

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

Sent: 03 September 2021 15:34

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Friday, September 3

Friday, September 3

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

#NoVaccinePassportsAnywhere

#NoEmployerMandates

#NoCovidChecks

#NaturallImmunity

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

[A video](#) featuring “prominent Irish doctors” (De Brun, McConville, Waters, Morrissey, McCloskey, etc.) speaking against vaccines has been promoted in fringe groups.

The video features a series of testimonials from eight doctors saying that they doubt the “mainstream story” of COVID-19 and have been censored. Some also say that the effects of the vaccines are unknown — except, of course, by them: the vaccines are ineffective and dangerous. There is a focus on vaccinating children, which they say is more dangerous than COVID-19 (8,000 times so, according to Vincent Caroll).

The video has been viewed more than 4,800 times on [BitChute](#), but was apparently posted and [removed from YouTube](#), which some fringe commentators see as a [seal of reliability](#).

The video was produced by the Irish Council for Human Rights (which is to say: by [Tracey O’Mahoney](#)) and [Ryland Media](#), which produced previous video series condemning vaccines and COVID-19 restrictions.

Doctor McCloskey also appeared on Dave Cullen’s Computing Forever channel. Videos of the more-than-an-hour-long interview were viewed on [fringe platforms](#) more than 13,000 times. Cullen is an active spreader of disinformation, often involving conspiracy theorist narratives about the “Mark of the Beast” and shadowy forces working toward a worldwide communist tyranny.

TRENDS

Activists have seized on [reports](#) that Ireland has the “highest COVID-19 rate in the European Union” as evidence that [vaccines and COVID restrictions](#) do not work, or even that the [vaccines are responsible](#) for the broad spread of the pathogen in the country. Other influential spreaders of misinformation have touted other figures while making claims that there is an “[obvious failure of the vaggzine\\$](#)”.

Fringe activists are celebrating a protest outside RTÉ where banners were displayed above the Stillorgan Road reading: “22,000 vaccine deaths in Europe so far!” and “RTÉ are propoganda murderers!” ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)). The protest has garnered some [international attention](#), though appears to have been attended by a small group.

MONITORING

[A popular tweet](#) claims that “Beaumont Hospital have not reversed their no vax no transplant policy.” The claim was made by the Health Freedom Ireland group, which says it was told that “a young girl has not been put back on the transplant list despite having a living donor.”

[Online narratives](#) about Beaumont refusing to perform organ transplants on people who refuse vaccination appear to be gaining traction online anew.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

The supposed benefits of ivermectin for treating COVID is still one of the top discussion points within the anti-vaccine movement. Many are [celebrating](#) Kirstie Alley after she [declared](#), in support of Joe Rogan, that she took ivermectin to treat COVID.

Meanwhile, some in the US claim that the government is recommending Afghan refugees take ivermectin as if it's a safe treatment for COVID. Screenshots like [this](#) and [this](#) have been circulating on various platforms.

With the [news](#) that two senior FDA vaccine regulators (Marion Gruber and Phil Krause) are stepping down later this year, Natural News [claimed](#) they did so because they didn't want to be prosecuted for crimes against humanity and genocide.

In the US, the CDC is recommending that the unvaccinated don't travel over Labor Day weekend, but, as we previously noted, people within the anti-vaccine movement are unlikely to listen. On his show, Tucker Carlson [defended](#) people who buy fake vaccination cards.

There may be [claims](#) circulating that the Supreme Court in the US ruled that COVID vaccines are not vaccines and must be avoided.

Lead Stories [debunked](#) claims that an Israeli study proves natural immunity is better than immunity through vaccination. The study, which is a preprint and conflicts with many other studies, did show that some vaccinated people resisted the Delta variant better than vaccinated counterparts, but those who were vaccinated and infected fared best of all.

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

Sent: 06 September 2021 14:33

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Monday, September 6

Monday, September 6

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

#AustraliaHasFallen

#LeaveOurKidsAlone

#NoVaccinePassportsAnywhere

#NoCovidChecks

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

A video posted by a former member of the Defence Forces, [Mike Connell](#), aka ‘Satirical Soldier’, in which he claims he quit the army after 21 years service for several reasons including “government tyranny” regarding COVID policies, is being shared by fringe groups. It has garnered over 13,000 views so far on [YouTube](#) and is circulating on [Facebook](#) also. In the nine-minute video, titled “The Safety is Off (Part I - Leaving the Defence Forces)”, Connell states that “politicians who subverted the constitution” are “the enemy, and I will treat them as such”. He is the partner of anti-vaccine activist, [barrister Tracey O’Mahony](#). While Connell’s video has been [praised](#) by [some](#), he has also drawn fire from [veteran groups](#) and [former](#) soldiers.

