

MSNBC's *The ReidOut*

04/27/21

7:15:32 p.m. [TEASE]

20 seconds

JOY REID: Plus, the government announces new guidelines for wearing masks as the right to launches dangerous, new attacks on science and also kids at school and in the park with their moms. And sad state for the Republican party. Now Biden is coming for your hamburgers. Just the latest, absurd narrative as Biden keeps winning with boring stuff like, I don't know, competence and normalcy.

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7:29:20 p.m. [TEASE]

14 seconds

REID: And still ahead, the right wing's hostility to science has reached a new level of awfulness, targeting those who are taking the pandemic seriously for ridicule and even harassment. Tonight's Absolute Worst is coming up. Don't go anywhere.

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7:33:19 p.m.

2 minutes and 59 seconds

REID: It's a new low even for Tucker Carlson of Fox News who, this week, encouraged his viewers to harass and threaten parents and their children to use a mask. And to use 911 and police to enforce his attempt to criminalize a piece of cloth.

TUCKER CARLSON [on 04/26/21]: As we're forcing children to wear masks outside, that should be illegal. Your response when you see children wearing masks as they play should be no different from your response to seeing someone beat a kid at Walmart. Call the police immediately. Contact child protective services. Keep calling until someone arrives.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: The Absolute Worst; Tucker Carlson Weaponizes Anti-Maskism]

REID: Why does he always look confused? Well, we now know that the male version of a Karen with 911 on speed dial and a sense of presumed authority over other people's lives should from this day on should be called a Tucker. Tucker wants his America to unleash the hounds during a time when police violence is under unprecedented scrutiny. None of that matters to Tucker. He thinks masks are like the pins North Koreans wear to show obedience to their leader. Never mind that he requires obedience from his followers, encouraging his Tucker mob to find you at the playground, the zoo or inside a bouncy castle, and interrogate you for making a personal choice about how to protect your kids. The thing is, this isn't really about masks, is it, Mr. Microwave Meals Heir? Because we know, and Tucker, and we think you know, too, that conservatives are

just really angry that they've lost control of American society and culture. It's why Fox wants its viewers mad, mad, mad about Dr. Seuss and red meat to the point where the network is just a hub for racial hatred, and not even just that anymore, but also for a very dangerous, deeply concerning platform so that committed — so committed to the Big Lie that its top host is encouraging its viewers to harass strangers and demand that they bare their faces. This is also coming as the anti-vax and COVID-denying moments are increasingly impacting kids, like this anti-mask protest happening outside an elementary school in Beverly Hills as children just try to make their way home. Or this private school in Miami refusing to employ vaccinated teachers, get this, based off misinformation linking the vaccine to menstruation, a claim that has been debunked. And, also, sorry, why is a school studying their students' cycles? But Tucker, like all of his fellow Tuckers, don't actually care about the children. He just wants his viewers mad, viewers who are sick and tired of being told what to do even as they tell women what to do with their bodies, even as they tell trans youths well, they can't play sports, or they tell Americans who they are and who they're not allowed to elect because, you know, they get to decide. Their anger really isn't about masks. It's about the business model of raising bogus concerns to keep the outrage machine just churning and churning, which is why Tucker Carlson weaponizing his victimhood is the absolute worst.

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7:40:34 p.m.

3 minutes and 14 seconds

REID: In the latest sign that vaccinations are working, the CDC today eased the guidelines for wearing masks for fully vaccinated people when they are outdoors.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; CDC Relaxes Guidance on Wearing Masks Outdoors]

[BIDEN CLIP]

REID: Joining me now is critical care pulmonologist Dr. Vin Gupta. And Dr. Gupta, I am among the fully vaccinated, joined team Pfizer, and I did go jogging today in the park, and I did — this was the mask that I wore with a doctor's mask under it and most of the people that I saw that were in the park — the park was packed — I would say, like, 95 percent of the people still had masks on. There were people who were really getting upset about that. I won't name them. Should people be freaking out that some people like myself who are vaccinated should still wear masks outdoors? Should we do that?

DR. VIN GUPTA: Well, definitely not. Good evening, Joy. I think you're going to see residual masking based on personal preference for — for months, if not years, after this pandemic is over. So, no, I think that's — nobody should judge anyone else's personal health decisions. Having said that, I will say that the CDC was well timed to put this out there, because there is no data — frankly, there has not been data for many months now that outdoor transmission is a thing, especially when warm humid air where Joy, we know that respiratory viruses don't like humid air, they like cold, dry air. So, you have warmer weather. You have the fact that more people who

are vaccinated, the wind currents, there is no way you'll get exposed unless you're at a rave or outdoor concert where you're really close to people who are not masking.

REID: Yeah.

GUPTA: Outside of that, this is — this is the wise policy.

REID: Well, I mean, the reason that I still do it is that people who are jogging are all breathing, and it's like, you're in their backdraft, and it's like, if I'm going to run with — behind a lot of people, I do it. But, I mean, look, I was also surprised today to find out that only 26.5 percent of Americans are fully vaccinated. That seems really low to me. Do you feel like we're behind the count, because until we get to the 80 percent that you've talked about for herd immunity, isn't it still possible for COVID to spread with — at 26.5 percent?

GUPTA: Absolutely. Absolutely. We're not out of the woods yet, joy. So, yes, you're touching on something that's vital. 200 million Americans plus that have had a first dose, it doesn't mean they're fully vaccinated —

REID: Right.

GUPTA: — only 26 percent per what you just cited, so that's why we're still looking into middle of July, hopefully for some degree of normalcy, but we need to have a different conversation now. I've been having conversations across the country with younger people —

REID: Yeah.

GUPTA: — and they need incentives. We can't — you know, I can wag my finger all I want and say, well, the virus is changing, younger people going into ICUs. And I remind them that the virus is unpredictable. It can cause strokes in young people. I've seen very rare complications, but they happen in young, otherwise healthy people like guillain barre syndrome — full body paralysis. But it still sometimes — that doesn't reach them, Joy.

REID: Yeah.

GUPTA: So, do we — so, do we pay them? I think table stakes right now should be — if you want to travel, the international association of airlines actually, is now 29 airlines subscribing to go a travel pass.

REID: Yeah.

GUPTA: And so, they're trialing that now, but I want that to be a paradigm for travel. If you want to travel, you have to show certification. There's nothing wrong with that.