

**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 04 June 2021 15:08

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Friday, June 4

Friday, June 4

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

- **#Fraudci**
- **#FauciLiedPeopleDied**
- **#FauciGate**
- **#FauciForPrison**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Concern about the effect of vaccines on menstruation cycles continues to be raised in anti-vaccine communities. Dr Marcus De Brun said that such side effects are becoming “increasingly common”. Health Freedom Ireland argued that there is no evidence that vaccines affect the menstrual cycle because “researchers haven’t yet studied it sufficiently”, citing an old Forbes article.

These narratives echo similar international claims that “Lipid nanoparticles from mRNA injections disproportionately accumulate in the ovaries” and that their long-term effects on fertility are unknown.

### TRENDS

Other international narratives that are being spread in Ireland include reports that the Israeli Ministry of Health has observed a link between the Pfizer vaccine and heart inflammation ([1](#), [2](#)) and the [leaked emails](#) of Anthony Fauci.

[Aisling O'Loughlin](#) has been promoting [a new video](#) by Geert Vanden Bossche, an influencer in the anti-vaccine community who has featured in this newsletter previously. O'Loughlin warns against vaccinating children and says that "the jab" will turn recipients into "walking bioweapons" that will put the people around them at risk, and make non-vaccinated people more likely to get COVID.

## MONITORING

Anti-lockdown activists continue to direct their ire at Tony Holohan, with discussion focussed on his role in the Cervical Check scandal, which many suggested he had tried to cover up (see [this thread](#), as well as its retweets and replies).

Irish conspiracy theorists are attempting to organise a "National No More Mask Day" on June 8, however this does not appear to have generated significant momentum.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Conspiracy theories about Anthony Fauci's emails are not calming down and have widely dominated QAnon, MAGA and anti-vaccine groups.

- The hashtag #FauciLiedPeopleDied is trending in the US and [is amplified](#) by QAnon accounts.
- Scott Jensen, a political figure who has repeatedly spread COVID misinformation, posted a video with the title "You are being played" and [said](#) that Fauci "waffled" about masks and that he deceived people about COVID origins.
- Conspiracy theorists on several forums are sharing lists of quotes from the leaked emails (see [here](#) and [here](#)).
- Sebastian Gorka [posted](#) a photo of Trump looking at Fauci and commented "He knew."
- A trending post on a MAGA messaging board [claims](#) that Twitter suspended organizations announcing to release more of Fauci's emails.
- MAGA supporters are [sharing](#) a tweet by Emerald Robinson who [claimed](#) that "Fauci lied under oath to Congress."
- Conspiracy theorists on Reddit are [engaging](#) with a [tweet](#) posted by Candace Owens. Owens accused people supporting Fauci of being a "brainwashed idiot who celebrated tyranny and CDC-sponsored child abuse."
- Several posts on Reddit spread theories that Fauci is a scapegoat and compared the release of Fauci's emails to the leak of the DNC emails (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).
- PrisonPlanet [shared](#) a video on Gab targeting Peter Daszak for thanking Fauci. The video was also [uploaded](#) to YouTube.

A post on Reddit's conspiracy forum [spread](#) a baseless claim that COVID was released from a lab to disrupt a "booming economy and make it easier to win the presidential election."

Ivermectin is still being promoted by conspiracy theories as a cure for COVID and cancer (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

Trump supporters [continue](#) to share unproven claims that hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin improve COVID survival rates significantly.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 08 June 2021 14:53

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Tuesday, June 8



Tuesday, June 8

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

- **#JailDrFauci**
- **#NoInformedConsent**
- **#LeaveKidsAlone**

- **#StandFirm**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

While mainstream news outlets covered and debated the use of force by police against revellers in Irish cities over the long weekend, fringe figures condemned the actions of An Garda Síochána but lay the blame, ultimately, on the government and NPHET. They often conflate public order policing with COVID-19 restrictions, lockdowns and emergency powers ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [9](#)). Some directly named Stephen Donnelly, Tony Holohan, or even Zero COVID advocates, such as ISAG, as culprits behind the disturbances ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)).

Videos from South William Street played into the hands of conspiracy theorists implying that any public health or safety measure is an excuse to broaden the powers of the state. One political candidate commented that the police action indicated “[a dangerous move towards a totalitarian state](#)”, while long-time activist against COVID restrictions, Tracey O’Mahoney, evoked the Nuremberg Defense used by Nazis when she suggested that the police were “[just following orders](#)”.

Aontú leader [Peadar Toibín](#) appeared on RTÉ where he condemned COVID restrictions and emergency powers for creating the conditions that brought about the violence on Dublin streets. Aontú’s social media channels continue to advocate for the end of restrictions, [saying that](#): “All the people with Covid in Hospital in Ireland would fit on 1 Double Decker Bus”.

### TRENDS

A YouTube channel that regularly spreads misinformation recently released [a video](#) which claims that COVID vaccines are experimental and that “shedding” makes people sick just by spending time around recipients of the vaccines.

Aisling O’Loughlin’s new videos focus [on claims](#) about Freemason conspiracy theories; that PCR tests are part of a scheme based on nazi-era eugenics; that animals can sense who has been vaccinated and react badly toward them; and that [old people were murdered](#) in nursing homes.

A new [YouTube video](#) by known spreader of misinformation, Ivor Cummins, claims that comparisons between Sweden and Ireland show that COVID restrictions are ineffective. The video has been viewed more than 50,000 times.

## MONITORING

An article by TheJournal.ie about how figures have been distorted by fringe groups to support their agendas has been attracting backlash from key fringe figures, with one saying TheJournal.ie “obfuscates again for it's Covid stipend”, while another advised the journalist who wrote the piece that, if you play with fire, “you’ll get burnt”.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Anti-vaccine activists and groups are sharing a theory that COVID-related deaths in the UK are actually caused by overdoses of a commonly used sedative called Midazolam.

On May 31, Kinzen reported on a false story claiming that 920 women lost their babies after getting COVID vaccines. The story has been fact checked by Lead Stories.

Anti-vaccine activist Joseph Mercola suggested in a new article that mass protests could help end vaccine passports.

Some social media users (see here and here) claimed that four African leaders who died in recent months were killed for opposing COVID vaccinations for their citizens. The story was debunked by Reuters.

Anti-vaccine activist Dan Astin-Gregory claimed in a tweet that a nurse working in a hospital in Wiltshire, UK, said they were busy dealing with “vaccine reactions in the under 40s in particular.”

Theories about the origins of COVID are still discussed online. InfoWars claimed that COVID has a “genetic footprint that has never been observed in a natural coronavirus.”

An article circulating among anti-vaccine groups claimed that a new document suggested that routine quality testing was overlooked in the rush to authorize use of the Pfizer vaccine.

Social media users claimed that airlines were meeting to discuss concerns about the health and legal risks of allowing vaccinated people on board. The claim has been fact-checked by Politifact.

Conspiracy theorists have been circulating a claim that the Obama administration lifted a block on "Gain of Function Research" 11 days before Trump took office. They suggested that COVID was released intentionally to stop Trump from looking “exponentially more plausible.”

Anti-vaccine communities have been circulating a story about a mother, Rachel Hatton, who claims that her son Gregory developed a serious heart condition after taking the vaccine.

Conspiracy theorists have been circulating an old video of Muammar Gaddafi where he claimed that viruses were human made.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 09 June 2021 14:14

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Wednesday, June 9



Wednesday, June 9

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

- **#WeNeedToTalkAboutMidazolam**
- **#TakeOffYourMask**
- **#TonysVirus**

- **#NoVaccinePassportsAnywhere**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

News that variants may up the requirements of vaccines needed for herd immunity have been dismissed online. A barrage of [criticism](#) coming from Ivor Cummins, who refers to them as "[scariants](#)", implying that they are invented or exaggerated in order to coerce people to comply with restrictions. This is a common attitude taken by fringe groups ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)).

