Twitter Thread by el gato malo

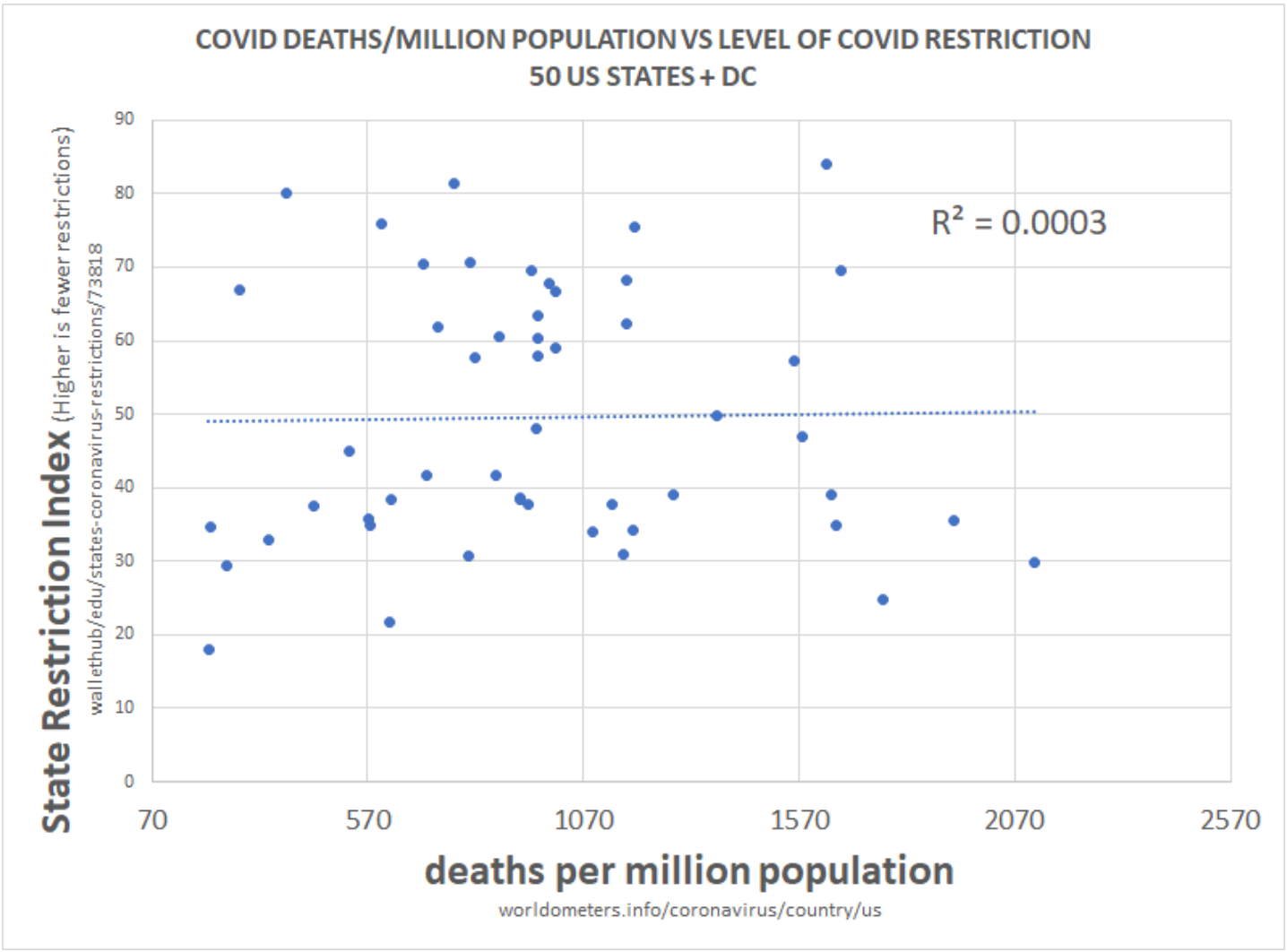
el gato malo
@boriquagato

global health policy in 2020 has centered around NPI's (non-pharmaceutical interventions) like distancing, masks, school closures

these have been sold as a way to stop infection as though this were science.

this was never true and that fact was known and knowable.

