



# Wisconsin Supreme Court 'Nuked The Lockdowns'

The Supreme Court of Wisconsin declared that the head of the Department of Health Services broke the law with her stay-at-home order. Legislators and jurists across America should immediately follow suit to test the legality and constitutionality of their own state actions. □  
TN Editor

On Wednesday, the Wisconsin Supreme Court struck down a stay-at-home order issued by Department of Health Services Secretary-designate Andrea Palm in order to slow the spread of the coronavirus. While the court did not challenge the Emergency Declaration issued by Gov. Tony Evers (D-Wisc.), it ruled that Palm violated state law by not following proper rulemaking procedures that allow the Republican-dominated legislature some say in the issuing of such orders.

According to the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, the ruling strips coronavirus regulations so that “bars, restaurants and concert halls are allowed to reopen — unless local officials put in their own restrictions.”

“The Wisconsin Supreme Court just NUKED the lockdowns,” Donald Trump Jr. tweeted.

While the *Journal-Sentinel* claimed that the court “struck down Gov. Tony Evers’ order,” the very first line of the opinion, written by Chief Justice Patience Roggensack, contradicts this claim.

“This case is about the assertion of power by one unelected official, Andrea Palm, and her order to all people within Wisconsin to remain in their homes, not to travel and to close all businesses that she declares are not ‘essential’ in Emergency Order 28. Palm says that failure to obey Order 28 subjects the transgressor to imprisonment for 30 days, a \$250 fine or both. This case is not about Governor Tony Evers’ Emergency Order or the powers of the Governor,” Roggensack argues.

According to the opinion, Palm “broke the law when she issued Emergency Order 28 after failing to follow emergency rule procedures,” and she “exceeded her authority by ordering everyone to stay home, closing all ‘non-essential’ businesses, prohibiting private gatherings of any number of people who are not part of a single household, and forbidding all ‘non-essential’ travel.”

Importantly, Roggensack adds, “We do not conclude that Palm was without any power to act in the face of this pandemic. However, Palm must follow the law that is applicable to state-wide emergencies.” By refusing to do so, she impinged upon the Legislature’s constitutional core power and its functions.” Under Palm’s interpretation, “an elected official could create law applicable to all people during the course of COVID-19 and subject people to imprisonment when they disobeyed her order.”

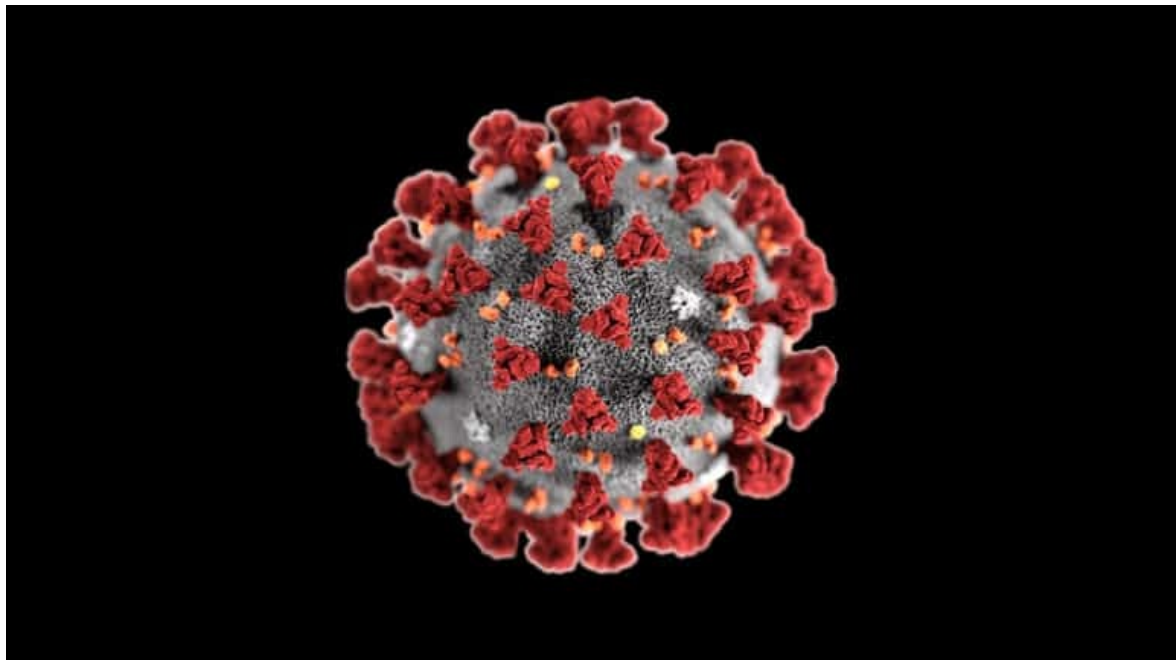
Republican lawmakers brought the suit in order to have a seat at the table when it comes to coronavirus restrictions.