### TRENDS

Yesterday, a campaign on Twitter supported by [Irish activists](#) made the hashtag #TakeOffYourMask trend in the United Kingdom. Irish fringe groups appear to have shifted their focus from lifting restrictions - many of which are no longer in place - to [anti-mask](#) and anti-vaccines content.

Gemma O'Doherty [has claimed](#) in a new video that "almost 14,000" people have been listed as dying from COVID vaccines according to EMA figures. O'Doherty also claims that you cannot report an adverse event after receiving a vaccine without being labelled a conspiracy theorist.

O'Doherty's video was filmed in front of Beaumont Hospital, where she says suspicious activity is happening, according to an "insider's report".

This past weekend, O'Doherty released [another video](#) in which she interviews four anonymous so-called hospital whistleblowers, who claim that authorities are coercing people into taking vaccines by, for example, not allowing medical staff who refuse vaccines to work.

[A video](#) posted to social media also appears to show O'Doherty being arrested

in Greystones, Co Wicklow, when towing a trailer displaying phrases like “Vaccines can cause paralysis”.

## **MONITORING**

A Rose of Tralee contestant from Ohio, USA, says that she will [refuse to attend](#) the 2022 competition if it means she will be “forced” to take a vaccine for COVID.

An article by Gript.ie poses the question: “[Where is the Dublin Covid surge?](#)” which focuses on why recent scenes of outdoor gatherings in the city were not followed by bumps in COVID cases there.

## **THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK**

The biggest claim being [discussed](#) among conspiracy theorists today is that Anthony Fauci “[suppressed](#)” [hydroxychloroquine](#) as a cure for COVID. Social media posts about hydroxychloroquine have received thousands of interactions (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

A theory about another virus outbreak at a Chinese facility at around the same time of the COVID outbreak [has been circulating](#) online.

Yesterday, Kinzen reported on a theory claiming that COVID-related deaths were related to overdoses of a commonly used sedative called Midazolam. Anti-vaccine groups are still sharing this theory (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

One of the trending posts on Reddit’s conspiracy theory forum [compared](#) taking vaccines without being infected with COVID to receiving chemotherapy without having cancer.

Conspiracy theorists [claim](#) Peter Daszak “admits” that colleges in China were “adding spike proteins to the bat coronavirus!”



Anti-vaccine activists have [been sharing](#) a list of “vaccine dangers.”

InfoWars [has shared](#) misleading videos and photos claiming to show refrigerator magnets sticking to COVID vaccine injection sites.

Anti-vaccine groups [have been sharing a video](#) of Erika Smith, Dean of academic services at Brandeis University, Massachusetts, saying that “forced vaccination” and “medical passports” are forms of “medical apartheid.”

Conspiracy theorists [have been circulating](#) old videos of medical staff dancing during their breaks as proof that “hospitals were empty.”

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 10 June 2021 14:12

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Thursday, June 10

Thursday, June 10

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

- **#UnMaskOurChildren**
- **#OurMilitaryAreOurChildren**
- **#DoTheRightThing**
- **#Unmask**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Arguments about antigen testing are making a comeback on [traditional](#), [fringe](#) and social media ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), with many commentators, including [a doctor](#) and a [senator](#), criticising NPHET's stance.

### TRENDS

Fringe groups and activists [expressed horror](#) at [a tweet](#) which said a "friend's son", an autistic 19-year-old with the mental capacity of a small child who is living in a residential facility, was going to be vaccinated, and that the mother was not asked for her consent.

Despite attempts by anti-mask activists ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)), the hashtag #TakeOffYourMask did not trend on Irish Twitter like it had in the UK the day before. However, the hashtag opposing anti-vaccine activism, #VaccinesWork, is [trending](#) in Ireland today.

[Followers of Gemma O’Doherty allege](#) that PCR tests are being carried out on terminal patients as part of an effort to boost case numbers at Beaumont Hospital, where O’Doherty had filmed a recent video. Others claim that [corpses](#), including [car crash victims](#) and people who had [killed themselves](#), were also swabbed to boost case numbers.

Yesterday, Kinzen mentioned the Rose of Tralee contestant who said that she would refuse to take part in the competition if she had to take a vaccine. She was celebrated by anti-vaccine groups (see [the responses here](#)).

Fringe communities have been pointedly asking “where’s the surge” in cases following recent scenes of outdoor gatherings in Dublin City ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)). These posts were prompted by articles published by The Times and Gript.ie (see yesterday’s Digest).

## **MONITORING**

A [new Aisling O’Loughlin video](#) suggests that vaccines are responsible for the emergence of COVID variants, which is a narrative we have seen spread internationally, but that has not yet gained traction in Ireland. In the same video, O’Loughlin claimed that the vaccines caused heavy clotting and bleeding, irregular periods, and may induce menopause. She said that these concerns were dismissed due to sexism.

[A new video](#) showing two people refusing to wear face covering and subsequently being removed from a train has been spread in fringe groups. It has been viewed more than 8,300 times in under 19 hours. See June 3’s digest for more information on the incident and the original video. The new video does

not show much more than what was captured in the first video, except that, after the first video ended, the female passenger was also handcuffed and appears to have resisted arrest.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Several anti-vaccine groups on social media have been spreading narratives against vaccinating children (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Social media users [shared](#) a video of Vernon Coleman, a regular spreader of misinformation, [claiming](#) that “Lies on the BBC will lead to children dying”.

Misleading videos shared on social media showing people standing still in a trance-like state have been used to suggest catatonia is a side-effect of COVID vaccines (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). The videos [have been debunked](#) by Reuters.

The false claims about magnets being used in the COVID vaccines are still circulating among anti-vaccine groups ([here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). A clip from a Mexican TV show [has been shared](#) as proof that they failed to debunk that vaccines are “magnetic.”

Conspiracy theorists have been spreading baseless claims that Peter Daszak and Anthony Fauci developed COVID to depopulate the world (see [here](#) and [here](#)). An article by Joseph Mercola about COVID vaccines used as a “depopulation weapon” [was shared](#) in COVID denialism communities.

Reuters [has fact-checked](#) the claim that COVID vaccines make people produce a spike protein that is a toxin and can damage organs.

Anti-vaccine activists [have](#) claimed that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine might be responsible for deaths of some elderly patients in Norway.

The Daily Expose [claimed](#) in a new article that Chinese military researchers were involved in creating mice with “humanised lungs” to test the infectiousness of various viruses. The article adds that scientists may have infected the “bioengineered” lab mice with coronaviruses.

Carrie Madej, an anti-vaccine influencer, [claimed](#) in a video that COVID vaccines contain “subunits of HIV 1.”

Trending posts on Reddit’s conspiracy forum discussed reports about a Houston hospital suspending 178 employees who refused being vaccinated (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 14 June 2021 14:22

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Monday, June 14



Monday, June 14

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#CovidPlandemic**

**#CrimesAgainstChildren**

**#NoVaccinePassports**

**#ConstitutionalRights**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Campaigns continue to allow the partners of pregnant women to accompany them inside medical facilities.

- [A tweet](#) by a Sinn Féin party worker who said he was unable to join his sick, heavily pregnant wife into the Coombe was shared more than 1,900 times on Twitter.
- [Another tweet](#), posted by a woman who said her daughter had just undergone a painful procedure and was unable to be visited by her husband, included a photo described as showing a queue of partners outside the Coombe and was shared more than 1,700 times.

- The issue has been spread in [COVID-skeptic groups](#), where some commentators blamed the HSE and NPHEA.

## TRENDS

While the anti-immigration National Party has long cast doubt on the extent of the pandemic and shown support for anti-mask and anti-restriction campaigns, [a recent tweet](#) has directly suggested that COVID-19 vaccines might be dangerous, quoting adverse effects reported in the United Kingdom. The party is currently campaigning in [Dublin Bay South](#) for the by-election, though also has canvassers in [Strabane, Co Tyrone](#), and [Galabally, Co Limerick](#).