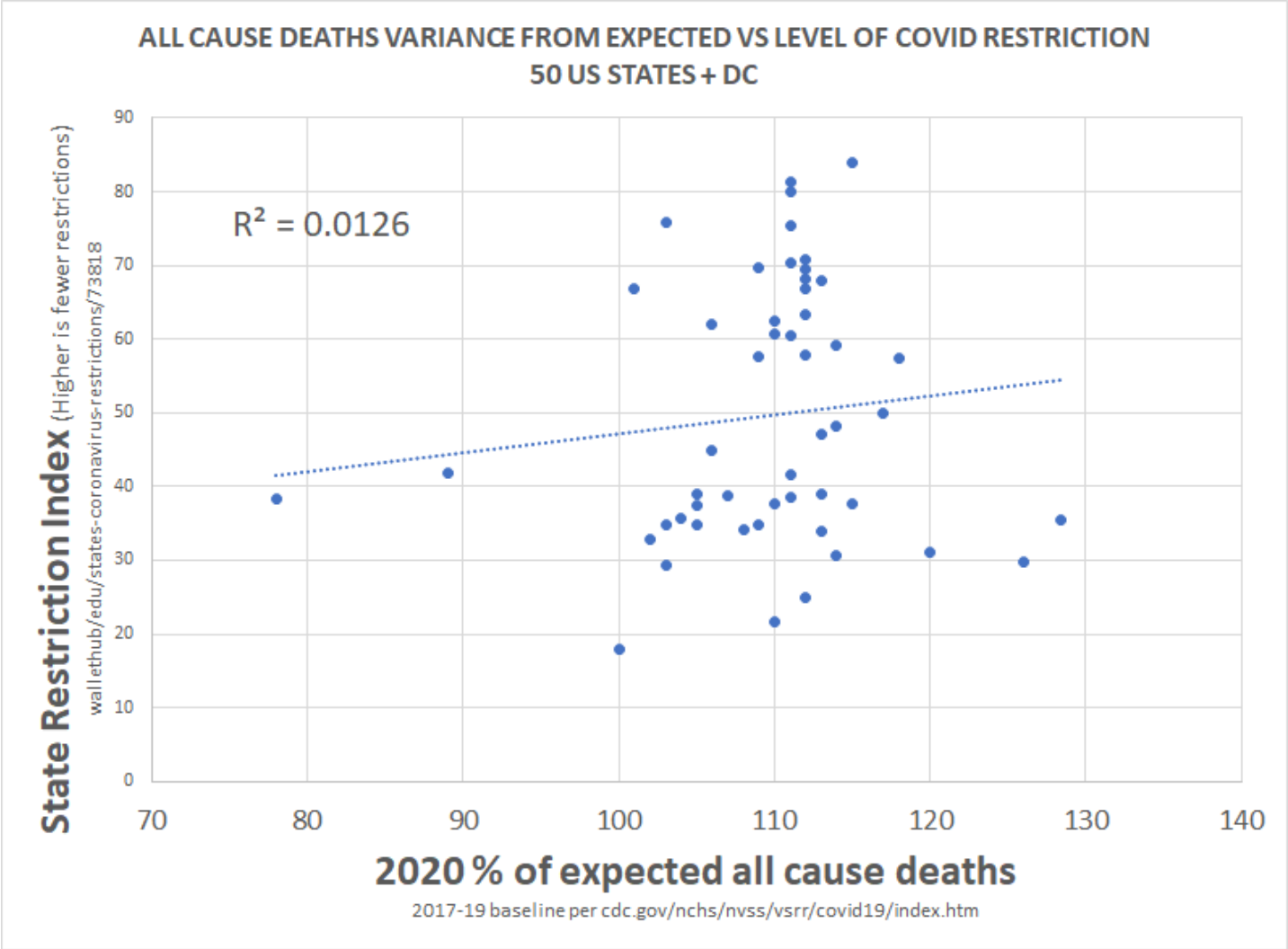
let's look.



above is the plot of social restriction and NPI vs total death per million. there is 0 R2. this means that the variables play no role in explaining one another.

we can see this same relationship between NPI and all cause deaths.

this is devastating to the case for NPI.



clearly, correlation is not proof of causality, but a total lack of correlation IS proof that there was no material causality.

barring massive and implausible coincidence, it's essentially impossible to cause something and not correlate to it, especially 51 times.

this would seem to pose some very serious questions for those claiming that lockdowns work, those basing policy upon them, and those claiming this is the side of science.

there is no science here nor any data. this is the febrile imaginings of discredited modelers.

this has been clear and obvious from all over the world since the beginning and had been proven so clearly by may that it's hard to imagine anyone who is actually conversant with the data still believing in these responses.

everyone got the same R curve

https://t.co/5iPbLaBGZd

> this methodology is a little complex, so let me explain what i did.
>
> a few EU countries provide real day of death data. this lets us plot meaningful curves to show rate of disease change.