Images of Tánaiste Leo Varadkar attending a music festival in the UK are being used by anti-vaccine, anti-lockdown activists to stoke ire against ongoing restrictions in Ireland ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#))

Activists seized on a story posted online by self-styled journalist Liam Deegan which [claimed](#) the Tánaiste had used the government jet to travel to the festival. Although this story was [swiftly debunked](#) and later [retracted](#) by Deegan himself, it continues to circulate widely online ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#)). There was one creative [conspiracy theory](#) about the Tánaiste’s trip, and he did have one [unexpected](#) defender.

A video was posted on Twitter which appears to show anti-vaccine protesters in white jumpsuits at a [playground](#) during a [protest](#) in [Longford](#) on Saturday.

TRENDS

The video featuring anti-vaccine doctors which was flagged in the digest last Friday (September 3rd), and which includes claims that vaccinating children against COVID is more dangerous than the disease, continues to be promoted ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)) and watched online. This Instagram post by one of the video’s

producers, [Tracey O'Mahony](#) has been viewed over 20,000 times and it has over 30,000 views on [BitChute](#).

An August tweet by one of the doctors featured in the above-mentioned video, Dr Pat Morrissey, in which he claims to have treated a number of COVID patients with Ivermectin, has [surfaced](#) - also over the weekend Morrissey retweeted claims made on the efficacy of Ivermectin by high profile anti-vaccine [medic](#) Dr Robert Malone.

A [report](#) by RTÉ on sufferers of long COVID has been derided by fringe groups who insist there is no such condition ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)) while one tweet claiming the “[real pandemic](#)” is caused by factors including vaccine side-effects and mask-wearing is gaining traction.

Resistance to vaccine certificates [persists](#), with one website highlighting [businesses](#) across the country which allegedly are not adhering to the rules.

MONITORING

Dr Marcus de Brun claims that the Irish medical system for [reporting vaccine injuries](#) is “a sham.”

Far-right activists are [homing in](#) on the anti-lockdown United Australia Party which has recruited 30,000 members in 10 days, speculating if a [similar party](#) could be set up in Ireland.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

The promotion of ivermectin as a cure for COVID continues to be the most dominant narrative within anti-vaccine groups. On Friday we referenced how

there was outrage in the US that the government seemed to be promoting ivermectin for Afghan refugees, as if it was a special COVID cure reserved for them. Reuters [debunked](#) this, showing that the guidance was for refugees who need treatment for intestinal parasites.

Over the weekend, a viral story published by Rolling Stone gained significant traction before questions were raised about it. The story [claimed](#) that in Oklahoma, hospitals were so overrun by horse dewormer (ivermectin) overdoses that gunshot victims were left waiting. However, one hospital [denied](#) the story and the original source didn't respond to further questions. In turn, this story has been used by various anti-vaccine activists and COVID deniers to [claim](#) that ivermectin is a cure for COVID but the mainstream media is lying about it.

In Paris, three people were [arrested](#) after anti-vaccine protesters clashed with police. It was the eighth successive weekend of protests in France. They were [celebrated](#) on Reddit's conspiracy forum.

In recent days, false claims online spread that a Pfizer lab in Madrid was set on fire. This wasn't true. Lead Stories [found](#) that lightning caused a fire nearby, but it didn't hit the Pfizer lab.

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

Sent: 07 September 2021 14:38

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Tuesday, September 7

Tuesday, September 7

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

#StopTheShot

#NoVaccinePassports

#TogetherDeclaration

#EnoughIsEnough

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

Anti-vaccine group Health Freedom Ireland [claims](#) that a number of doctors have lodged complaints with the Irish Medical Council concerning some medics involved with HIQA, NPHET and the ISGP. According to the thread, the complaints relate to medical advice given to patients at the outset of the disease, and also to what the group describes as an over-reliance on PCR testing.

NPHET comes in for additional criticism by other regular activists who accuse the body of flawed modelling which overstated the predicted autumn case numbers ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

However at the same time, fringe activists are beginning to speculate that an October lockdown is on the way ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)) - prompted perhaps by [reports](#) in the UK media that the British government is planning a 'firebreak lockdown' next month if COVID hospital admissions continue to rise.

News that 12,000 children are being kept [out of school](#) over close contact fears has sparked comment among [fringe groups](#), with one high-profile figure speculating that the "chaos" is part of a plan to [expedite](#) the [vaccination](#) of children.