Ivor Cummins, an Irish unqualified nutrition writer who regularly features in this digest for spreading misinformation, [was cited](#) by the legendary blues guitarist Eric Clapton as the person who first convinced him that authorities were lying about COVID-19.

Clapton had previously released an anti-lockdown song with Belfast singer-songwriter Van Morrison, who also made news over the weekend due to a bizarre speech in which he invited the DUP politician Ian Paisley Junior on stage to chant "[Robert Swann is very dangerous](#)" in response to a Rolling Stone interview in which Swann, the Northern Ireland health minister, said Morrison had spread misinformation about COVID-19.

## MONITORING

Yellow Vest Ireland is heavily promoting an anti-restrictions protest on June 19 at The Custom House in Dublin City ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)).

While news that there may be a link between the Pfizer vaccine and myocarditis cases has been posted in Irish anti-vaccine circles ([1,2](#)), the claim has not been widely shared yet.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

A [video](#) published by Sky News Australia claiming to show proof that bats were kept in the Wuhan lab has been shared widely among fringe groups (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

Falsehoods have spread [suggesting](#) that Christian Eriksen had been vaccinated or had contracted COVID before he suddenly collapsed during EURO 2020. The falsehoods [were dismissed](#) by Inter Milan director Giuseppe Marotta, who said he had not yet taken a vaccine.

YouTube [suspended](#) US Senator Ron Johnson for promoting unproven treatments for COVID.

Fringe groups [have been sharing](#) a video from at least 1995 where Pierre Gilbert claimed that vaccines would turn people to zombies.

Musician Eric Clapton [spoke](#) in a new video about his opposition to lockdowns and negative experiences with the COVID vaccine.

A viral video shared on social media shows an intense exchange over masks at Victoria Inn in Richmond, UK. The video was also [shared](#) by the far-right activist Tommy Robinson.

Anti-vaccine groups [are spreading](#) the narrative that fear has been shifted from the “virus to the unvaccinated.”

A video of a woman [claiming](#) that oil and gas companies were looking at having to replace all their vaccinated staff within 3 years has been shared among conspiracy groups.

The Daily Expose [published](#) a baseless article claiming that more people have died because of the vaccines in six months than people who have died of COVID in 15 months.



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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 15 June 2021 14:20

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Tuesday, June 15



Tuesday, June 15

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#CrimeOfTheCentury**

**#IAmDone**

**#EnoughIsEnough**

**#CovidHoax**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Anti-vaccine groups are increasingly rallying against the prospect that children might be vaccinated.

- Many commentators are saying that the vaccines are causing injuries and will lead to mass hospitalisation of children (see the comments [here](#)).
- Limerick doctor Pat Morrissey, who is known for his anti-mask and anti-COVID vaccine views, suggested that authorities were “[coming after our children](#)”.
- A rally against the vaccination of children is planned for June 25 at the Department of Education in Dublin City ([1](#), [2](#)).

### TRENDS

A [new Twitter thread](#) by a known conspiracist takes aim at Tony Holohan, claiming that he has been dictating government policy while debate and dissent have been suppressed.

- The thread comes ahead of a [planned Oireachtas committee](#) meeting in which Holohan is expected to defend NPHEP's stance on antigen testing not being reliable enough to be widely used.
- Fringe groups have been sharing news of the meeting, with many saying that they [intend on watching footage](#) of the hearing.
- The thread accuses Holohan of acting arrogant and rude toward members of the press, and indicates that Holohan and the government's strategies are international outliers by contrasting them with anti-mask and anti-lockdown recommendations by some experts.

It is regularly claimed in anti-lockdown groups that the rest of the world has eased restrictions faster than Ireland ([1](#), [2](#)).

While enthusiasm in anti-lockdown movements have been dampened as society has begun to reopen, supporters of the aviation industry continue to express anger at travel restrictions, including hotel quarantines. ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

## **MONITORING**

Kinzen has noticed a slight increase in rhetoric [encouraging the harassment of the press](#) by fringe groups, or indicating that journalists may be [hanged for war crimes](#) like Nazi war criminals.

Despite an injunction sought by Beaumont Hospital against Gemma O'Doherty over defamatory videos, some of her supporters continue to post clips online. One Twitter account, which posted [clips of O'Doherty filmed outside the hospital](#), has previously [linked to videos](#) arguing in favour of Hitler's reign over Nazi Germany.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Political editor of the BBC's Newsnight, Nick Watt, [was pursued](#) by aggressive anti-lockdown protesters in London.

The death of 12-year-old Italian tennis player Cloe Giani Giavazzi has prompted vaccine misinformation. Anti-vaccine activists [spread](#) unproven claims that she died after taking the Pfizer vaccine.

False posts on social media [claimed](#) that late chef Anthony Bourdain tweeted about trying the 'best bat soup' from Wuhan weeks before his death. Reuters [debunked](#) the false story.

In a video uploaded to YouTube yesterday, singer Van Morrison [attacked](#) Robin Swann, North Ireland Health Minister, over live music restrictions. Previously, Morrison [was filmed](#) repeatedly chanting "Robin Swann is very dangerous!"

Anti-vaccine activists [have been circulating](#) a story about a Texas man named Chris Staley being forced to take the COVID vaccine.

Fringe groups have been sharing [a new video](#) by Robert Malone, Steve Kirsch and Bret Weinstein making baseless claims about vaccines (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

New posts on fringe groups [suggested](#) that Fauci's emails revealed that the "natural origin theory" was "coordinated propaganda" and that it was crafted by the scientists who engineered the virus.

Anti-vaccine activists on social media [have been sharing the story](#) of 19-year-old Simone Scott claiming that she died after taking the vaccine.

Social media users have used misleading photos from an Iranian funeral to

push the false narrative that COVID is a hoax (see [here](#) and [here](#)). Reuters [debunked](#) the false photos.

The Daily Expose [claimed in a new article](#) that eight Maine residents died after receiving two doses of COVID vaccines.

Fullfact has [fact-checked](#) falsehoods made by the anti-vaccine influencer David Icke who claimed that vaccines are “gene therapy.”

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 16 June 2021 14:28

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Wednesday, June 16



Wednesday, June 16

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#Myocarditis**

**#VaxAgenda**

**#JonStewart**

**#BanVaccinePassports**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Gemma O'Doherty and her supporters have launched a publication that calls itself a "[truthpaper](#)". In videos that appear to show many hundreds of physical copies of The Irish Light ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), O'Doherty said that the paper would be distributed for free "all over Ireland". Its first headline reads: "'Vaccine' Deaths Soar".

The paper is an Irish edition of a UK paper that has been [effective at spreading conspiracist misinformation](#) across English-speaking countries while being hard for researchers to track.

O'Doherty said that the first issue would reveal that a "genocide" was being covered up by hospitals across Ireland. In particular, she named Beaumont Hospital, which has sought an injunction against O'Doherty for defamation, as described in yesterday's newsletter.

Supporters also posted [videos of a protest](#) yesterday outside Beaumont Hospital, where conspiracy theorists held up signs saying that vaccines were dangerous.

[Clips](#) of Gemma O'Doherty and John Waters making racist comments on a livestream have recently been spread online, causing offense even in fringe communities. Some commentators said that the comments made them "[lose respect](#)" for O'Doherty and Waters, while anti-lockdown [political](#) and [media](#) figures have also publicly distanced themselves from the pair.

## TRENDS

Spreaders of anti-vaccine misinformation are pushing the theory that the sudden death of a man in Co Carlow, [Michael Rogers](#), was caused by the Pfizer vaccine ([1](#), [2](#)).

Anti-vaccine groups have commented under a [Facebook post](#) where a Carlow man called Michael Rogers celebrates getting the vaccine. The comments said that vaccines are fatal and that Rogers was "murdered" by the government.

