

Twitter Censors Famed Epidemiologist Martin Kulldorff

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March 29, 2021



Jeffrey A. Tucker

– March 29, 2021 Reading Time: 3 minutes

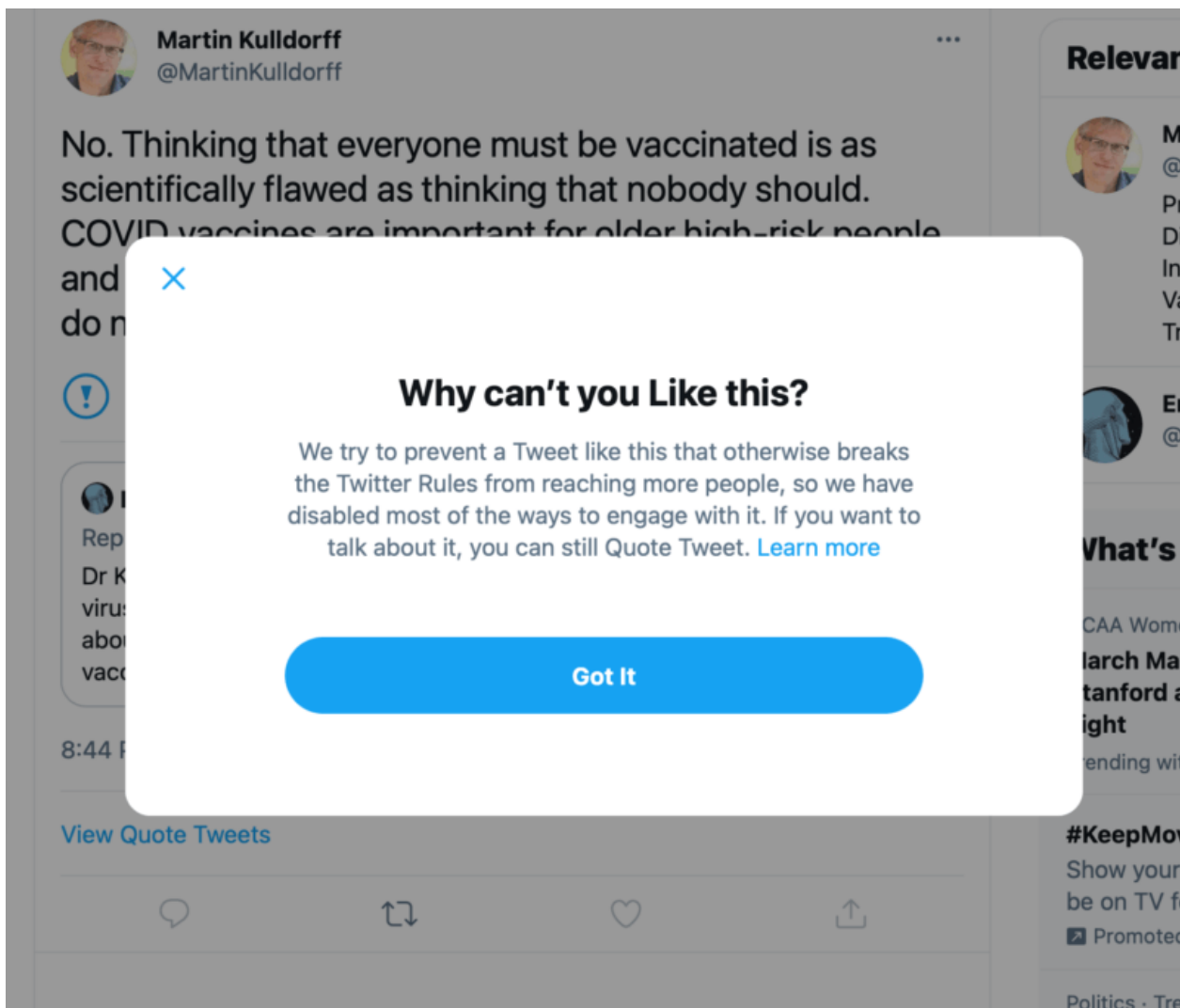




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We've been witness to Twitter censorship for more than a year, beginning with obviously objectionable extremists then gradually moving to silence people based on merely having an opinion that contradicts lockdown orthodoxy. There have been days when I wondered whether I would cross the invisible line and even whether AIER would itself be silenced. Stanford public health expert Scott Atlas has been censored, and Naomi Wolf, visiting senior fellow at AIER, was put in Twitter jail for a week for landing on the wrong side of the high priests of allowable content.