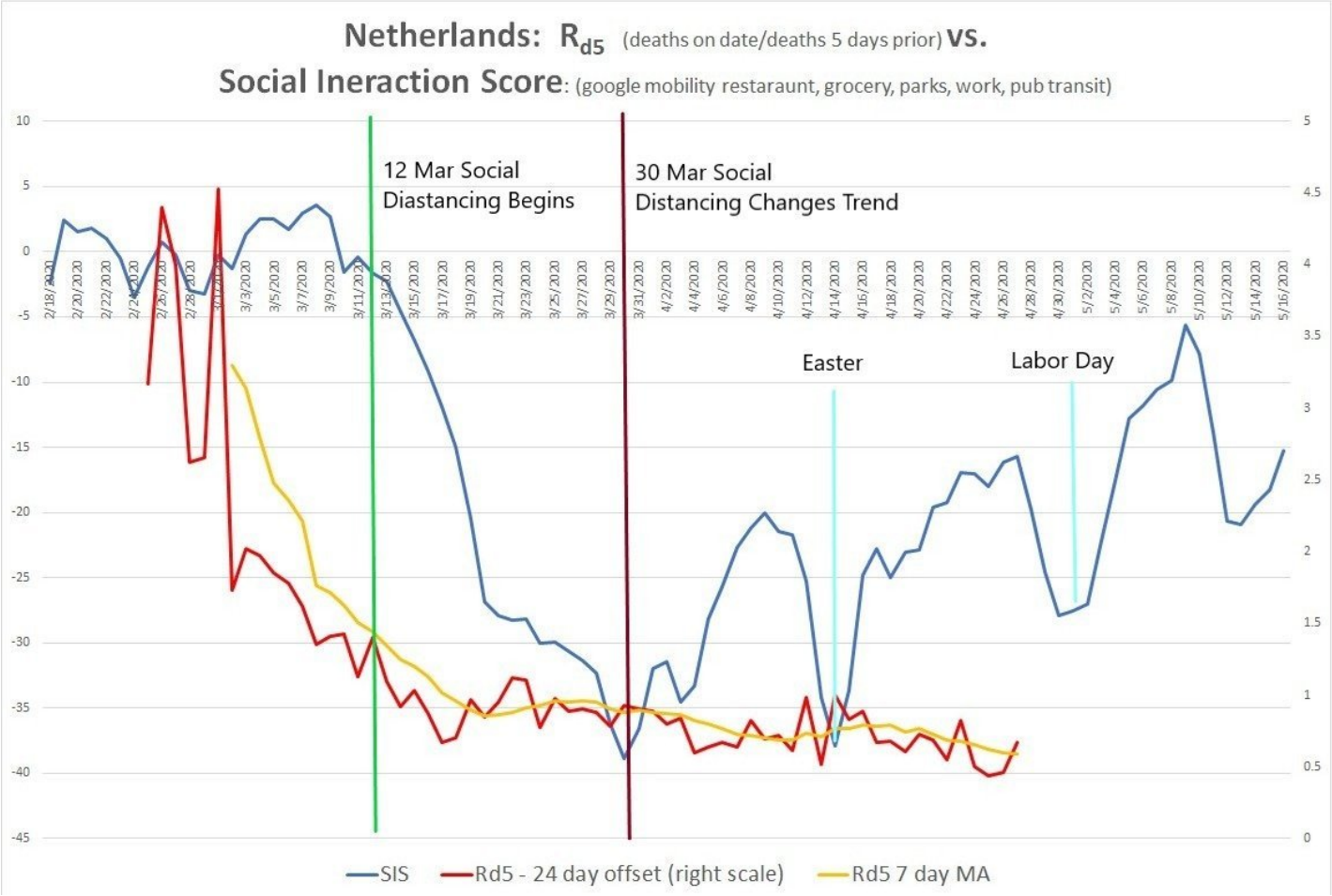
> what struck me is how similar all the curves were.
>
> everyone got the same shape. pic.twitter.com/bN0hILzoSl
>
> — el gato malo (@boriquagato) May 30, 2020

lockdowns were a panic response.

they came LONG after disease growth curves had rolled over and had no effect overall.