TRENDS

The interest in [death notices](#) and related statistics (flagged previously in the digests of August 30th and 31st) persists, but at a more muted level since the intervention on Liveline last month by family members of Nicole Cahill after her death was publicised by anti-vaccine groups.

At present the sudden demise of Portadown woman Dana Murphy is receiving [some attention](#) from anti-vaccine activists and Kinzen will monitor the narrative for any uptick in interest. But so far it remains at a low level.

As mentioned in yesterday's digest, [reports](#) of the appearance of the Lambda and Mu variants in Ireland continues to be met with derision ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

A tweet from UCC academic and Special Rapporteur on Child Protection, Professor Conor O'Mahony, [stating](#) his intention to enforce mask-wearing rules at his lectures this term has sparked a heated debate and elicited negative responses from activists ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)) and a particularly [angry](#) reaction from barrister Tracey O'Mahony.

MONITORING

There are several protests being promoted online; a '[freedom rally](#)' in Ennis, Co. Clare on Saturday, September 11th, and another outside [Dundalk courthouse](#) on the same afternoon.

Yellow Vest Ireland continues to promote the [Dublin rally](#) on Saturday, September 18th but so far engagement is limited.

An essay by conspiracy theorist John Waters on [resisting totalitarianism](#), which he posted on [Substack](#), is being promoted by prominent [Canadian](#) anti-vaccine figure, Denis Rancourt.

Former member of the defence forces Mike Connell, aka Satirical Soldier, who was highlighted in yesterday's digest, is [planning](#) to post Part 2 of his video on why he left the defence forces.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Promotion of ivermectin as a COVID cure continues to be a hot topic. One [meme](#) compares Oscar de la Hoya, who is vaccinated but hospitalised, to Joe

Rogan, who famously said that he used ivermectin as part of his COVID treatment and has not been hospitalised.

Meanwhile, Telegram user Veronica Wolski, who is known for promoting anti-vaccine and QAnon conspiracy theories, has been hospitalised with COVID. Her hospital is refusing to treat her with ivermectin, and her fans have been leading a campaign to pile pressure on the staff. Lin Wood [posted](#) the number for the hospital on his Telegram (with over 800,000 subscribers), encouraging followers to contact them.

Another narrative prominent today focuses on health care workers. On a QAnon forum, supporters [shared](#) and discussed a compilation video of alleged health care workers speaking publicly about their vaccine concerns. A Twitter [video](#) shows an alleged Florida nurse explaining that her patients are all vaccinated with serious side effects. A Canadian site [promotes](#) claims from an unnamed doctor that in Toronto vaccinated patients are overrunning hospitals, not unvaccinated COVID patients.

The death of New Zealand actor Francis Mossman has led to [speculation](#) by some anti-vaccine activists that the vaccine killed him. The cause of death has not been released, but media [reports](#) have indicated issues with depression.

The anti-vaccine community is reacting after a health official in Israel [called](#) for a fourth shot as a booster. They believe this proves that vaccines are ineffective at best, or part of a global conspiracy at worst.

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

Sent: 08 September 2021 14:07

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Wednesday, September 8

Wednesday, September 8

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

#FauciGate

#GainOfFunction

#TheVaccinelsPoison

#PatentedGenocide

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

A [HSE tweet](#) describing the lack of scientific evidence that COVID vaccines affect fertility is being swarmed by those who are opposed to vaccines. The National Party [claimed](#) there was “So much wrong here we don't even know where to begin.” In replies and quote tweets, others are claiming the HSE has repeatedly let down the people of Ireland in the last 18 months and can't be trusted, or that concerns about thalidomide were not realised for years ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

TRENDS

Schools and vaccines for young people is still a big area of focus. People are reacting to stories about how [12,000 students](#) who are deemed close contacts are out of school and how [school principals](#) are struggling to cope. Niall Boylan [decried](#) the treatment of unvaccinated people, saying that not all children are being treated equally. TheLiberal.ie [said](#) that the high number of close contacts is an indicator that the vaccination programme is not working. There was other speculation that this news would see the introduction of mandatory vaccination for children ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

We are watching out for the possible growth of an anecdotal story from Sligo, where four girls were alleged to have collapsed at GAA training. One prominent anti-vaccine activist [said](#) this happened days after they were vaccinated, and that "The parents MUST speak out. This has to stop."

MONITORING

With a new series of The Rotunda to air on RTÉ, we're already seeing the beginnings of a backlash from people concerned that visiting restrictions were in place while the show was being filmed ([1](#), [2](#)).

