

BY WILLIAM F. JASPER

Dear Costco, **Here's My Membership Card. Stuff it!**

On May 4, retail giant Costco began requiring all employees and customers to wear face masks while inside their stores.

Costco President and CEO Craig Jelinek cited the constantly changing, draconian, and much-contested CDC (Centers for Disease Control) guidelines for the company's position. Costco and other big corporations that have been deemed "essential businesses" have weathered the shutdown just fine, but millions of small, medium, and large independent businesses are being destroyed, along with millions of jobs and livelihoods. Even worse, many of the biggest proponents of the oppressive China-style lockdowns/crackdowns are now admitting what many of us had warned from the outset of the virus outbreak, that the "cure" may be worse than the disease. The United Nations World Food Program is now warning that, as a result of the economic devastation caused by COVID restriction, many more people are at risk of death from starvation worldwide than from the virus itself.

With these and other horrendous impacts in mind, this writer decided that one small effort that could be undertaken as an individual would be to help initiate an exodus of informed consumers from those businesses that are buying into and promoting the destructive hysteria that is sounding the death knell for human freedom. Thus, in an open letter to Costco, I wrote: "Dear Costco, Here's My Membership Card. Please Stuff it!... along with your Maoist mandatory facemask policy. Please refund the pro rata portion of my membership dues, along with my Executive Member annual rebate."

Although I have been a Costco executive member for over a decade, I was growing increasingly disturbed by the store's steady expansion in the amount of foodstuffs from China — which I will never buy (and refused to buy even before the Wuhan virus).

But, really, going "Full Wuhan" with the mandatory face-masks? That exceeds even the autocratic commands of the CDC and most of the Chicken Little politicians at the state and local levels. "What's next?" I asked. "Mandatory proof of COVID vaccine before entering a COSTCO market? My neighbor, a mother of three youngsters, was turned away from one of your stores because you have placed a group limit of three on shoppers. Are we to assume that this is to conform with Communist China's current Two Child policy? And, if the



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Chinese Communist Party (CCP) decides to revert to its murderous, barbaric One Child policy, should we expect Costco to likewise revise its policies to conform with the latest CCP edict?"

Is calling Costco's face-mask policy "Maoist" hyperbolic? Not at all. Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the mass-murdering founder of the People's Republic of China, has been re-elevated to god-like status in the PRC's current communist dictatorship under Xi Jinping. And Xi's servile propagandists are being given prestige plat-

forms to spread Maoist thought in America.

Take for example, an interview with Dr. Shan Soe-Lin entitled "Americans may need to wear masks for up to 18 months, Yale expert says," widely disseminated by Yahoo! News and other sites. Dr. Shan, a Chinese immunologist who teaches at Yale University, is one of thousands of Chinese researchers chosen by the CCP to flood American universities.

"I think people are going to have to wear masks until there's a vaccine. I mean that to be completely blunt," Shan declared. "I think the next best would be through the end of the epidemic. It definitely needs to be moving past peak." "It's a big cultural thing to have to reverse here..." Dr. Shan said. "It's just not a norm that's done and it's a norm that needs to change in a really trying time."

Yes, "It's a big cultural thing to have to reverse here." Are we allowed to recognize an undisguised appeal to Mao's mass-murdering Cultural Revolution here in Shan's statement? As the CDC, Costco, and other businesses promote the "China model" in dealing with the CCP coronavirus, we can be certain that Dr. Shan and her comrades populating our colleges and universities will be trotted out again and again to pronounce the new edicts that our globalist leaders insist we must adopt as "the new norm" for America. In terms of sickness and death, the actual CCP virus has cut a devastating swath through America. The far greater devastation, however, is that inflicted by the CCP virus of Maoist thought, which is conditioning us to cower in fear and allow ourselves to be herded as sheeple or mindless automatons.

Costco certainly will survive my departure as a member/patron, just as I certainly will find other stores that will take my money and provide the goods and services I want — without subjecting me to Beijing-style commands. If your freedom means more to you than the latest Made-in-China sale item, maybe you'll join me in sending Costco — and other kowtowing corporations — the message: Stuff it! ■

William F. Jasper is senior editor of THE NEW AMERICAN.