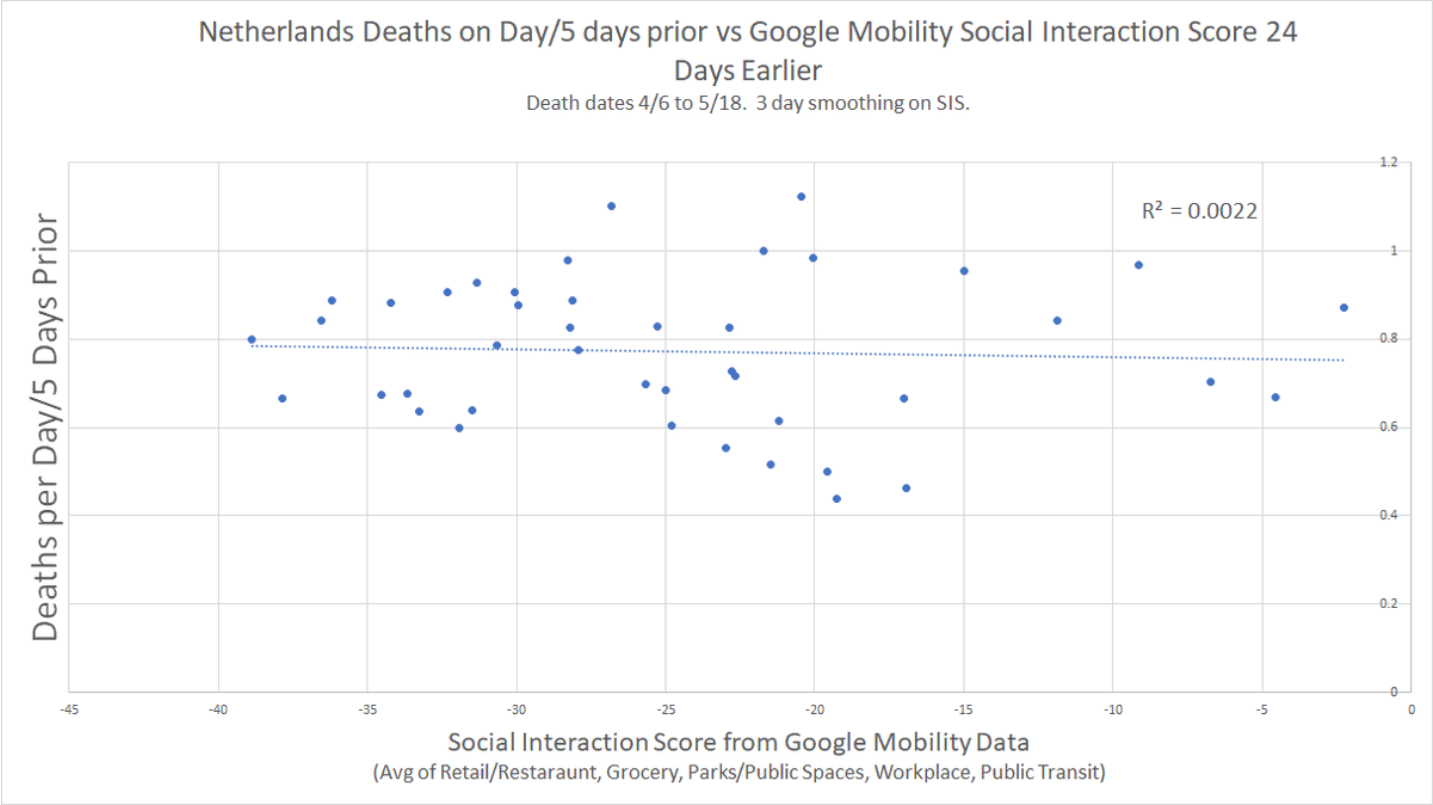
it's clear when you plot google mobility data vs disease curves.

(this is from may)



r2 was ~0. this was all proven by may and strongly argued by april.

this data is literally overwhelming. there is just no evidence that lockdowns work.