The Facebook profile and the RIP.ie page likely describe the same person, who had died on June 13. While this is not immediately clear — the photos available are ambiguous and the Facebook profile has no friends with the same names as the surviving relatives listed on the RIP.ie page — [comments](#) made by other Facebook friends indicate that the owner of the Facebook page died recently.

TheLiberal.ie, an online publication with a [history](#) of [deceptive practices](#), including spreading far-right misinformation, is now also publishing debunked claims by Michael Yeadon ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), a hero of the anti-vaccine movement and a former researcher in Pfizer.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

After his [appearance](#) on Stephen Colbert's show, Jon Stewart has gained fans among COVID conspiracy theorists. On the show, Stewart made jokes about how COVID originated at the Wuhan lab. Conspiracy theory groups across multiple platforms have been sharing the clip in celebration. The most engaged [Facebook post](#) in English mentioning "vaccines" over the last 24 hours was a share of the video which encouraged others by saying "this is your vindication".

On Monday, we referenced the Sky News Australia suggestion that live bats were kept in the Wuhan lab. This theory continues to grow on fringe channels. Infowars [promoted](#) it yesterday.

QAnon-supporting Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene led a small number of Republicans in [announcing](#) the "Fire Fauci Act" yesterday. Phrases like "Fauci lied. People died" were used.

The story of 19-year-old Simone Scott continues to be shared by the anti-vaccine movement. Children's Health Defense promoted it yesterday, [claiming](#) that she "underwent a heart transplant one month after developing what her doctors believe was myocarditis following her second dose of Moderna".

In a new article, Joseph Mercola [claimed](#) "Data clearly show ivermectin can prevent COVID-19".

Natural News [claimed](#) that "supermagnetic nanoparticle 'transfection'" COVID



vaccines will enable a “biological KILL SWITCH”.

There is another new Eric Clapton anti-vaccine video on [YouTube](#). This one is an interview with Robin Monotti. Noel Gallagher has been praised by Paul Joseph Watson for a recent interview in which he [criticised lockdowns](#) and woke culture.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <[digest@kinzen.news](mailto:digest@kinzen.news)>

**Sent:** 17 June 2021 14:35

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Thursday, June 17



Thursday, June 17

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#AgainstVaccinePassports**

**#FaithNFreedoms**

**#UnVaxxed**

**#OpenforAll**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

[A clip](#) of Micheál Martin saying that the National Immunisation Advisory Committee is examining the prospect of vaccinating young people and children has generated outrage online. Commentators said the government are “[willing to roll the dice](#)” with childrens’ lives, that vaccines are [being banned](#) in other countries due to bad reactions, and that it is part of an [international conspiracy](#).

Former footballer Gary Dempsey (who said he was going to stay off Twitter until the end of summer) [quote tweeted the clip, saying](#) “If this doesn’t bring

people onto the streets in their 1000000's well I fear for all of us and there is actually no hope."

The uploaded clip has been viewed almost 16,000 times, and various versions have accumulated hundreds of likes and upvotes.

## TRENDS

There has been strong opposition to NPHEAT's position on antigen testing as outlined in an [Oireachtas committee on Wednesday](#), though much of this criticism was legitimate comment ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)).

A clip from the committee meeting in which it is demonstrated that self-administered antigen tests are easy to cheat using butter or tonic water has generated scorn online ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)). However, judging by some of the comments, it seems that many of its critics didn't understand what was being discussed.

News that Tony Holohan was [granted the Freedom of Dublin City](#) has been met with anger by anti-lockdown activists ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)), some of whom claimed he was [a Freemason](#), compared him [with Hitler](#), or quote tweeted his comments about [crowds gathering](#) outdoors in Dublin City.

[One person wrote](#): "@CMOIreland you are next" along with a video about a proposal to fire Anthony Fauci by Marjorie Taylor Greene, a US congresswoman who has repeatedly endorsed conspiracy theories, including QAnon, and who has [called for violence](#) against political opponents.

## MONITORING

Supporters of Gemma O'Doherty are planning to hold a demonstration at the Four Courts tomorrow at 9.45am to express defiance against an injunction

sought by Beaumont Hospital for defamation ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)).

As mentioned in yesterday's digest, O'Doherty and her supporters continue to claim that hospitals, including Beaumont, are distributing fatal vaccine doses and covering up the evidence.

Claims that [vaccines cause heart inflammation](#) continue to be spread in fringe groups.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

"Gain of Function Research" continues to be widely discussed among conspiracy theorists. A YouTube video [posted](#) by PowerfulJRE claimed that Anthony Fauci and Peter Daszak funded the research and covered up the leak. Activists [have suggested](#) replacing the "Gain of Function" term with "Biological Weapon" and continue to claim that Fauci paid China to unleash a biological weapon.

In a new [interview](#) on Fox News, Donald Trump [endorsed](#) the unproven theory that COVID originated from the Wuhan lab.

On fringe groups, users [described](#) the idea of vaccine passports as "a digital prison" (see also [here](#)).

Anti-vaccine activists [have cheered](#) the newspaper The Irish Light for its first headline that reads: "'Vaccine' Deaths Soar".

Canadian anti-mask activists [are organising](#) "Unmask Canada" Day on July 1.

Infowars [suggested](#) in a new article that perspex screens may have increased

the spread of COVID.

An article [shared widely](#) in fringe communities claimed that parents in Florida submitted six face masks worn by their children to a lab for analysis. The article claimed that the results found that five masks were contaminated with bacteria, parasites, and fungi, including three with dangerous pathogenic and pneumonia-causing bacteria.

Anti-vaccine groups in Canada [have launched](#) a “Stop Childhood Vaccination” campaign.

A conspiracy theory has been circulating in fringe groups [claiming](#) that Moderna sent coronavirus vaccine candidates to the US government three weeks before they allegedly learned of the first case in Wuhan.

A new article published by Natural News [made baseless claims](#) that COVID vaccines caused men to become infertile and develop prostate cancer.

The Daily Expose [published](#) a baseless article claiming new data shows that there was a 3,016% increase in the number of women who lost their unborn child as a result of having the COVID vaccines.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 18 June 2021 15:01

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Friday, June 18



Friday, June 18

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#DefundTheCDC**

**#NaturalTCellImmunity**

**#FactsNotFear**

**#AirBreather**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Anti-vaccine groups have focussed on a [HPRA safety update](#) to try to insinuate that COVID vaccine rollouts in Ireland have been unsafe and should be stopped. The report actually found that “the national reporting experience continues to support the favourable assessment that the benefits of COVID-19 vaccines outweigh the risks”.

Many suggested that adverse events were underreported (which the report itself says on page 3) and that the true figures would reveal the danger of vaccines ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)). One commenter [estimated](#) that the vaccine may have actually killed 6,700 people in Ireland.

### TRENDS

Gemma O’Doherty posted a video from outside Beaumont Hospital yesterday where she insisted that the hospital was “dysfunctional” and “unfit for purpose”, as well as saying that vaccines for COVID were “the most dangerous product that have ever been inflicted on humanity” ([1](#), [2](#)).

[O’Doherty was met](#) outside the Four Courts by her supporters, who held signs suggesting that vaccines were fatal, before she appeared in court today for alleged defamation against Beaumont Hospital.

O’Doherty’s supporters [have been protesting](#) outside Beaumont Hospital with

similar signs in recent days.

[A popular video](#) on TikTok shows a woman ripping up a HSE vaccine information leaflet. Further videos on her account confirm her anti-vaccine views.

[An article](#) in the Anglo-Celt describes a meeting of Cavan County Council where citizens and councillors talked about people in medical facilities who were unable to see their families for months during the COVID-19 crisis.

## **MONITORING**

Conspiracist and anti-vaccine groups are planning demonstrations in Dublin City tomorrow ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)). The rally is promoted as featuring Dolores Cahill and Ben Gilroy. Both speakers have suggested that vaccines have killed huge numbers of people in Ireland and that these mass deaths are being covered up by the government.

The event is planned to take place at 2pm at The Custom House.