Eddie Hobbs [posted](#) that people in New York and Spain have stood up to

vaccine segregation and that Michael D. Higgins should have done the same. "When laws are plain wrong, the people act fairly", he added. Separately, there has been a bit of commentary online about Omniplex requiring vaccination for attendance, with one person asking Tracey O'Mahoney if it's possible to sue businesses like Omniplex ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Joe Rogan [suggested](#) suing CNN over its reporting on his use of ivermectin. His YouTube video has been viewed more than two million times. QAnon and MAGA activists are backing him up on that threat, although it may not be serious (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

Senator Rand Paul led the criticism of Anthony Fauci after The Intercept [published](#) a report indicating the US funded research on several types of coronaviruses at the Wuhan Institute of Virology in China. Paul [called](#) for Fauci to be held accountable for "lying to Congress." The new report has been shared widely on Reddit's conspiracy forum (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

[Candace Owens](#) and others are raising questions about the impact of COVID vaccines on fertility. This comes after [the National Institutes of Health](#) announced a \$1.67 million study to investigate reports of unusual menstrual cycles after vaccination.

Arizona Attorney General Mark Brnovich [said](#) that the vaccine mandate in Tucson for its employees was illegal. Activists are encouraging other US states to follow suit (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

[A viral video shows](#) a woman deliberately coughing on people shopping at Super Saver in Lincoln, Nebraska. The woman said that she had an allergy and that she was not wearing a mask because she was not sick.

Conspiracy theorists are circulating screenshots claiming to show that the CDC changed the definition of vaccination from "immunity" to "protection" (see [here](#) and [here](#)). One of the [tweets](#) has received thousands of interactions.

FullFact [debunked](#) social media posts claiming the German government halted the use of Covid vaccines for being unsafe.

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

Sent: 01 September 2021 13:40

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Wednesday, September 1

Wednesday, September 1

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

#DigitalEnslavement

#SheepWearMasks

#NotAboutAVirus

#WeMustResist

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

A video, supposedly showing a child after they were refused entry to their

classroom in Dundalk, Co Louth, for not wearing a mask has become viral in fringe groups. Versions of the video have been viewed more than 297,400 times on various social media platforms ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [9](#)), though this includes overseas interest.

The boy's father [wrote on Facebook](#) that the principal of Dundalk Grammar School had decided to send the child home after being presented with a letter that exempted the child from wearing a mask. The principal had said the letter was missing details, and the child could not attend until the school could verify the reasons for the exemption were valid. "I don't think his action is conforming to any possible law?" the child's father wrote. "And of course it is very unfairly upsetting to already very very stressed child." [sic]

The school principal is named in the video, and activists have responded angrily to the school's social media accounts, including barrister Tracey O'Mahoney, [who wrote](#): "Please everyone who believes that discrimination and abuse of children is wrong, send a clear message to Dundalk Grammar School that their actions will NEVER be forgotten. There will come a time when all of this is over & at that time these vile people will be held to account".

Aside from the video, complaints about children wearing masks in schools continues to be the biggest issue among fringe groups online (examples: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)), with more online polls by [fringe figures](#) showing strong opposition. Activists have also [encouraged their followers](#) to swarm more mainstream polls.

Some activists have speculated that the government's "[next ploy](#)" will be for children to have to prove they are vaccinated to attend school. Opposition to child vaccinations also remains strong, with fringe commentators comparing it to child abuse.

TRENDS

[A new episode](#) of The Healthy Debate includes a man who helps to run a funeral service who “says that the death rate has jumped up dramatically since the V@x rollout started in January”. The programme also features a representative from the anti-mask TeenHeard campaign. It has been viewed more than 9,200 times.

MONITORING

[An obvious astroturfing campaign](#) had a number of Twitter accounts tell the same story of a four-year-old condemning Norma Foley by name for opening schools while the Delta variant is “rampant”. Based on their previous posts, it is unclear if the accounts that posted the story are parodies.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Reports about Israel registering record daily COVID cases have been used by anti-vaccine activists to raise doubts about COVID vaccines (see [here](#) and [here](#)). Israel [recorded](#) its highest daily number of COVID cases with nearly 11,000 new infections.

The pro-ivermectin narrative is still being circulated on social media and fringe groups. Anti-vaccine activists [are celebrating](#) a judge in Ohio for ordering a hospital to administer ivermectin to a COVID patient.

Fringe groups [have been widely sharing](#) a [video](#) report by The Hill claiming that natural immunity triggers a better response against COVID than vaccines. The Hill [cited](#) a medical study published on Medrxiv.

