

Why Coronavirus Conspiracy Theories Flourish. And Why It Matters. | The New York Times

By Max Fisher

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The coronavirus has given rise to a flood of conspiracy theories, disinformation and propaganda, eroding public trust and undermining health officials in ways that could elongate and even outlast the pandemic.

Claims that the virus is a foreign bioweapon, a partisan invention or part of a plot to re-engineer the population have replaced a mindless virus with more familiar, comprehensible villains. Each claim seems to give a senseless tragedy some degree of meaning, however dark.

Rumors of secret cures — diluted bleach, turning off your electronics, bananas — promise hope of protection from a threat that not even world leaders can escape.

[...]

Source: [Why Coronavirus Conspiracy Theories Flourish. And Why It Matters. - The New York Times](#)