

To the Editor January 22, 2021

Stupidity is not a Superpower

In this world, we live by certain truths most of which come from scientific discovery.

The earth was flat until explorers discovered that it was not. This was then cemented into our minds by the pictures of Planet Earth from the Apollo moon missions.

The word map did not include the Pacific Ocean until Balboa discovered it. Then we changed the maps.

The sun revolved around the earth until Copernicus discovered it did not. We then collectively changed our thinking.

In his futuristic science fiction story, Stephenson described a future we appear to be headed for now.

In rural America, outside of our cities, towns, and villages and away from interstate highways, in areas now known as Ameristan these new rules apply.

- Speech is aggression
- Every utterance has a winner and a loser
- Curiosity is feigned
- Lying is performative
- Stupidity is power

Stephenson, Neal. Fall; or, Dodge in Hell, William Morrow

Now back in our time, no one is exempt from the mask mandate. There are no special snowflakes out there that are allowed to freely pass this virus on to others. Science tells us so.

Again, Stupidity is not a superpower. In my own life, when I was wrong about something it was because I did not know enough about the subject, or fully consider the impact on other people.

“Those who can make you believe absurdities, can make you commit atrocities.” Voltaire