

# Can Political Reporters Handle the Covid-19 Disinformation Machine? | WIRED

By Gilad Edelman

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If the coronavirus pandemic becomes for Donald Trump what Hurricane Katrina was for George W. Bush, we might come to look back at last Friday's press conference as Trump's "Brownie, you're doing a heck of a job" moment. The president's comments to reporters at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention headquarters in Atlanta were, as my colleague Adam Rogers has masterfully explained, [riddled with bizarre and dangerous falsehoods](#). One stood out above the rest: Trump's flatly untrue claim that "[anybody that wants a test can get a test](#)." The president was either lying about or ignorant of the central fact of the US government's botched response to the disease. That alone could have been front-page news: "Trump Falsely Declares 'Anybody That Wants' Can Get a Coronavirus Test."

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