Children’s Health Defense [claimed](#) in a new article that Cheryl Cohen, a 64-year-old woman from Florida, rapidly developed a rare disease in the brain and died soon after her second Pfizer shot. Anti-vaccine activists have shared

the article to [suggest](#) that vaccines could cause "mad cow" disease.

Posts on social media [claimed](#) that a new variant called "COVID-22" could be more "lethal" than Delta. Lead Stories [debunked](#) the misleading posts.

There has been significant [interaction](#) with the story of a school superintendent Kevin Purnell who was fired from the Adrian School District for enforcing his state's mask mandate.

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

Sent: 02 September 2021 14:29

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Thursday, September 2

Thursday, September 2

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

#IvermectinWarriors

#IvermectinWorks

#IvermectinSavesLives

#NoVaccineApartheid

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

RSVP [magazine posted](#) an interview with Dublin woman Amy Melia who claims that she has not had a period since getting the COVID vaccine three months ago.

It has been picked up by [anti-vaccine group News for All Ireland](#) and is beginning to attract some [interest](#), with a number of comments under the posts making claims that the vaccine causes reproduction issues, including “For all we know it causes infertility” and that “sterilisation is one of the things the shot is for”, and one post asking “have any women become pregnant since having the jab?”

This narrative that the COVID vaccine affects menstrual cycles, thereby causing fertility issues, and that it also triggers miscarriages, has previously circulated widely in anti-vaccine groups in the US and UK, despite being debunked by a [range](#) of [news](#) organisations.

Paddy Hennessy, the spokesperson for the anti-vaccine group Irish Nurses for Transparency and Openness (INTFO), which purports to be comprised of nurses and healthcare workers, has been interviewed by activist Anna Kavanagh on the Facebook page [M-Compass Media](#), which appears to have been set up last month.

In the course of the 26-minute [interview](#), Hennessy, who describes himself as a nurse working in the field of respiratory ailments, makes various claims. He says that the group has been contacted by over 440 healthcare workers, mainly nurses, with concerns over “suspected vaccine-related events or injuries” which are “a lot more serious than pain at site of injection”. He alleges group members have reported they are “inundated with testimonies” from hospital staff and vaccine-injured patients, with “multiple admissions” not being documented properly. He also claims there has been a huge increase in heart and neurological-related disorders in the under-50s, but that staff

attempting to report on the cases are being “silenced” by the HSE. He says that the group is working with Transparency Ireland and healthcare whistleblowers, claiming “criminal investigations” may be required on foot of reports that vaccines were administered to patients without their consent.

TRENDS

News that the green light has been given to provide a booster shot for some cohorts has sparked a negative reaction in the anti-vaccine community, ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#)) with one alleged medic tweeting there is “[no evidence](#)” it provides more protection.

Likewise, reports that the vaccines are available to women at every stage of pregnancy has also caused unhappiness ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), with some posts [referencing](#) “[thalidomide](#)”.

There has been a strong response to the [news](#) that a nursing home in the midlands has gone into full lockdown after more than a dozen residents and staff tested positive for COVID, with [speculation](#) that other facilities may be in a [similar situation](#). Others claim it’s [proof](#) that the [vaccine](#) has failed.

Conspiracy theory website Free Press has posted an article stating that nursing homes [“want to kill more people off”](#) quickly to benefit financially from any Fair Deal arrangements in place.

MONITORING

There is [widespread scepticism among](#) anti-lockdown, anti-vaccine communities following [reports](#) that a new variant, Mu, is “of interest” to the WHO. Some fringe activists are claiming it is a [set-up](#) for [new lockdowns](#) to be

imposed.

The viral post on [Instagram](#) by celebrity US podcaster and anti-vaccine figure Joe Rogan that he has contracted COVID but is treating it with a range of drugs including Ivermectin is being met with approval ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)) in anti-vaccine circles.

Sinn Fein TD for Dublin Mid West Mark Ward [announced](#) today that he is recovering from COVID, and that he was fully vaccinated, pointing out that it would have been more serious if he had not received the shots.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Joe Rogan Gets COVID

- Joe Rogan [announced](#) in a viral video that he got COVID and that he took ivermectin as part of his treatment.
- The video has been viewed more than 4 million times on Instagram and has been shared widely on social media.
- Anti-vaccine activists have used Rogan's story to promote ivermectin as a “[successful](#)” treatment for COVID (see more examples [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).
- After Rogan's video, we have seen a sharp rise in pro-ivermectin narratives on social media and fringe groups (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

Candace Owens [claimed in a viral tweet](#) that a COVID testing facility refused to administer a test to her because they “don't like” her politics. She followed up the post with [screenshots](#) of the email she received.

