



Written by [Warren Mass](#) on June 8, 2020

The Questionable Record of WHO “Goodwill Ambassador” and Communist Chinese TV Propagandist James Chau

Anyone taking a hard look at the UN’s World Health Organization (WHO), whose failure to hold the Communist Chinese government accountable for holding back information about the COVID-19 virus was a major factor in President Trump’s decision to defund the agency, will find the background of the WHO “Goodwill Ambassador” James Chau (shown on right) to be very questionable.



As was noted in [The New American back on May 20](#), after a White House investigation of the WHO, Trump explained that he had ordered U.S. contributions to WHO suspended pending an investigation by the administration of the UN agency’s “failed response to the COVID-19 outbreak.”

Trump charged that WHO had ignored credible reports of the COVID-19 virus spreading in Wuhan, failed to investigate information that conflicted with Beijing’s lies, and then propagated Communist Chinese misinformation, effectively risking countless lives.

Ten days later, Trump announced that he was terminating the U.S. relationship with the WHO, charging: “China has total control over the World Health Organization.”

A May 23 report from Inner City Press noted that one of WHO’s “Goodwill Ambassadors,” Peng Liyuan, is the wife of China’s President Xi Jinping. Another WHO Goodwill Ambassador, noted the report, is the above-noted James Chau — who previously anchored the main evening news on state-owned China Central Television (CCTV).

Born and educated in England, maybe it was the socialist bent of England’s schools that prepared Chau to fit in so well in the inner circles of China’s “ministry of truth.” In addition to anchoring at CCTV, Chau wrote a newspaper column for the state-run *Global Times*, a daily tabloid under the auspices of the Chinese Communist Party’s *People’s Daily* newspaper.

The National Pulse reported about one of Chau’s most deplorable actions while he was working at CCTV in 2013. He aired a coerced “confession” from British businessman Peter Humphrey. Humphrey was sent by pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) to investigate the source of a secretly filmed sex video involving GSK’s former China head, Mark Reilly.

GSK also asked Humphrey and his wife to investigate Vivian Shi, then the company’s government relations head in China. Shi, Humphrey alleges, had strong ties with the Communist Party and their investigation into her actions triggered retaliation from the Chinese government.

Humphrey and his wife, Yu Yingzeng, spent two years in filthy and crowded jail cells. Denied food and critical medical care for Humphrey’s prostate cancer, and forced to endure hours of brutal



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interrogation, CCP prison officials told Humphrey that a confession might end his imprisonment.

He eventually signed a statement “expressing qualified, conditional remorse if I had done anything wrong but not admitting that I had done anything wrong at all.”

Humphrey said that “journalists from CCTV filmed him reading a fake confession prepared by Chinese police as he sat locked to a chair inside a metal cage.” This “confession tape,” filmed while still in detention, was widely disseminated on CCTV programs and Chau was “the anchor who presented the footage.”

Safeguard Defenders, a human rights advocacy group, objected to WHO’s selection of Chau’s ambassadorship due to his “packaging and airing forced confessions on television.

Image of James Chau: [Screenshot from WHO YouTube video](#)

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Warren Mass has served The New American since its launch in 1985 in several capacities, including marketing, editing, and writing. Since retiring from the staff several years ago, he has been a regular contributor to the magazine. Warren writes from Texas and can be reached at wmass@thenewamerican.com.



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