



Predicting the Future in the Time of Corona

We have all become fortune tellers. And prognosticators. Daily we ask each other, “*When do you think Covid will end?*” “*When do you think employment will get better?*” “*When will these elections be over?*” **When. When. When. When?**

Enquiring minds want to know.

It is, in part, our way of making small talk. Of sharing common concerns. Hoping when we ask someone a question, we get a reassuring response back. Which in itself is our way of coping while living in uncertain times.

It takes patience to be patient. It takes optimism to be hopeful. It takes faith to take a leap of faith.

But there are times when each of these ingredients is in short supply.

Listen to the news and it is easy to get pessimistic. Shut the news out, and you miss being in the know. Or worse, risk putting your head in the sand.

Lots of things we can’t change. And yet, when we all work together, we can make change happen. We need each other. Not just for support. Or an empathetic ear. Though these are important. No, we need each other because that is the only way forward.

We can not go forward alone. It is as simple as that. And as much as I fervently believe one person can make a difference. I know too that the difference is made by convincing others that change is possible.

We are at such a moment. Vote your conscience. Don’t stay home.

Care about the environment, and don’t say the task is too great for one person to accomplish anything. Across the globe young people of every nation are making their voices heard.

Believe that little things-helping your neighbors, supporting your house of worship, raising kids with solid time-honored values all add up to big things.

If something as small as a virus can upend our lives. Imagine something as large as our imaginations leading the way forward. Perhaps impatience is a good thing when it is a reminder that some changes in our society cannot wait. Perhaps, not having faith that “things will just work out” is a good thing when it leads us to understand that we must take action, and not just hope.

If we all use our imaginations, our resolve, our passion, we can see tomorrow quite clearly. And in the best of visions, we will see ourselves, and our neighbors, and people of all creeds and colors working together. Yes, I believe we are at such a moment. Let’s step forward with our eyes wide open. *If not now, when?*