spain and netherlands had radically different responses

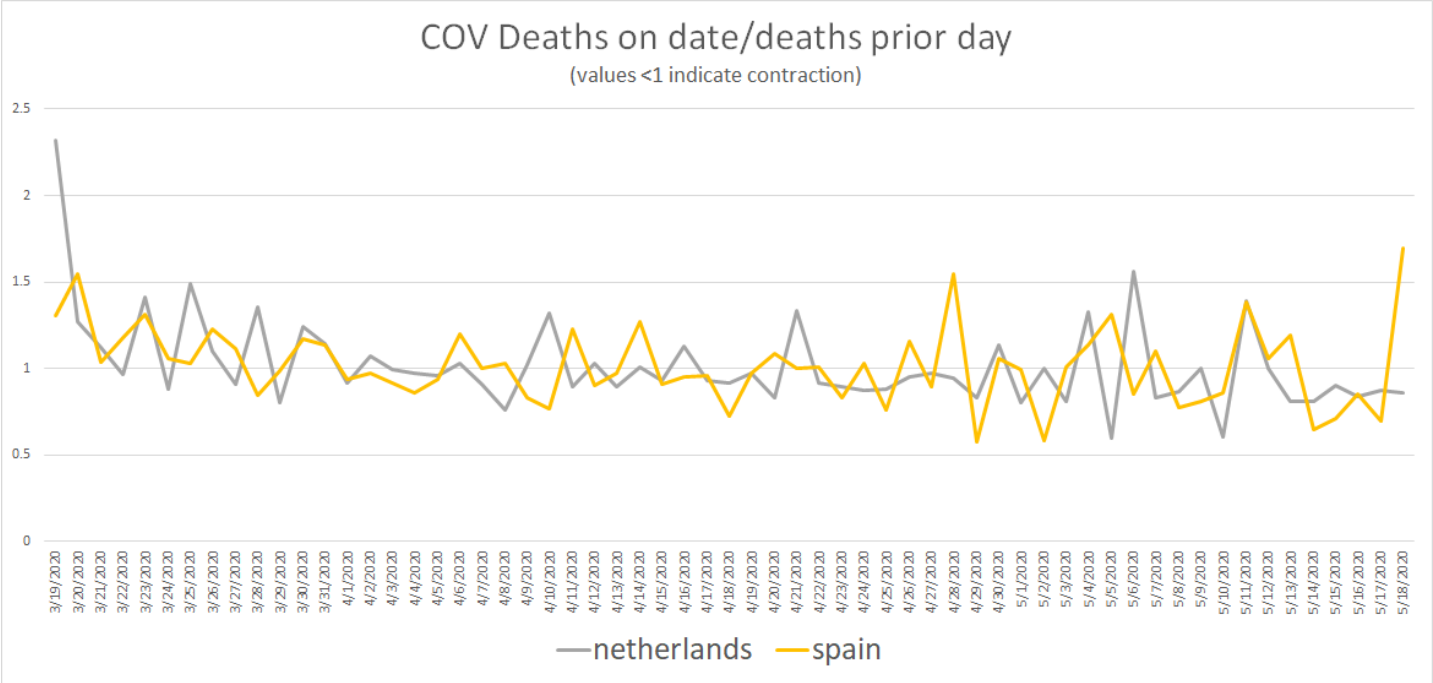
https://t.co/drxx2RqJtA

> i got good day of death data for spain.
>
> this is a great datapoint as they were one of the hardest locked-down countries on earth (~75% on google mobility vs -52% EU avg and -28% for netherlands)
>
> the alignment in the time behavior changed also makes for a great comp. pic.twitter.com/jbG6p0njUq
>
> — el gato malo (@boriquagato) May 24, 2020

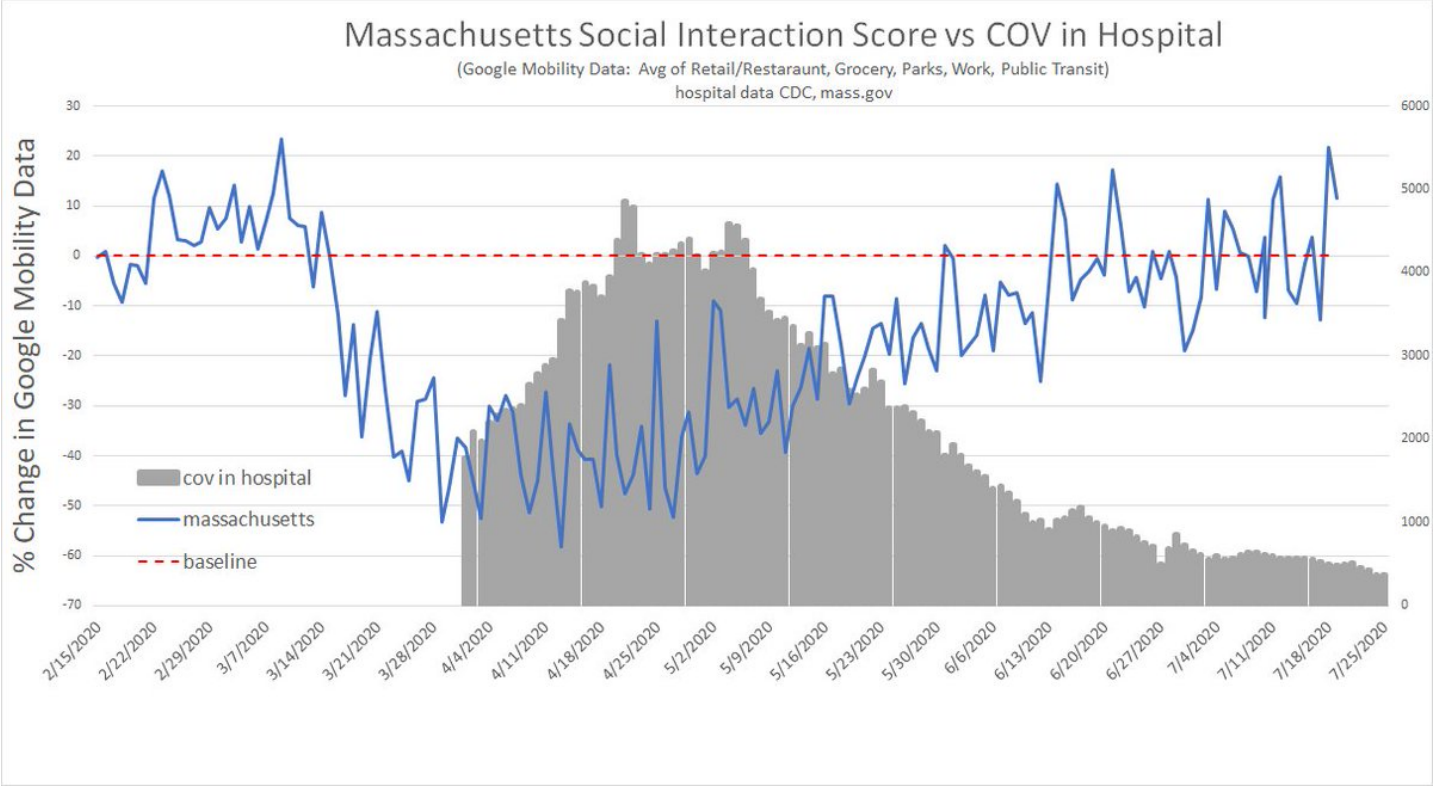
but got R curves that were all but indistinguishable.