Four of the Wisconsin Supreme Court’s five conservatives ruled against Palm: Roggensack and Justices Rebecca Bradley, Daniel Kelly, and Anette Ziegler. The fifth conservative, Brian Hagedorn, wrote a dissent joined by two liberals, Ann Walsh Bradley and Rebecca Dallet.

Hagedorn argued that Wisconsin state law allows the governor's designate to have this authority. "The legislature may have buyer's remorse for the breadth of discretion it gave to DHS in (state law). But those are the laws it drafted; we must read them faithfully whether we like them or not." In 1981, amid the HIV and AIDS epidemic, the legislature gave DHS the power to issue orders.

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## **Neil Ferguson's Computer Model Is Ripped To Shreds**

Professor Neil Ferguson of Imperial College in London started the Great Panic of 2020 with a thoroughly flawed computer model that was thoroughly unfit for scientific use. Was he instead virtue-signalling to his radical left-wing married lover? □ TN Editor

A LOT of attention has been given to Professor Neil Ferguson's dubious

track record on epidemics and his equally dubious judgment in meeting his lover on at least two occasions during the lockdown introduced on his own advice.

On closer examination, there are two especially significant elements crying out for independent investigation: the quality and reliability of Ferguson's computer model, and the political affiliations of his lover.

Firstly, the computer model. The source code behind the Ferguson model has finally been made available to the public via the GitHub website. Mark E Jeftovic, in his *Axis of Easy* website, says: 'A code review has been undertaken by an anonymous ex-Google software engineer here, who tells us the GitHub repository code has been heavily massaged by Microsoft engineers, and others, in an effort to whip the code into shape to safely expose it to the public. Alas, they seem to have failed and numerous flaws and bugs from the original software persist in the released version. Requests for the unedited version of the original code behind the model have gone unanswered.'

Jeftovic believes the most worrisome outcome of the model review is that the code produces 'non-deterministic outputs'. This means that owing to bugs, the code can produce very different results given identical inputs, making the code unsuitable for scientific purposes. Jeftovic says the documentation provided wants the reader to accept that given a 'starting seed', the model will always produce the same results. 'Investigation reveals the truth: the code produces critically different results, even for identical starting seeds and parameters.'

He says that a team even found that the output varied depending on *which type of computer* it was run on.

Jeftovic cannot understand why the Imperial team failed to realise that their software was so flawed. He quotes the usual computing adage 'Garbage In/Garbage Out' which the untrained reader may think is what is being asserted in the code review. In fact, he says, 'it's not. What's being asserted is that output is garbage, regardless of the input. In this case, the output we're experiencing as a result is a worldwide lockdown and shutdown of the global economy, and we don't really know if this

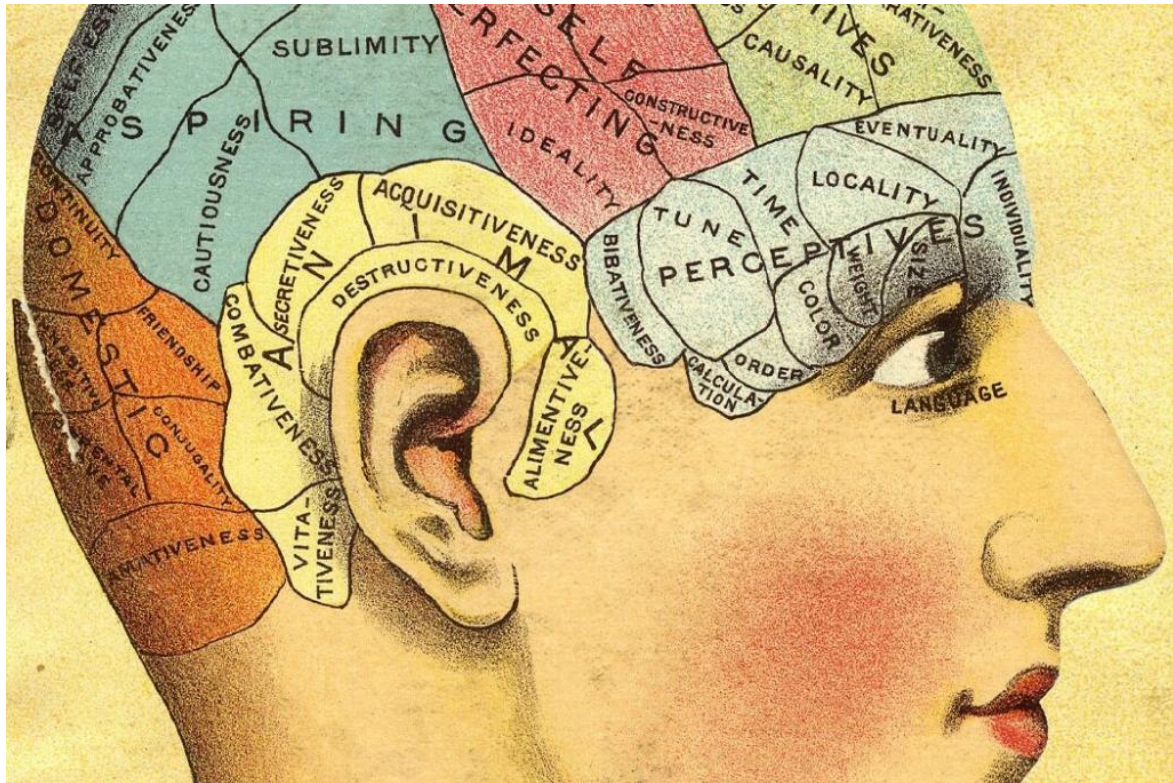
was necessary or not, because we have no actual data (aside from Sweden) and severely flawed models.’