Well, a new line has been crossed. Harvard Professor Martin Kulldorff and co-creator of the Great Barrington Declaration, one of the most cited epidemiologists and infectious - disease experts in the world (latest count of citations: 25,290) has been censored by Twitter. His tweet on how not everyone needs a vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 was not taken down. He had a warning slapped on it and users have been prevented from liking or retweeting the post.



Here is what he wrote without the warning slapped in front of it.



Martin Kulldorff
@MartinKulldorff



No. Thinking that everyone must be vaccinated is as scientifically flawed as thinking that nobody should. COVID vaccines are important for older high-risk people, and their care-takers. Those with prior natural infection do not need it. Nor children.



This Tweet is misleading. Learn why health officials recommend a vaccine for most people.



EndemicEquilibrium @ElectraAscendin · Mar 15

Replying to @MartinKulldorff

Dr Kulldorff, do you think younger age groups and/or ppl who already had the virus need to be vaccinated? I am not an antivaxer but I am "vaccine hesitant" about this one. It seems to be a religious mantra now that everyone MUST be vaccinated

8:44 PM · Mar 15, 2021 · Twitter Web App

Keep in mind, too, that Dr. Kulldorff serves on the Covid-19 vaccine safety subgroup that the CDC, NIH, and FDA rely upon for technical expertise on this very subject..

COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Technical (VaST) Subgroup

- ACIP members
 - Grace Lee
 - Beth Bell
 - Keipp Talbot
- Consultants
 - Ed Belongia
 - Matthew Daley
 - Kathy Edwards
 - **Martin Kulldorff**
 - Laura Riley
 - Stanley Perlman
 - Vish Viswanath
- CDC Lead
 - Tom Shimabukuro
- Ex Officio Members
 - CDC
 - FDA
 - DoD
 - VA
 - IHS
 - HRSA
 - HHS
 - NIH
 - BARDA

So here we have some geeks at Twitter curating science, in areas totally outside the specialization of web nerds, in a way that skews public understanding of the scientific debate. Dr. Kulldorff's censorship directly coincides with Anthony Fauci making a political push to retain social distancing and mask restrictions and forced separation for children until they are vaccinated. He was all over Sunday TV shows doing that.

This attempt to silence accredited experts completely distorts the process of scientific inquiry, discovery, and public opinion. And to what end? Twitter has generally been biased in a lockdown direction. If you want to be cynical about it, you could observe that everyone who works there can get by on laptops and houseshoes for the duration.

Its stock price has more than doubled in the course of lockdowns and user engagement has risen dramatically.



It would appear that with this latest act of censorship – we are not talking about political extremism or anything else that violates normal terms of use – we have entered into a new realm. Twitter is now curating the scientific debate in ways that exclude alternative points of view, particularly those that raise doubts about the need for universalized vaccines and vaccine passports. To be sure, Dr. Kulldorff is not an anti-vaxxer (why should I have to say that?) but instead has a nuanced position in light of his professional understanding of the demographics of risk of this virus.

If there ever was a troubling sign of the power and arrogance of big tech, of which I've long been a defender, this new action is it. Dr. Kulldorff has been a brave proponent of traditional public health in the midst of an unprecedented and very obviously failed policy of lockdowns. He has been a voice of clarity, reason, calm, and science. That

Twitter would choose to use its power over public debate to silence his insights should be of profound concern to everyone concerned about the use of science in the public interest.

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Jeffrey A. Tucker

Jeffrey A. Tucker is Editorial Director for the American Institute for Economic Research.

He is the author of many thousands of articles in the scholarly and popular press and nine books in 5 languages, most recently [Liberty or Lockdown](#). He is also the editor of [The Best of Mises](#). He speaks widely on topics of economics, technology, social philosophy, and culture.



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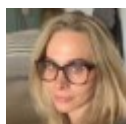


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