Twitter Thread by Pradheep J. Shanker



Pradheep J. Shanker
@Neoavatara



Read this earlier. This is an excellent article.

In short, Sweden accepts that health care is ALWAYS ABOUT TRADE OFFS.

And they believe that harsh regulations will naturally have positive AND negative deleterious consequences...and intelligently, take both into account.

> "Sweden is a high-trust society, where people follow the rules. & yet its approach is based on the idea that, as covid-19 is here for a long time, asking too much of people will lower compliance and thus spread the disease."
>
> BEST article on Sweden.
> https://t.co/wXFKYjHjtP
>
> — (((Howard Forman))) (@thehowie) October 9, 2020

"Fans of Sweden are right to point out that, in the first phase of the disease, the government had a light touch...But that was not a particularly successful approach. Sweden has a fatality rate of around 60 per 100,000, ten times that of Finland and Norway, which did lock down."

"Swedes' freedom did not spare the economy, even though many deaths were among elderly people no longer working. Output in the second quarter alone shrank by 8.3%—also worse than the other Nordic countries. A high caseload is bad for the economy."

"Sweden's new strategy for the second phase converges with Germany's. Contrary to some claims, this is not dependent on herd immunity...entails rapid large-scale testing and contact-tracing so as to identify and suppress outbreaks early...accompanied by consistent [messaging]"

"Swedish policy is not libertarian, but that the government weighs up TRADE-OFFS of each restriction....when someone tests positive, their entire household must go into quarantine, but schoolchildren are exempt...gains are overwhelmed by the lasting harm to their education."

"Likewise, the quarantine lasts five to seven days, compared with two weeks elsewhere. The risk of spreading covid-19 in that second week is small and shrinking, but the harm to mental health of extended isolation is growing."

And what of masks? Govt experts argue evidence that masks help is weak, and that other measures work fine. In this, Sweden is out of step...If the disease charges back there, that is likely to change...its policy is based on evidence and pragmatism, not blind principle."