Another expert, Martin Armstrong (who has a controversial record) also reviews the Ferguson model code and comes to very similar conclusions. He says that it ‘is such a joke it is either an outright fraud, or it is the most inept piece of programming I have ever seen in my life . . . This is the most unprofessional operation perhaps in computer science. The entire team should be disbanded and an independent team put in place to review the work of Neil Ferguson . . . The only reasonable conclusion I can reach is that this has been deliberately used to justify bogus forecasts intent for political activism . . . There seems to have been no independent review of Ferguson’s work, which is unimaginable!’

Which leads us neatly to the second facet of the affair - the actual ‘affair’ and the politically radical lover. Professor Ferguson, 51, is said to be estranged from his wife Kim, with whom he has a 17-year-old son. He is reported to have used the match-finding website OkCupid a year ago to meet Antonia Staats, 38, currently married and living with her husband and two children. Ms Staats is a Left-wing campaigner who works for the US-based online network Avaaz, an organisation that promotes global activism on, among other things, climate change. The *Guardian* has called Avaaz the globe’s largest and most powerful online activist network, and it has a world-wide following of around 10million people. It is loosely connected with Bill Gates, through the World Economic Forum, which also lists Al Gore and Christine Lagarde on its board. Staats works as a senior campaigner on climate change for the group, and is said to be sympathetic towards the aims of Extinction Rebellion. Indirectly, on the surface at least, this ties Ferguson to climate change, a cause that the lockdown has served very well by managing to shut down the world economy.

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## Facial Recognition AI Predicts Criminals Based On Face?

The racist pseudoscience of phrenology was debunked in the early 1900s but Technocrat software developers have given it new life with AI-based facial recognition algorithms, saying they can spot a likely criminal with 80% accuracy and without racial bias. □ TN Editor

A team from the University of Harrisburg, PA, has developed automated computer facial recognition software that they claim can predict with 80 percent accuracy and “no racial bias” whether a person is likely going to be a criminal, purely by looking at a picture of them. “By automating the identification of potential threats without bias, our aim is to produce tools for crime prevention, law enforcement, and military applications,” they said, declaring that they were looking for “strategic partners” to work with to implement their product.

In a worrying use of words, the team in their own press release, move from referring to those the software recognizes as being “likely

criminals” to “criminals” in the space of just one sentence, suggesting they are confident in the discredited racist pseudoscience of phrenology they appear to have updated for the 21st century.

Public reaction to the project was less than enthusiastic, judging by comments left on Facebook, which included “Societies have been trying to push the idea of ‘born criminals’ for centuries,” “and this isn’t profiling because.....?” and “20 percent getting tailed by police constantly because they have the ‘crime face.’” Indeed, the response was so negative that the university pulled the press release from the internet. However, it is still visible using the Internet Wayback Machine.

While the research team claims to be removing bias and racism from decision making, leaving it up to a faceless algorithm, those who write the code, and those who get to decide who constitutes a criminal in the first place, certainly do have their own biases. Why are the homeless or people of color who “loiter” on sidewalks criminalized, but senators and congresspersons who vote for wars and regime change operations not? And who is more likely to be arrested? Wall Street executives doing cocaine in their offices or working-class people smoking marijuana or crack? The higher the level of a person in society, the more serious and harmful their crimes become, but the likelihood of an arrest and a custodial sentence decreases. Black people are more likely to be arrested for the same crime as white people and are sentenced to longer stays in prison, too. Furthermore, facial recognition software is notorious for being unable to tell people of color apart, raising further concerns.

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