A number of students walked out of class in ThunderRidge high school to [protest](#) against mask mandates in Denver. Earlier this week, the Tri-County Health Department voted to require masks for all students regardless of vaccination status. Videos of the protests have been shared widely in anti-vaccine groups (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

A [video](#) of a woman decrying COVID mask mandates in a board meeting in the Lee County School in Florida has been viewed more than three million times on Twitter. The woman identified herself as a nurse and accused the board members of being “demonic entities.”

Anti-vaccine activists [are refusing](#) the CDC recommendation for people not to travel for Labor Day if they are not vaccinated.

QAnon activists [have been celebrating](#) some police unions for rejecting vaccine mandates.

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

Sent: 09 September 2021 14:10

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Thursday, September 9

Thursday, September 9

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

#LeaveOurKidsAlone

#DigitalIdentity

#NewWorldOrder

#VaccineSideEffects

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

The top story [continues](#) to be cases in schools and vaccination of children. Commentary includes phrases like "They're coming for the kids" or some extreme ideas around how to avoid vaccination of children ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)). There's also examples of people decrying the impact of the pandemic on children, with the more extreme examples claiming this is all about control, that children shouldn't wear masks in school, and that they shouldn't be getting COVID tests ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)).

TRENDS

As mentioned yesterday, the return of The Rotunda series on RTÉ is leading to discussions about restrictions on visitors at maternity hospitals. The Irish Independent [wrote about](#) one maternity campaigner's reaction, while a [viral tweet](#) about an experience of miscarriage is also gaining traction; see some responses to that [here](#) and [here](#).

An Instagram [video](#) which calls on people to throw away their masks is gaining traction. It was reshared on Twitter [here](#), where it has actually gained more views than the original. The narrator is generally anti-lockdown. He promotes a [petition](#) demanding RTÉ host a debate on lockdowns with the following people included: Dolores Cahill, Ivor Cummins, Eddie Hobbs, Tracy O'Mahoney and Pat Morrissey.

News that nursing home residents [will receive](#) booster shots has had some predictable reaction, with one account calling it assault ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

MONITORING

Eddie Hobbs [disputed](#) COVID death figures and then [promoted](#) conspiracy theories about climate change becoming the next big threat to personal freedoms.

Response to UCC lecturer Conor O'Mahony's post about the need for masks at his lectures [continues](#). One colleague [defended](#) him while screenshotting a defiant reactive post from Tracey O'Mahony. In turn, her partner [reacted](#) to this, claiming the colleague was "asking for trouble".

There is a long [thread](#) on Twitter claiming to show that RTÉ's Prime Time is hyping coverage of long COVID.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Discussions about ivermectin are not fading away; it is still the biggest topic discussed among anti-vaccine activists and conspiracy theorists (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Joe Rogan's recent episode is still being [widely shared](#) but this time with focus on the claim that pharmaceutical companies are in cahoots against the drug.

The Egyptian government adopted the controversial "COVID treatment protocol" to treat mild cases of COVID. The treatment protocol includes hydroxychloroquine, ivermectin and favipiravir, according to [local reports](#). The Egyptian news [was shared](#) on Reddit's conspiracy forum, receiving high interactions.

Following The Intercept [article](#) about US funding for the Wuhan lab and so-called "gain of function" research, Anthony Fauci continues to be the target of conspiracy theorists. Alex Jones [shared](#) a video from 2012 to suggest that Fauci confessed to the creation of a doomsday virus.

Anti-mask narratives are still being pushed on social media. PolitiFact [debunked](#) a viral video from a school board meeting in Lago Vista, Texas, claiming that the masks used to fight the spread of COVID were unsafe for

children.

During a televised briefing, the Australian Public Health Chief Kerry Chant said that they would look at what COVID contact tracing looked like in the “New World Order.” The phrase was soon widely used by conspiracy theorists (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

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

Sent: 16 September 2021 14:45

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Thursday, September 16

Thursday, September 16

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

#EarlyTreatmentWorks

#Nuremberg2

#LeaveOurKidsAlone

#SaferToWait

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

Graham Carey, one of the people involved in the protest outside Minister Donnelly's home last weekend, [pledged](#) at a [protest](#) in Ennis that "each and every politician is getting a visit off us. And our conditions are, if you don't answer our questions that we're here giving you today we want your resignation or you're not leaving your house". He also stated, "At least once a week each and every minister, each and every superintendent from An Garda Síochána" will be targeted. This campaign is [backed](#) by another far-right figure Denis Delaney.