## **THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK**

The biggest baseless story being shared in fringe communities claimed that three British Airways pilots died after taking the COVID vaccine in seven days. An unverified voice message about the claim has been circulating on social media and conspiracy forums (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Reuters [has debunked](#) the falsehood.

Anti-vaccine activists in the UK ripped down COVID signs in the Underground. Videos of the incident [have circulated](#) on social media.



The retired basketball player John Houston Stockton [took part](#) in an anti-vaccine documentary titled COVID and The Vaccine: Truth, Lies, And Misconceptions Revealed.

Unverified posts [have been circulating](#) on fringe groups claiming that "leaked" documents from the UK government state that COVID is a hoax and that lockdowns will last forever.

On June 11, Kinzen reported on Steve Bannon and Reiner Fuellmich talking about how "globalists planned COVID pandemic for 10 years." Lead Stories [fact-checked](#) the falsehoods.

QAnon influencers, including QAnon John, [are sharing](#) Donald Trump's remarks against vaccinating children. Robert F Kennedy Jnr, a well-known anti-vaccine activist, [shared](#) an article with a similar message. In the article, Sara Ross, chief of pediatric critical care at Tufts Children's Hospital, claimed the standard of safety for COVID vaccines were different for other vaccines.

Fringe groups [have been sharing](#) a [video](#) of Canadian MP Derek Sloan holding a press conference along with anti-vaccine influencers against lockdown and COVID vaccines.

Reuters [fact-checked](#) claims that COVID vaccines have caused miscarriages.

The Daily Expose [shared a conspiracy article](#) claiming that the UK government secretly modelled a coronavirus pandemic in 2016.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 21 June 2021 14:42

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Monday, June 21



Monday, June 21

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#UnVaxxed**

**#Genocide**

**#CoronaDoom**

**#StopComplying**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

While talking about housing on RTÉ, Leo Varadkar uttered the phrase “the pandemic is over”. A clip of the remark has been viewed more than 44,000 times on Twitter after being shared by [conspiracy theorist accounts](#).

Many commentators used Varadkar’s quote to argue that all restrictions be lifted ([1](#), [2](#)), that people should no longer take precautions against catching or spreading COVID ([1](#), [2](#)), and that vaccines should no longer be distributed or taken ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

### TRENDS

Demonstrations in Dublin City on Saturday saw conspiracy theorists carry signs and hold speeches claiming that vaccines are dangerous. Many also claimed that the government is involved in a conspiracy to exaggerate the effects of COVID while covering up injuries and deaths caused by the vaccines ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#)).

One of the speakers, Dolores Cahill, [said she intends](#) to run in the Dublin Bay

South by-election. She will be running against the leader of The National Party, which has embraced anti-vaccine and anti-lockdown rhetoric, and a candidate from Aontú, which has criticised [COVID-19 restrictions](#) and [called for an investigation](#) into deaths in Irish nursing homes. Aontú, however, have not embraced anti-vaccine messages and are not notable spreaders of misinformation. Both parties have said they are canvassing the constituency.

A [pro-alternative medicine, anti-lockdown group](#) organised an event on the Hill of Tara the same day as the Dublin anti-vaccine demonstration, though the Tara event appears to have consisted of a few dozen hippies dancing in a field ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

## THE IRISH LIGHT

On Friday, this newsletter spoke about a new publication called The Irish Light, fronted by Gemma O'Doherty. The paper continues to be promoted online ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), including one video that shows the publication [in a newspaper display](#). Kinzen has obtained a copy of the publication, which mainly consists of New World Order conspiracy theories, anti-mask misinformation, and debunked claims about vaccine safety.

Advertisements in the paper are largely for UK-based alternative medicine therapies and other conspiracy theory outlets.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

A viral post on social media [claimed](#) that a 13-year-old boy, Jacop Clynick, died three days after taking the second dose of a Pfizer vaccine. The post [has been widely shared](#) by anti-vaccine activists.

Women's health and vaccines is still a big topic discussed in fringe groups. A post on Reddit's conspiracy forum [claimed](#) that COVID vaccines account for 72% of spontaneous abortions when compared with other flu vaccines.

Conspiracy theorists [have been targeting](#) Ralph Baric, a professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, as they claim he created a bioweapon with China.

Fringe groups [have been sharing](#) a video by the US right-wing network, OAN, claiming that doctors in England called for complete cessation of COVID vaccines in humans. The video was also [shared](#) by the far-right activist Tommy Robinson.

On June 18, Kinzen reported on unverified posts claiming that "leaked" documents from the UK government state that COVID is a hoax and that lockdowns will last forever. The claim was [fact-checked](#) by Reuters and [Full Fact](#). Anti-lockdown activists in fringe communities [are promoting](#) a protest in London on June 26 against the extension of the lockdown.

False posts on social media [claimed](#) that Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls were created as symbols to represent children who died from vaccinations. The false claim was debunked by [Lead Stories](#).

Anti-vaccine groups [are cheering](#) comments made by Buffalo Bills wide receiver Cole Beasley against NFL COVID protocols.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 22 June 2021 14:24

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Tuesday, June 22



Tuesday, June 22

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#MedicalFreedom**

**#MyBodyMyChoice**

**#AntiMandate**

**#NotMyChild**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

A Twitter user, who describes herself as a woman in Meath who had previously been suspended from the site for “speaking the truth”, claims that her brother has been sick since receiving a COVID vaccine.

“That was 2 months ago,” [she wrote](#). “My brother has rapidly declined since & is now off work in a huge amount of pain. His skin is raw & has open wounds. No help for him.”

[Twitter says](#) circumventing permanent suspensions is a breach of their rules and will result in the alternative accounts being suspended.

### TRENDS

An [attitude of cynicism](#) has solidified in fringe groups toward COVID variants, which they sometimes refer to as “[scaritants](#)” to imply that they are made up or exaggerated by governments to [maintain restrictions](#) and ensure compliance.

This was evident in some of the responses to [a Twitter thread](#) by Tony Holohan

warning about the Delta variant, which received a lot of dismissive and insulting replies.

A known Irish spreader of misinformation, Ivor Cummins, released a “crucial update” video in which he revealed that “actually, the Delta variant IS the Indian variant”, which he says everyone was confused about.

Cummins goes on to argue that although the Delta variant has become widespread in the UK, hospitalisations have not increased to the alarming levels seen over the winter. He concludes that this is proof that variants don’t have a real-world impact, but are instead a propaganda attempt to “take away your freedoms”.

The video has more than [36,000 views on YouTube](#), though other uploads of the clip have collectively accumulated thousands more views ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#)).

## **MONITORING**

[International conversations](#) about ivermectin were restarted by a [new meta-analysis](#) that found it may be an effective treatment for COVID. Arguments in favour of using Ivermectin are again being shared by Irish [fringe accounts](#).

Advice by the World Health Organisation that “Children should not be vaccinated” based on current evidence has been shared in Irish fringe groups ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

[Similar advice](#) from the UK has also been shared by an Irish account ([1](#), [2](#)).



## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Fringe communities [are widely circulating](#) recommendations made by the [WHO](#) against vaccinating children. (Clinical trials are continuing for children.) Marty Makary [posted a viral](#) tweet about the WHO recommendations and claimed that clusters of heart complications were observed in young people after taking the second jab.

Unverified claims linking pilot shortages to COVID vaccines [continue to be discussed](#) among anti-vaccine groups. A user on Reddit's conspiracy forum [shared](#) a tweet [claiming](#) that a pilot could not handle altitude after receiving the Pfizer vaccine.

Conspiracy theorists have been sharing reports about Peter Daszak being removed from a UN-backed commission examining the origins of COVID (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

We continue to see a resurgence in pro-ivermectin discussions on fringe forums. Posts on Reddit's conspiracy forum [claimed](#) that India cured Delta variant patients with ivermectin. Another [post claims](#) that ivermectin is a "safe, effective and cheap cure for Covid."