this issue crops up everywhere.

mitigation has zero effect.



similarly, there is no evidence that opening again had any effect either.



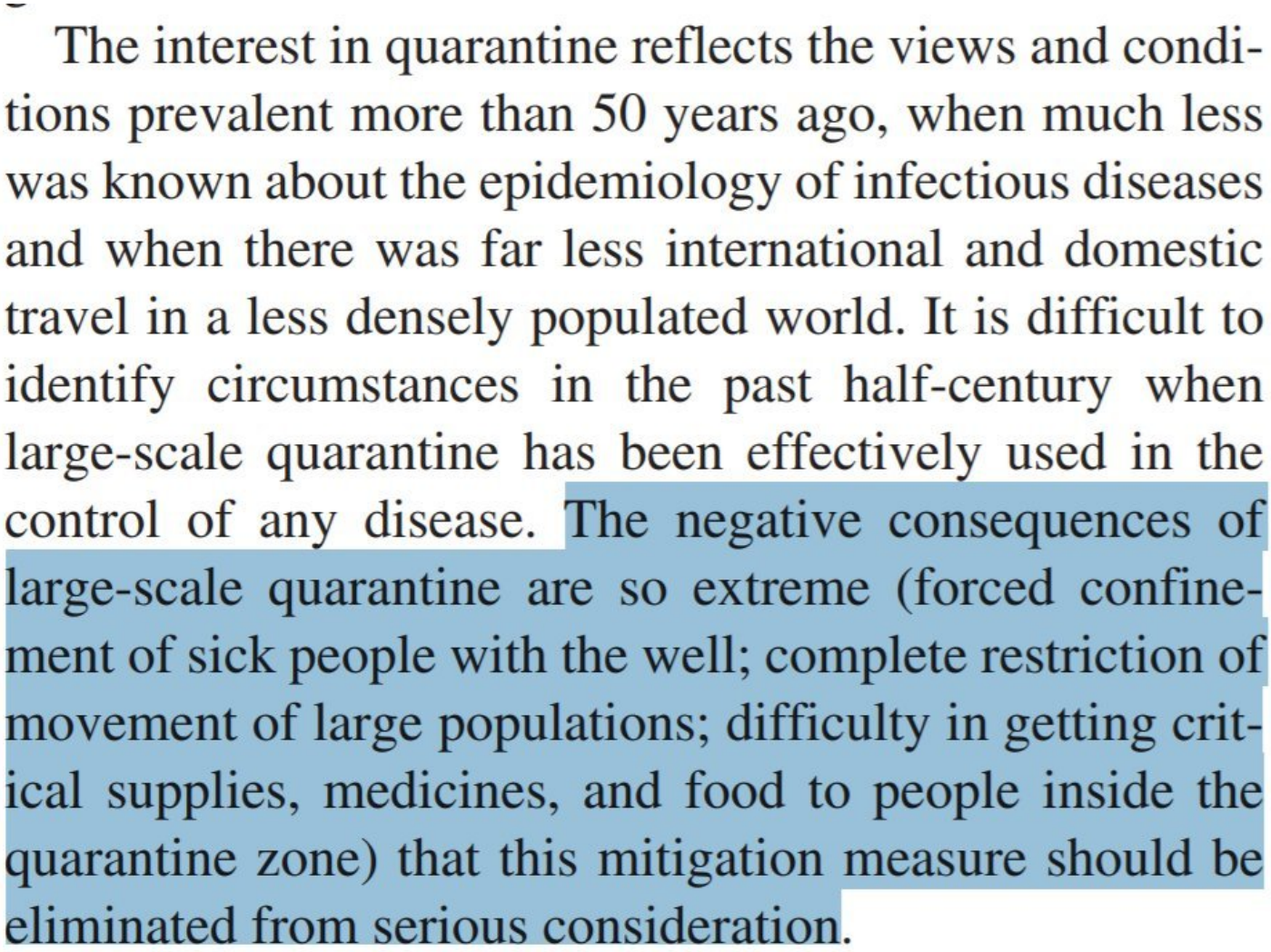
and this was all known. every set of longstanding pandemic guidelines contra-indicated lockdowns.

