whether you could walk down the beach or visit your dying relatives? Is the COVID-19 crisis over?”

Perhaps the question should be, was it ever really a crisis? And if it weren’t, what were they hoping to achieve through it? And do they think they can better achieve it by allowing violent protests and riots to take place?

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Raven Clabough acquired her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English at the University of Albany in upstate New York. She currently lives in Pennsylvania and has been a writer for The New American since 2010.



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