Amazon Web Services [took down](#) the website of America's Frontline Doctors.

Anti-vaccine activists on social media [are encouraging parents](#) to homeschool to avoid COVID "mandates, tests and masks."

Activists on fringe groups [are circulating](#) a conspiracy theory that the Moderna vaccine was complete before COVID. They suggested that Moderna and the NIH created COVID.

Social media users [are circulating a petition](#) calling parents to [ask local Governors](#) to lift COVID restrictions in schools.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 23 June 2021 14:45

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Wednesday, June 23



Wednesday, June 23

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#BackToNormal**

**#BioTerrorist**

**#OpenForAll**

**#NotFair**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Fringe social media accounts have celebrated a couple as “[heroes](#)” after they appear to have left mandatory hotel quarantine without permission ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#)).

In [videos of the “escape”](#) taken by the couple and posted to social media, a man can be heard to argue, amid obscenities, that he has a right to leave and that no one can stop him. The video then shows them leave the Red Cow Moran Hotel with no physical resistance, though they do turn back to abuse staff and to demand the front desk returns the money they paid to the hotel.

Outside the hotel, they meet a man, later referred to as “Rory”, who says that mandatory hotel quarantine is a violation of human rights and that he has been “saving” two or three people a week from the hotel.

Rory claims in the video that there are regular suicides during hotel quarantines, but they have been covered up. He also says that An Garda Síochána are now “working for the crown” and “are not even Irish guards” so cannot arrest Irish citizens — though he speculates that they might start throwing people off bridges soon. He also says the Irish government is not legitimate.

The couple tell Rory that they also felt suicidal in the hotel after returning from Turkey, that the food was “slop”, and they intend on publicising what happened and encouraging other people to leave.

Users on the @ireland\_onlockdown Telegram chat are organising a campaign to leave bad reviews for the hotel.

## TRENDS

There has been a tremendous amount of anger voiced against the prospect that reopening might be pushed back ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [9](#), [10](#), [11](#), [12](#)), with many people claiming that groups such as [ISAG](#) are “[scaremongering](#)” with news of the Delta variant ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#)).

TheLiberal.ie, a known spreader of misinformation, published [an article](#), the misleading title of which says: “certain airlines allegedly advising vaccinated people not to fly due to increased risk of blood clots”

Aisling O’Loughlin, who was banned from Instagram last week, appeared with

George Hook in [a new video from The Healthy Debate](#). In the interview, O'Loughlin says that she was smeared by the media as a conspiracy theorist, before outlining her theories about a vast conspiracy involving Bill Gates to force people to take vaccines ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)) The video's uploaders said that they were not able to air the video on Facebook; however, it is readily available on YouTube.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Yesterday, Kinzen reported that anti-vaccine activists were sharing WHO recommendations against vaccinating children. Today, they are claiming that the WHO edited out the recommendations (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Lead Stories [has fact-checked](#) the story.

Activists on fringe groups [have been sharing unverified claims](#) that a 37-year-old ballerina, NaTalia Johnson, died two weeks after taking the COVID vaccine.

Anti-vaccine activists [have been sharing](#) old remarks made by tennis player Novak Djokovic against taking COVID vaccines. Some described him as a "[hero](#)." Djokovic made these comments in [April, 2020](#).

On his show, Tucker Carlson [spread a theory](#) that there will be "climate lockdowns" similar to COVID lockdowns.

A number of conspiracy theory and anti-vaccine Telegram groups have been sharing [this video](#) which supposedly shows an Indian woman being forced into a vaccination. The details are not verified yet.

Social media users [shared](#) scam emails claiming to be from the NHS asking for payment in return for a 'Coronavirus Digital Passport.' The police force in the UK [have warned](#) people that these emails were a scam.

Conspiracy theorists [are circulating rumors](#) that a Chinese vice minister of state security, [Dong Jingwei](#), defected to the US and has been working with the Defense Intelligence Agency on COVID origins.

Fringe groups have been circulating [unverified claims](#) that Google helped fund bioweapons development that led to the creation of COVID.

MAGA supporters [are engaging with an unverified story](#) about 18-year-old Isaiah Harries, who reportedly had a heart attack after taking the Pfizer vaccine.

Unproven claims that four British Airways pilots died because of COVID vaccines continue to circulate on social media and fringe communities (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Lead Stories [has fact-checked](#) the claims.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 24 June 2021 14:15

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Thursday, June 24



Thursday, June 24

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#FollowTheSilence**

**#IvermectinSavesLives**

**#StopCensorship**

**#IvermectinWorks**

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**THE IRISH OUTLOOK**

## **HOTEL QUARANTINES**

A new series of videos shows a pair of people leaving mandatory hotel quarantine in Dublin City, this time from the Crowne Plaza hotel in Blanchardstown.

Again, [the footage](#) shows the pair exit without any physical resistance as they shout at staff. As they leave, the man filming the footage says that six people had killed themselves in the last week due to mandatory quarantines.

[A second video](#) appears to show the same man speaking to Gardaí, who confirm that they are unable to force him back to the hotel, but that he may be prosecuted. The man claims that he should not have been made to isolate in the hotel, as he was just passing through Turkey and had negative PCR tests.

## **DOCTORS**

A blog post that suggests that COVID-19 vaccines have not been properly tested has been published and attributed to Dr Billy Ralph, [a GP in Co Wexford](#). The post also denounces COVID restrictions and the use of PCR tests, and suggests that treatments for COVID have been suppressed. [A Twitter account](#) by the same name expresses similar views.

The post was [promoted](#) by Dr Marcus De Brun who, after a long period of silence, is speaking about COVID again. This includes [a recent appearance](#) on the Richie Allen show, which has featured in this newsletter before for spreading misinformation suggesting that COVID vaccines were dangerous. The show was listened to online more than 17,600 times.

Dr Vincent Carroll [appeared on The Healthy Debate](#) where he said that more deaths have occurred from lockdown than from COVID. Carroll has previously been [fact-checked by TheJournal.ie](#) for comments on the PCR tests.



The previous Healthy Debate, featuring Aisling O’Loughlin, is now [published on Facebook](#), despite a previous claim that it had been “[blocked](#)”.

## **PROTESTS**

A “rally against mask wearing and vaccines in schools” [is planned](#) for 11am tomorrow at the Department of Education in Dublin City.

An [almost identical event](#) is planned at the same location for July 10.

And [a protest](#) against further lockdowns is being suggested for July 19, though it has not received much support so far.

## **THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK**

Anti-vaccine groups are sharing [new FDA warnings](#) about rare cases of heart inflammation with Pfizer, Moderna vaccines.

Tucker Carlson [hosted](#) Robert Malone, who claims to be an inventor of mRNA vaccines and claims that the government is not transparent about the risks of vaccines. He recommended against vaccinating children. The interview [has been shared](#) on conspiracy theory groups.

Unproven claims about vaccinating children are still circulating among anti-vaccine groups. [QAnon supporters](#), including the influencer [GhostEzra](#), asked followers to share remarks made by Mike Yeadon claiming that children were 50 times more likely to die from COVID vaccines compared with the virus.

Ivermectin is still being [promoted](#) by activists on social media. A [tweet](#) by Pierre Kory saying that suppression of ivermectin is a “crime” has been shared thousands of times. Note that Oxford University is [exploring](#) the drug as a

potential treatment for COVID.

Activists on Reddit's conspiracy forum [are spreading](#) a theory that most vaccine-related deaths will be unborn children. They claim that children are being sacrificed for depopulation.

Some social media users [have voiced support](#) for Francis Christian, a surgeon and professor at the University of Saskatchewan, Canada, [after he was suspended](#) for remarks against vaccinating children. Christian [called](#) for the pause of COVID vaccinations for children and called the vaccines "experimental injections."

Social media users shared photos of New Zealand prime minister Jacinda Ardern to falsely claim that she faked her COVID vaccination (see [here](#) and [here](#)). The falsehoods were debunked by [Reuters](#).