Carey also posted on Facebook the [form](#) produced during the incident at Letterkenny University Hospital which was flagged in yesterday's digest, urging people to download and use it. The individual who appears to have been [involved](#) in the Donegal hospital incident [defended](#) their actions in response to a [story](#) posted on TheJournal.ie.

Anti-vaccine activist Graham Neary has [posted](#) a video titled 'Covid Fraud' in which he claims that the government has manipulated the number of Covid deaths in Ireland, asking, "Where are there the more than 2,000 so-called Covid-related deaths which occurred in 2020?" He concludes that there has been "massive accounting fraud by the government - they took the deaths of very elderly, very sick people and labelled them with something called Covid...the perception of a pandemic in 2020 was created by gov fraud and media hysteria". The video is generating [some interest](#) online.

TRENDING

Dr Holohan continues to be the target of anti-vaccine ire. His [comments](#) that "further restrictions can't be ruled out" have sparked a negative reaction amongst groups and individuals ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)).

The vaccination of younger children continues to be the focus of much

attention ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)) with one [group](#) again airing the conspiracy theory that the authorities are encouraging high numbers in schools to expedite a vaccination rollout.

There is some discussion of whether the spike in schools is [Covid](#) or a [seasonal cold](#) and this misleading [screen-grab](#) in a post by one group led to some confusion whether it referred to Irish schools (it doesn't).

Despite [warnings](#) from the Irish medical community the cheerleading for Ivermectin persists ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)) - in many cases spurred by this article on the US anti-vaccine [website](#) Gateway Pundit.

MONITORING

The tragic story of unvaccinated County Down mother and daughter Heather Maddern and Sammie-Jo Forde dying of Covid has been [dismissed](#) by some as “scaremongering”.

Narratives around the vaccine and fertility issues may regain fresh momentum as stories relating to [period disruption](#) are [covered](#) in the media.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Nikki Minaj's viral tweet is still generating a huge reaction on social media generally and in fringe groups (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).) In a [new video](#) she claimed that Twitter disabled her account, adding “there is something bigger to it.” [Twitter denied Minaj's claim](#) and said the company did not take any enforcement action on her account. Minaj [posted](#) a video of Tucker Carlson where he criticized the media reaction to her tweet.

A small number of protesters [gathered](#) at the CDC office in Atlanta in support of Nikki Minaj and chanted that she told the truth. They claimed that the CDC and Anthony Fauci lied about the vaccine.

In a new video, Alex Jones [promoted](#) a conspiracy theory claiming that there would be false flags of attacks on COVID vaccination centers. He warned his audience of “upcoming staged attacks on COVID centers.”

NBA star Kyrie Irving [posted a controversial](#) tweet calling people to take off their masks. “My mask is off. Now take yours off. No fear,” he said to his four million Twitter followers.

Ryan Cole, an anti-vaccine activist, [spread](#) a number of unverified claims about vaccines and cancer. He claimed that cancer increased 20 times in vaccinated patients. He added that the vaccine modified the immune system to a weak state.

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

Sent: 17 September 2021 14:46

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Friday, September 17

Friday, September 17

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

#Pharmageddon

#PharmaFascist

#LockdownDeaths

#PeacefulNoncompliance

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PROTEST GROUPS

A Facebook group run by people involved in the protest outside the home of

Health Minister Stephen Donnelly includes claims that they are planning more protests, including further demonstrations outside Donnelly's home, as well as a protest outside Swords cinema this coming Sunday at 11.30am.

There have also been [reports](#) about demonstrations outside multiple schools in Co Galway where students have been harassed by anti-vaccine activists (a tweet thread, since made private, recounted an unpleasant interaction with one group of protesters [here](#)).

One Twitter user also [reported](#) that "nasty letters" threatening to sue were sent to schools in Co Cork.

Activists have also photographed [protests](#) outside Dundalk Grammar School after a video was spread online that supposedly shows an upset child after they were refused entry to their classroom for not wearing a mask (see September 1's newsletter).

A [long-planned protest](#) will be held at the Custom House tomorrow. The turnout may give an indication of the momentum of the anti-vaccine movement, as it has been widely publicised but does not seem to have generated much excitement online.

TRENDS

[TheJournal.ie has reported](#) that the COVID-19 patient who discharged himself from Letterkenny University Hospital (reported in Wednesday's Digest) was not the only one to do so recently.