https://t.co/sFdUYqPoZy

> one of the fascinating aspects of the response to covid is the manner in which all past knowledge and standing guidance regarding lockdowns and quarantines got tossed out the window and replaced with new, contradictory doctrine with no scientific backing. pic.twitter.com/EplwYQTmL6

— el gato malo (@boriquagato) July 8, 2020

it's 50 year old pseudoscience and the clarity with which NPI was dismissed by everyone until this year when we suddenly abandoned 100 years of science and started making stuff up and moralizing about it as though it were canon is stunning.



The interest in quarantine reflects the views and conditions prevalent more than 50 years ago, when much less was known about the epidemiology of infectious diseases and when there was far less international and domestic travel in a less densely populated world. It is difficult to identify circumstances in the past half-century when large-scale quarantine has been effectively used in the control of any disease. The negative consequences of large-scale quarantine are so extreme (forced confinement of sick people with the well; complete restriction of movement of large populations; difficulty in getting critical supplies, medicines, and food to people inside the quarantine zone) that this mitigation measure should be eliminated from serious consideration.

the same is true of masks.

just last year the WHO surveyed this and found that community masking does not work.

nothing has changed.

https://t.co/viMzUEfWTH

> back in the halcyon days of 2019, before the great politicization of epidemiology turned up into down and down into sideways, the WHO performed a survey of randomized, controlled trials on masks
>
> 1100 citations were winnowed to the 10 best for review.
>
> masks looked ineffective. pic.twitter.com/A04MVVmXhu
>
> — el gato malo (@boriquagato) September 28, 2020

the "studies" trotted out this year are so awful as to beggar belief. they are either nonsensical lab bench presumption devoid of clinical or social outcome, or they are contrived cherry picks lacking controls.

the CDC used this one. it's risible.

https://t.co/IBVypITIr8

> this is from the study that CDC head robert redfield showcased the other night to "prove masks work"
>
> it it the epidemiological equivalent of doing a sun dance at 5.30 AM and claiming you made that ball of fire in the sky appear
>
> it's assumptive, lacks a control, & proves nothing pic.twitter.com/yTdBa7UFit
>
> — el gato malo (@boriquagato) July 28, 2020

CDC and gottlieb later pushed this study which is outright fraud.

https://t.co/qY66ZavM3N

> CDC claims that masks stopped the spread of covid in kansas by comparing masked and non-masked counties.
>
> counterpoint: this was a cherry pick in terms of date and seasonality.
>
> they ended the "study" aug 23.
>
> then, covid season hit and the masks look to have made no difference. https://t.co/LgyjqPodOC pic.twitter.com/P2cfuZRtDs
>
> — el gato malo (@boriquagato) November 23, 2020

and you can see piles of data from the swiss policy research institute here:

https://t.co/Vyqmmo0wIx

there is no sound evidence that community masking has any effect. the evidence they work as "source control" is entirely speculative and made up.

the fact that they increase, not decrease post op infection in surgical theaters is pretty damning.

https://t.co/Ivb7FxPtYj

> the latest push for masks has been as "source protection"
>
> it's not about you, it's about being considerate & not spreading COV to others
>
> it's a great PR soundbite and virtue signal, but is there any actual science behind it?

> this study sheds real doubthttps://t.co/gAIlllFoWe
>
> — el gato malo (@boriquagato) July 24, 2020

and now that it's becoming clear that asymptotic spread is vanishingly rare, we can really put the final nail in the NPI coffin.

this is the vector these interventions mean to head off.

but it was never a serious source of infection.

https://t.co/aMRCAF7g9E

> The study, conducted by the UF Department of Biostatistics, found that the secondary attack rate for asymptomatic index cases was not statistically different from zerohttps://t.co/5iXL2tawsT
>
> — Jennifer Cabrera \U0001f600 #SmilesMatter (@jhaskinscabrera) December 23, 2020

the simple fact is this: nothing we have done has made any meaningful difference

covid is seasonal and regional. when your season comes, it comes

NPI is not why california and peru and eastern europe did not get hit in the spring

it was just regional

https://t.co/NZYN1v9vsa

> so we should treat the last couple weeks as incomplete.
>
> but the season pattern from these regions emerges clearly in the data.
>
> this is not 3 waves in all locations, it's waves in multiple surges in different places being aggregated into a graph that looks like none of them. pic.twitter.com/NtaIFbgLKe
>
> — el gato malo (@boriquagato) December 8, 2020

then your season comes and everyone moves together.

we've been mistaking baby oil for suncreeen in places where it was still night time.

