

Giving the State 'Permission' to Imprison Us

William Bowles, Global Research, 13.07.2020

The last part of the article: Enter the Virus... The Great 'Reset' of Capitalism, Colliding Stories Coexisting in the history of the Great Global Lockdown

<https://www.globalresearch.ca/great-reset-capitalism/5718376>

A lot of the mystery of the British state's use of the Virus as a means of social control, became much clearer after I'd read the UK Cabinet Office's document called 'Mindspace – Influencing behaviour through public policy'. Engineering opinion so that the public 'gives its permission' to be herded like cattle, locked up, pauperised and deprived of a future. The tools used are called Behavioural Psychology and involve evoking Pavlovian responses in the populace, which is how they get us to 'give the state' our permission, to do stuff:

This report is not just an overview of theory; it addresses the needs of policy-makers by:

- ✧ Condensing the relevant evidence into a manageable "checklist", to ensure policy-makers take account of the most robust effects on our behaviour
- ✧ Demonstrating how behavioural theory can help meet current policy challenges, including full case studies of its application in the UK
- ✧ Showing how government can build behavioural theory into its current policy-making practices
- ✧ Exploring important issues around the need for public permission and the role of personal responsibility

The Report continues:

But when applying MINDSPACE in practice, it should not simply be seen as an alternative to existing methods. "Behaviour Change" is part of policy-making, rather than a novel alternative that can be bolted onto policies. Therefore, civil servants need to better understand the behavioural dimension of their policies and actions. MINDSPACE can help them do so in three different ways:

- ✧ Enhance. MINDSPACE can help policy-makers understand how current attempts to change behaviour could be improved, for example through a better understanding of how people respond to incentives and which types of information are salient. The logic here is that if government is already attempting to shape behaviour, it should do so as effectively as possible.
- ✧ Introduce. Some of the elements in MINDSPACE are not used extensively by policy-makers, yet may have a considerable impact. For example, there is room for more innovative use of social norms and commitment devices in policies. Of course, introducing new measures in this way may require significant efforts to ensure there is public permission for the approach.
- ✧ Reassess. Government needs to understand the ways it may be changing the behaviour of citizens unintentionally. It is quite possible that government produces unintended – and possibly unwanted – changes in behaviour. The insights from MINDSPACE offer a rigorous way of analysing whether and how government is shaping the behaviour of its citizens.

MINDSPACE builds on existing methods of policy-making government produces unintended – and possibly unwanted – changes in behaviour. The insights from MINDSPACE offer a rigorous way of analysing whether and how government is shaping the behaviour of its citizens...

The use of MINDSPACE (or other "nudge" type policy tools) may require careful handling – in essence, the public need to give permission and help shape how such tools are used. – 'Mindspace' – Influencing behaviour through public policy'.

At the same time, this kind of approach to ruling people has a downside. The state can't keep people in a state of fear indefinitely, any more than it can curtail economic activity indefinitely. The irony of the situation is that trade unions are demanding no return to work for fear of the Virus, even if for the vast majority the virus poses no threat.

The great majority of people will not die from this and I'll just repeat something I said right at the beginning because I think it's worth reinforcing:

Most people, a significant proportion of people, will not get this virus at all, at any point of the epidemic which is going to go on for a long period of time.

Of those who do, some of them will get the virus without even knowing it, they will have the virus with no symptoms at all, asymptomatic carriage, and we know that happens. – Chris Whitty, Chief Medical Officer for England, 11 May, 2020

Whitty spilled the beans, almost at the beginning of this nightmare, which may explain why we see so little of him these days.

The mindbenders are hard at work invoking the 'Spirit of WWII', Churchillian rhetoric, kindof, Spitfires, the Blitz and Sacrifice, which translates as more and even worse Austerity for us all. After all, somebody has to pay for this mess and it won't be the political class or its masters, the ruling class. As usual, it will be the poor what gets the blame and pays the price.

So it would seem that we are all in for a wild ride into an uncertain future, with the state pressing our buttons – fear then less fear, then more fear then back to less fear again.

The effects are already apparent with a rise in mind injury, especially amongst the young.

Fear keeps us from resisting this outrageous assault on what's left of our liberties and all to preserve the rule of Big Capital.