

NIH Director Blames Dr. Mercola for Pandemic Continuation

Analysis by [Dr. Joseph Mercola](#) ✓ Fact Checked

STORY AT-A-GLANCE

- › During a February 4, 2022, interview with Time magazine, former National Institutes of Health director Francis Collins blamed me for the government's inability to bring the COVID pandemic to a close
- › Collins also, in apparent confusion, misidentified me as the inventor of the mRNA vaccine
- › It seems Collins is desperately trying to deflect from the NIH's involvement in the pandemic. From the start, Collins denied the possibility of a lab leak, even though most of the evidence pointed straight in that direction
- › Collins has also denied that the NIH funded risky gain-of-function research on bat coronaviruses at the Wuhan Institute of Virology in Wuhan, despite documented evidence of such funding
- › For now, Collins appears to be protected by political powers, including the Department of Homeland Security, which recently labeled free speech as domestic terrorism and criminalized truth telling. According to the DHS, people who "undermine public trust in government institutions" are the primary "threat actors"

During a February 4, 2022, interview with Time magazine,¹ former National Institutes of Health director Francis Collins accused me of being to blame for the government's inability to bring the COVID pandemic to a close.

In his mind, the COVID-19 deaths experienced in the U.S. were not due to the lack of appropriate treatment but, rather, our failure to get a needle into every arm in America. In

other words, vaccine resistance is the reason COVID-19 is still with us, and people who share basic facts about the COVID jabs are to blame for that.

Time's editor-at-large Belinda Luscombe asked Collins why so many of those who distrust vaccines are Christians, to which he replied, in part:

"I don't want to blame any of those people who have been somehow seduced by misinformation into a position that is not good for them. I want to blame the people who are spreading the misinformation especially those who know it's not true and are doing so anyway ..."

I look at what happens in social media, at the top 12 distributors of false information on Facebook. And some of them are doctors who are making a lot of money on this.

They're the people who I have the hardest time forgiving, physicians who have given an oath to do no harm and are now saying 'These vaccines are dangerous,' and 'Here is an alternative approach and that if you buy from me, you'll be fine.' Look at Dr. Joseph Mercola from Florida."

Before correcting the article, Luscombe interjected at this point, asking, "The one who claims to be the inventor of mRNA?" to which Collins replied, "Yes." In the corrected copy, Collins reply is changed to, "No that's Dr. Robert Malone ..."

But originally, both of them somehow managed to get the two of us confused. I guess it's hard to keep all the facts straight when you're trying to cover up lies with more lies.

Evidence Does Not Support Collins' Denials

To me, it seems Collins is desperately trying to deflect and hide the NIH's own involvement in the pandemic – both its creation and its continuation – which is getting more obvious as time goes on. From the start, Collins² and Fauci denied the possibility of a lab leak, even though most of the evidence pointed straight in that direction.

In January 2022, House Oversight Committee Republicans released National Institutes of Health emails that show Drs. Anthony Fauci and Francis Collins led the effort to bury the lab leak theory, even though the scientific consensus in early February 2020 was that the virus likely leaked from the Wuhan lab.³ For example, a note from professor and microbiologist Robert (Bob) Garry, Ph.D., read:

“Before I left the office for the ball, I aligned the nCoV with the 96% bat CoV sequenced at WIV. Except for the RBD the S proteins are essential identical at the amino acid level – well all but the perfect insertion of 12 nucleotides that adds [sic] the furin site.

S2 is over its whole length essentially identical. I really can’t think of a plausible natural scenario where you get from the bat virus or one very similar to it to nCoV where you insert exactly 4 amino acids 12 nucleotide [sic] that all have to be added at the exact same time to gain this function – that and you don’t change any other amino acids in S2?

I just can’t figure out how this gets accomplished in nature. Do the alignment of the spikes at the amino acid level – its [sic] stunning. Of course, in the lab it would be easy to generate the perfect 12 base insert that you wanted.”

That was a private note; yet, publicly – and in retrospect, duplicitously – Garry was claiming it came from nature, and even cowrote a paper in March 2020⁴ stating that, “plausibly,” the virus could not have come from a lab. A year later, in May 2021, in a video interview with the American Society for Microbiology,⁵ he again insisted the virus came from nature and not a lab.

One can only speculate why he had one story for Fauci’s eyes only, but another for the public. Then, again, Collins and Fauci also denied ever having funded gain-of-function (GOF) research at the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV) in China, despite documented evidence of such funding.^{6,7,8,9}

As reported by The Federalist,¹⁰ while Fauci insists that the NIAID’s funding of research on bat coronaviruses at the WIV (through grants to the EcoHealth Alliance) could not

possibly have led to the creation of SARS-CoV-2, the records that could actually prove this assertion – the complete lab records – have never been disclosed. Why is that?