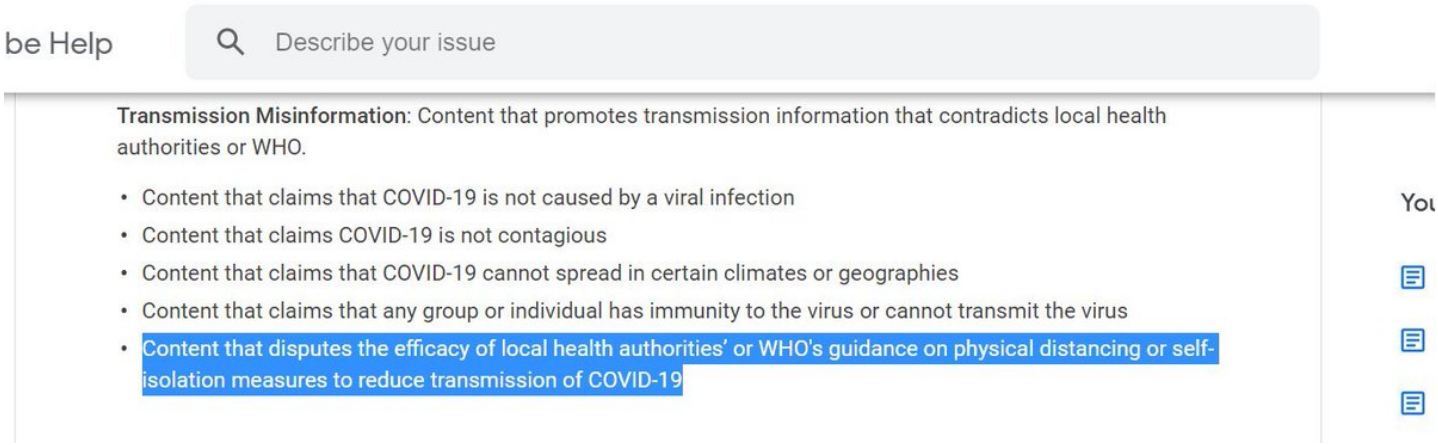
then, noon came and it was revealed for what it really was.

https://t.co/Aq5WEWzR5L

> croatia is open. no lockdowns, no curfews, no mask laws.

> open.
>
> life there is normal. people are trying to claim this is causing a covid spike. it's not.
>
> they look, gasp, just like every other country around them most of whom are locked down, masked, etc.
>
> NPI's do nothing. pic.twitter.com/IxHDtf1tFv
>
> — el gato malo (@boriquagato) November 18, 2020

this means that all this moralizing about "you just want grandma to die" and the censorship of evidence counter to this "big lie" that lockdowns work has been at best a disastrous mistake and at worst, a cynical ploy to wreak havoc and cover past errors.



politicians are now doubling and trebling down on lockdowns and masks because to do otherwise is to admit that they bought us $10 trillion of sugar water as medicine and wrecked our lives and livelihoods for no sound reason.

they will never do that.

this is why they have shifted the debate to morality and censorship: to mask the fact that the science and the data calls them liars.

repeat "i'm on the side of science" enough and scare people endlessly and you can generate social belief.

but it's pure propaganda.

these mitigations do not work to stop covid or to reduce overall deaths.

this is the most expensive peace time policy debacle in human history and they all want to do it again.

say no. stand up.

this is not medicine, it's poison.

this does not save lives, it wrecks them.

it's easy to sell false hope to scared people. there are whole industries that prey on the desperation of parents with sick kids.

but sometimes, there is just not much you can do however much you want control and want to "do something".

this is one of those times.

and we need to accept that.

many times, the best way to "do something" is to do nothing.

"something" in this case has been a absolute disaster.

we panicked into unprecedented global self-harm.

it's time to stop. this is just making it worse

stay brave. stay free. stay safe.

apparently, the link i used for the asymptomatic spread study is down (crashed from so much traffic).

this is the article it cites.

https://t.co/dfPSqmTr20

> That site is down. Article here: https://t.co/GaNpdtXkG8
>
> — Jennifer Cabrera \U0001f600 #SmilesMatter (@jhaskinscabrera) December 29, 2020

also:

this is the methodology for policy stringency.

we can obviously debate weighting and values, but i checked it against the google mobility data i have used and it lined up quite well. the output looks reasonable to me.

https://t.co/OnAwKjhBVU