Anti-vaccine groups [have been circulating an unverified](#) story about 45-year-old Jason Maurer from Ohio. They claimed that Maurer died five weeks after the second Moderna shot.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 25 June 2021 15:09

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Friday, June 25



Friday, June 25

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#UnmaskOurChildren**

**#UnmaskEveryone**

**#ShowMeTheData**

**#DepopulationAgenda**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Cynicism about the Delta variant continues to be the running theme throughout fringe discourse this week. The main narratives are that the [Delta variant is less fatal](#) (a claim also aired, though disputed, in mainstream discourse) and that it [doesn't justify](#) delaying reopening businesses.

However, as noted earlier this week, most comments are simply [dismissive of the variants](#), indicating that they are part of [a government plan](#) to [delay reopening forever](#).

[A new video](#) by Grace-Anne Kelly claims that the “Delta scariant” was made up to scare people and to divide people against each other. It has been viewed more than 66,500 times in less than 20 hours.

### TRENDS

Online commentators have [criticised](#) suggestions that [AstraZeneca vaccines be used](#) on people in their 20's, including posts by influential vaccine skeptic accounts ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)).

Some have said that the vaccines [would be dangerous](#) for people in that age group, while others have suggested that such a plan would be motivated by [financial interests](#) rather than health.

Mihai Vioreanua, a surgeon who has gained a following by tweeting against COVID restrictions, has started making posts that indicate vaccines are not safe. [One article](#) he shared from a known anti-vaccine misinformation site suggests that vaccines are dangerous.

## MONITORING

Protests are taking place today at the Department of Education in Dublin City. [Videos posted](#) from the event show a few dozen people attending. Speakers are given a loudspeaker and many of the attendees are carrying posters that say that vaccines are dangerous.

[A protest](#) by an anti-restriction fringe group is planned tomorrow for 2pm in Eyre Square, Galway City. There has not been a significant amount of talk about this event on social media.

[A new Twitter account](#), claiming to be of a “HSE Consultant in an Acute Irish Hospital Treating Covid Patients” has claimed that their hospital has been receiving more patients due to restrictions than COVID, since February. The account has also [voiced support](#) for known spreader of misinformation, Ivor Cummins. It is unclear if the account is genuine. So far, they do [not appear to be anti-vaccine](#) in general.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Fringe communities [are still pushing](#) the theory that ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine are being suppressed as cures for COVID.

Kinzen has previously reported on Fox 26 reporter Ivory Hecker, [who left](#) the channel decrying censorship. Yesterday, [she published](#) a news report promoting hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin as cures for COVID. She

interviewed Joseph Varon, Chief of Critical Care at United Memorial Medical Center, who said that he treated his COVID patients with ivermectin. Hecker's report has been shared on fringe groups (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

Conspiracy theorists [are sharing](#) the story of Britney Spears' conservatorship to suggest that it is similar to COVID lockdowns and vaccines.

On June 15, Kinzen reported on unverified claims circulating on social media after the death of 12-year-old Italian tennis player Cloe Giani Giavazzi. Reuters has [fact-checked](#) the false claims.

Activists on Reddit's conspiracy forum [shared a tweet](#) by musician ZUBY to spread the theory that mRNA vaccines are gene therapies and that they are experimental. They claimed that "every" animal tested in mRNA studies died.

False images have been circulating on social media purporting to show Anthony Fauci was replaced by a lookalike (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Reuters has [debunked](#) the suggestion.

Rep. Jim Jordan shared an article [claiming](#) that Anthony Fauci's colleagues at NIH deleted data on early COVID cases at the request of Chinese researchers.

Anti-vaccine protests are [planned](#) at Hyde Park Speakers' Corner on June 26 in London.

The Daily Expose [published](#) an article about Peter McCullough claiming that COVID vaccines are bioweapons and that 50,000 Americans have died because of the vaccines.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 28 June 2021 15:44

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Monday, June 28



Monday, June 28

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#FreedomMarch**

**#EnoughIsEnough**

**#EndThePlandemic**

**#SayNoToVaccine**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

News that the lifting of restrictions on indoor dining might be pushed back have been met with outrage, including by restaurateur Paul Treyvaud who has said that he intends on reopening anyway, in defiance of what the rules are at the time ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

Treyvaud had been promoting “the plan” in May this year, which he had initially described as eateries opening up despite restrictions, He later revealed that “the plan” wasn’t to open up despite restrictions, but rather involved lobbying politicians to open up sooner (see May 13’s newsletter). Despite Treyvaud receiving criticism from all sides in May (“[what an incredible waste of everyone’s time](#)” expressed a common sentiment), many fringe activists have proclaimed their support for Treyvaud’s latest “plan”.

[A poll](#) by former footballer Gary Dempsey found that more than 93% of more than 1,840 respondents said that, if restrictions were extended, they would book a table to support businesses breaking rules against indoor dining.



## TRENDS

Many online commentators supporting an end to COVID restrictions have been sharing colour-coded maps on social media. One of these is said to show “Countries using rapid antigen testing for travel”. A second color-codes countries by places where indoor dining is allowed and where it is prohibited. In both maps, Ireland is made to look like an outlier or the only exception to the trend ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [9](#), [10](#), [11](#)).

Vincent Carroll, a Dublin doctor, has been celebrated in anti-lockdown communities for [a video](#) he released which criticises NPHET. Carroll said NPHET should have put more thought into their decisions and owed the public explanations and apologies ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#)). Carroll featured in Friday’s newsletter for saying more deaths have occurred due to restrictions than from COVID.

In a [video](#) uploaded by Carroll in May, he said nobody knows the potential side-effects of COVID vaccines. He also compared the pandemic to whooping cough outbreaks, arguing that vaccines were not the driver in rates for that disease dropping, a common talking point in anti-vaccine groups.

## MONITORING

The National Party, currently canvassing in Dublin Bay South, is increasingly leaning into anti-vaccine rhetoric ([1](#), [2](#)).

[A new video](#) by known spreader of misinformation, Ivor Cummins, was released on the fringe video-sharing platform Odysee, but not YouTube. He said that he was limited in what he could say as he had to “avoid the censor”. In the video, he argues that vaccines cause dangerous side-effects and aren’t effective, and are (probably) not rolling out to the public. (Cummins freely sprinkles caveats throughout the clip).

The video has been viewed more than 3,000 times in less than 24 hours.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

The biggest story being shared by [anti-lockdown activists](#) and [fringe groups](#) has been the anti-lockdown protests held in London on June 26. A video of the protest [shared](#) by Isabel Oakeshott has been viewed over two million times.

Anti-vaccine activists on social media [are circulating](#) a story of 48-year-old rock musician, Zion, who they say died of a brain haemorrhage because of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

Kinzen has previously reported falsehoods about mRNA vaccines being tested on animals. These false narratives have been fact-checked by [FullFact](#) and [PolitiFact](#).

Anti-vaccine communities (see [here](#) and [here](#)) on Facebook have been sharing an unverified story of a Leicester mother, Lucy Taberer, who reportedly died after “suffering a rare catastrophic reaction” to the AstraZeneca vaccine.

Several social media posts claimed that vaccinated people were advised not to fly (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). The claim [was fact-checked](#) by FullFact.

Ivermectin is still being promoted by conspiracy theorists as a cure for COVID (see [here](#) and [here](#)). Some fringe users [called](#) Anthony Facui a “mass murderer” for lying about ivermectin.

Fringe groups [are widely sharing](#) new recommendations by the WHO about mask wearing to suggest that the WHO is run by China and that they want to lock down people again.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 29 June 2021 16:01

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Tuesday, June 29



Tuesday, June 29

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#DontTakeTheVaccine**

**#DontBeASheep**

**#ItsNotAVaccine**

**#JustWait**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Mainstream and fringe social media conversations have been dominated by news that the reopening of indoor dining will be delayed due to fears the Delta variant may drastically increase the rate of new COVID infections.