It's also worth noting that the natural origin theory does not automatically dismiss the lab leak theory. Even if SARS-CoV-2 had a natural origin, it still could have escaped from the Wuhan lab – if it was kept and/or studied there.

So, why are Fauci and Collins so adamant about denying both scenarios? And why are they not cooperating and releasing relevant information if that information can clear them of suspicions of wrongdoing?

Criminalizing Truth

For the time being, Collins and his underling, director of the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), Dr. Anthony Fauci, are protected by political powers, but that could – and hopefully will – eventually change. For now, they're relying on a combination of projection, censorship and intimidation to keep the truth under a tight lid.

“According to the DHS, Americans who ‘undermine public trust in government institutions’ are the primary ‘threat actors.’ With that, they have literally labeled free speech a ‘terrorism threat’ to the U.S.”

To that end, February 7, 2022, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) raised the terrorism threat level a notch:¹¹

“The United States remains in a heightened threat environment fueled by several factors, including an online environment filled with false or misleading narratives and conspiracy theories, and other forms of mis-, dis- and mal-information (MDM¹²) introduced and/or amplified by foreign and domestic threat actors.”

According to the DHS, Americans who “undermine public trust in government institutions” are the primary “threat actors.” With that, they have literally labeled free speech a “terrorism threat” to the U.S.¹³

Anyone who presents information that results in people losing confidence in government institutions is “a terrorist.” The problem with this is that it’s THE TRUTH that is triggering this loss of confidence. So, they’re actually criminalizing truth telling!

National Security Apparatus Targets Citizens

DHS claims that “domestic violent extremists” have and may continue to use COVID measures, such as mask and vaccine mandates, “to justify violence” against “government, health care and academic institutions that they associate with those measures.”

Strangely enough, the DHS then goes on to cite threats directed at synagogues, mosques, Jewish facilities and Black colleges, as well as rumors of election fraud, as examples of events that can inspire and mobilize this kind of violence. Just what race, religion and election fraud concerns have to do with how people feel about COVID measures is unclear.

To keep Americans safe, the DHS urges everyone to maintain the “digital and media literacy” required to “recognize and build resilience to false or misleading narratives.”

For their part, the DHS and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) are sharing information with partners “across every level of government and in the private sector.” They’ve also established a “new, dedicated domestic terrorism branch to produce the sound, timely intelligence needed to counter related threats.”¹⁴

In the same vein, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has a dedicated “MDM team,” a special taskforce “charged with building national resilience to mis-, dis-, and malinformation ...”¹⁵ In short, national security agencies are being weaponized against the American public itself. They’re openly being used to shut down Constitutional rights.

DHS Bulletin Cannot Be Allowed to Stand

In response to the DHS bulletin, Malone writes:¹⁶

“In the United States, our right to free speech and the right to assemble is paramount to who we are. [The DHS National Terrorism Advisory Bulletin] has some of my colleagues as well as myself very worried. Those who are writing and speaking about science and health policy are now in danger of being targeted by the U.S. government as domestic terrorists for spreading ‘mis-, dis- and mal-information (MDM).

The manipulative linking of election violence to COVID-19 policies is disingenuous. It is a calculated strategy to allow government authorities to crack down on those people who are going against the Health and Human Services narrative that there are no early treatments for COVID-19 and that everyone must get vaccinated, and that the lockdowns and mask mandates were necessary.

The U.S. government must be held accountable for their failed policies and authoritarian behavior during this pandemic. Scientists, the press, physicians and yes, laypeople, must be able to speak and write freely ...

As a people, we cannot allow ourselves to be censored in this manner. It is time that our legislative and judicial branches of government do their job to protect our first amendment rights. This bulletin cannot be allowed to stand or we will no longer have freedom of speech in this country.”

Sources and References

- ¹ Time February 4, 2022
- ² NIH Director’s Blog March 26, 2020
- ³ YouTube Rising January 12, 2022
- ⁴ Nature Medicine 26, 450–452 (2020) March 17, 2020
- ⁵ American Society for Microbiology SARS-CoV-2 Origins With Robert Garry, TWIV 762. May 21, 2021
- ^{6, 10} Federalist February 14, 2022

- ⁷ The Intercept November 3, 2021
- ⁸ Daily Caller November 3, 2021 (Archived)
- ⁹ ZeroHedge October 27, 2021
- ^{11, 14} DHS.gov February 7, 2022
- ^{12, 15} Cisa.gov Mis, Dis, Malinformation
- ¹³ Trending Politics February 10, 2022
- ¹⁶ RWMaloneMD Substack February 12, 2022