Anti-lockdown activist Paul Treyvaud appears to be in the middle of a media blitz, advocating against the pushback ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

Many commentators, including medical professionals ([1](#), [2](#)) have cast doubt on NPHEt's modelling for the new strain ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)). Some influential social media accounts have encouraged mass protests in response to the announcement ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

Vaccine skeptics were particularly outraged by the idea that, when restaurants and pubs do reopen, they may only allow vaccinated customers ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)). Some said that such a plan had been [predicted](#) by fringe groups as a

“conspiracy theory”. Others said that they would [boycott](#) any businesses that went along with such a scheme.

In the wake of this, many online commentators have criticised NPHEAT and said they should be disbanded ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)). At the time of writing, the hashtag [#DisbandNPHEAT](#) is trending in Ireland with more than 7,000 tweets. The hashtag was promoted in [organised campaigns](#).

## TRENDS

A number of fringe accounts are spreading videos and stills of Leo Varadkar at the Pride event on Capel Street last weekend. They say that not wearing a mask on the crowded street was a violation of COVID restrictions ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#)). The story does not appear to be gaining traction outside of fringe groups.

Anti-vaccine accounts also responded to [news](#) that NIAC has approved the AstraZeneca vaccines for under-40s. Many of the posts, and the responses to them, strongly suggest that the vaccines are dangerous, are banned elsewhere, and should not be taken. ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)).

One of the outlets suggesting such, [TheLiberal.ie](#), had polled their users to see if they would take a vaccine for COVID. In the results, 659 said yes (about 60%), while 448 said no (about 40%).

## MONITORING

Kinzen has seen multiple posts continuing to express a misunderstanding that vaccines are supposed to be 100% effective. This appears, in part, to be prompted by the phenomenon that, as more people get vaccinated, so too does the proportion of people with COVID who have been vaccinated ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)). A [particularly egregious example](#) includes an Irish anti-lockdown activist and

barrister who cited [an article](#) which outlines how beneficial vaccines have been in order to support [her argument](#) that people shouldn't take vaccines.

## THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

[A viral video emerged](#) on social media showing two men harassing Chris Whitty, UK Chief Medical Officer, in public. Boris Johnson condemned the “despicable harassment” and “behaviour of these thugs.” [On June 26](#), protesters gathered outside Whitty's house chanting ‘traitor’ and ‘murderer.’ Today, The Daily Expose [made unproven claims](#) that Whitty gave an order to give COVID patients lethal doses of hydroxychloroquine to both kill them and sabotage trials.

Social media users [are sharing](#) a video purporting to show Canadian anti-vaccine activists blocking trucks carrying vaccines from entering Nova Scotia province.

Fringe groups and anti-vaccine activists are sharing [reports](#) about a new study suggesting that mixing vaccines gives good protection from COVID (see [here](#) and [here](#)). Some activists described it as a “[disaster](#).”

Activists on fringe groups [are sharing](#) the story of a Kuwaiti YouTuber, Kwili, who claimed that YouTube removed a video about Anthony Fauci's emails. Kwili [said](#) in a follow up video that it was the first time he received a warning from YouTube and that it was “strange” that the video was removed.

Senator Ron Johnson [held a press conference](#) about COVID vaccine injuries in his constituency.

Fringe groups [have been sharing](#) a [video](#) claiming that powerful organizations

worked together to suppress ivermectin as a cheap and effective treatment for COVID.

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**From:** Editorial at Kinzen <digest@kinzen.news>

**Sent:** 30 June 2021 15:11

**Subject:** Disinformation Digest: Wednesday, June 30



Wednesday, June 30

See below some of the prominent slogans, dog whistles or hashtags used by the **anti-vaccine community** across multiple platforms in recent days:

**#LeaveOurKidsAlone**

**#EndemicVirus**

**#HowManyMustDie**

**#Nuremburg2isComingForYou**

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## THE IRISH OUTLOOK

### PRIORITY

Again, online conversations are dominated by the announced pushback of indoor dining.

Criticism against NPHEt's model continues to be aired ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), including by TD Willie O'Dea, who said it was "[extremely pessimistic](#)".

Some commentators said they were planning to organise or take part in protests against the pushback of indoor dining ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)). [July 3](#) has been proposed as a date for protest.



The misleading colour-coded maps mentioned in yesterday's digest continue to be shared online. One such map, [tweeted](#) by TD Marc McSharry, visibly bears the watermark of [Cosain](#), a far-right group which regularly spreads misinformation about COVID. Many conversations revolve around whether Ireland is an outlier in the West for not allowing indoor dining ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)).

Some people have said that, in response to the announcement, they have cancelled their "staycation", but will holiday abroad to countries where they can dine indoors instead ([1](#), [2](#)).

## TRENDS

The focus of fringe groups' ire, however, is on proposals to only allow vaccinated people to dine indoors.

Both mainstream and fringe commentators have pointed out that such a plan might mean that young people working in a pub or restaurant may not be legally allowed to dine there ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)).

Criticisms were also levied that such a scheme would in effect create a two-tier society ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)). Some ([1](#), [2](#)), including TD [Marc MacSharry](#), called it discriminatory, while others called it "[medical apartheid](#)" or implied that the scheme would be illegal. One commentator [said](#): "all members of NPHEAT should be imprisoned for the rest of their miserable lives for even suggesting" such a plan.

The scheme also describes being part of a plan to "[blackmail](#)" the public into receiving vaccines.

Among the plan's critics were businesses who said that they would refuse to

check whether people had been vaccinated and would not enforce restrictions on the unvaccinated ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)).

## **MONITORING**

The campaign to keep #DisbandNPHEP trending on Twitter in Ireland [continues successfully](#).

## **THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK**

There has been an increase of misinformation narratives in relation to the Delta variant. Anti-vaccine activists are claiming that the media is exaggerating the fatality rate associated with Delta (see [here](#) and [here](#)). Others are claiming that the Delta variant is being used to scare people to demand more vaccines and keep the lockdowns (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Fringe groups [have been spreading](#) misinformation that people with Delta symptoms are in fact suffering from hay fever.

Yesterday, Kinzen reported on a press conference held by Senator Ron Johnson about COVID vaccine injuries. Anti-vaccine activists [have been sharing](#) the story of a girl which was featured during the conference. [They claimed](#) that the twelve-year-old girl, Maddie de Garay, who volunteered for the Pfizer vaccine trial, developed severe side effects after her second jab and is now in a wheelchair.

During House Republican hearings on [COVID origins](#), Jim Jordan [accused](#) Anthony Fauci of covering up a possible COVID leak from the Wuhan lab. Jim's allegations were shared widely among QAnon and MAGA supporters (see [here](#) and [here](#))

False posts on social media claimed that Donald Trump has signed an order to cease and desist COVID vaccines (see [here](#) and [here](#)). Reuters [has debunked](#)

the false posts.

Activists on Reddit's conspiracy forum [have been sharing](#) an article by the Daily Mail claiming that Princess Diana's bodyguard, who survived the car crash, is global head of security for AstraZeneca.

Kinzen has previously reported on the story of the nurse Tiffany Dover, who fainted after taking the COVID vaccine. Activists on Reddit's conspiracy forums [are still spreading](#) falsehoods that she died.

Activists in fringe communities are still pushing ivermectin as a cure for COVID. [Activists are exploring](#) ways to bring ivermectin more to public attention.

Conspiracy theorists [are suggesting](#) that the new Lambda variant is being pushed by the UK government and media because they "didn't like lockdown protests."

Anti-vaccine activists [are still circulating](#) falsehoods that vaccinated people will shed spike proteins to everyone and cause "a new much deadlier viral mutation."

Misleading posts on social media [suggested](#) that a number of foods and drinks, including ketchup, squash and fruit, can deliver a "positive" COVID result. FullFact has [fact-checked](#) the false posts.

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