It has also been reported that the recorder of the video has long been involved with the [far-right Italian political party Lega](#) (also known as the Northern League) and has been known to take part in [anti-EU and anti-immigration activism](#) prior to the pandemic. Rumors that he has been arrested have not

been independently confirmed.

Rumors that the patient he had encouraged to leave has been readmitted to hospital after his oxygen levels dropped dangerously low have [been corroborated](#).

Reactions to [news from the UK](#) that the BMJ is calling for an investigation into the effects of vaccines on menstrual cycle disruptions have been [welcomed](#) by some fringe characters, though decried as “[to late](#)” [sic] by others.

Criticism was also levelled from medically qualified sources. A lecturer [with the RCSI tweeted](#): “Women have been talking about this for *months*, but dismissed as not knowing our own bodies. The vaccines are less than a year old, so I'm amazed at the repeatedly expressed confidence that there is absolutely *no* possible impact on fertility, despite documented disruptions.”

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Australian construction workers [stopped](#) traffic and trams in Melbourne city to protest against new COVID restrictions. There has been a big interaction with the story within fringe groups (see [here](#) and [here](#)). Anti-vaccine and far-right activists [are widely sharing](#) videos and photos from the protest.

A TikTok influencer posted a viral [video](#) to protest the term “unvaccinated” and requested people to refer to her as “pure blood.” The video has been viewed hundreds of thousands of times and received thousands of comments. MAGA supporters [are backing](#) her up.

An anti-vaccine group called Official Voice [gathered](#) outside some media organisations in London to protest against COVID measures.

The Nicki Minaj saga is not fading away. Influential musicians have voiced support for Minaj, including [Spice](#) and [DominiqueYoungUnique](#).

Anti-vaccine activists [are praising](#) comedian Jim Breuer for canceling shows at venues requiring proof of COVID vaccination.

One of the most popular posts on Reddit's conspiracy forum [discussed](#) the Italian government's requirement for vaccine passes. They suggested that it was the "start of the Great Reset" and that "NAZISM is back."

Fringe groups [have been engaging](#) with an [article](#) written by Marty Makary and published by the Washington Post saying that natural immunity is "powerful".

PolitiFact [debunked](#) a misleading [clip](#) from a 2010 episode of the truTV series "Conspiracy Theory with Jesse Ventura" which was being used to claim that COVID was planned by governments.

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

Sent: 15 September 2021 13:55

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Wednesday, September 15

Wednesday, September 15

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

#WeWillNotComply

#HealthFreedom

#PeacefulNoncompliance

#VaccineMandates

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

A man, who said that he was struggling to breathe, was encouraged to leave

Letterkenny University Hospital against the advice of doctors.

Videos of his departure were posted to an activist's [Telegram](#) account, and shorter clips were also [posted to Twitter](#). At one point while leaving, the patient loses his breath while standing and has to sit in a wheelchair to catch his breath. He later requires multiple tissues to stymie bleeding from his arm.

In the full video, the recorder says that the hospital was trying to kill the patient, who had been admitted for COVID-19. The recorder also says that he is working in “common law” and “natural law” and that he was working with Dolores Cahill (in a later video, he says that the “rescue” was ordered by Cahill). He says that the patient had been in hospital for a week (the patient clarifies in a later video that he was admitted on Friday and had been on oxygen for five nights). The recorder also says the hospital staff was going to put the patient into ICU without his consent, where they would kill him. (Staff in the video say they would not have admitted the patient to ICU without his consent.) The recorder threatens to serve a “notice of liability” against the staff in the hospital.

He also promises to make more videos providing legal paperwork and showing how others can “rescue” people in similar situations from hospitals. A template letter which the recorder says will allow people to remove people from hospital is provided in his Telegram channel. The recorder appears to ascribe to dubious legal beliefs associated with the “sovereign-citizen” movement.

TRENDS

Members of the Burke family, known for [fringe activism](#), released videos where they outline what they describe as “one of many harrowing stories that have emerged in recent days about Mayo University Hospital”. [The videos](#), posted on Josiah Burke’s accounts, say that a woman with “minor breathing difficulties” was classified as “suspected Covid” and put on a ventilator in ICU

without the family's consent. However, one of the tweets shows that the patient had [texted her family](#) saying she was going to the ICU while still conscious. The family also [allegedly objected](#) to the patient being moved to a Limerick hospital.

Similar accusations have been made previously by the same activists (see August 24's newsletter).

MONITORING

[Criticism](#) has been [levelled](#) at NPHET's projections of COVID cases, including by comedian Mario Rosenstock [who wrote](#): "3 weeks ago Tony Holohan, in a letter to Gov warned that by mid sept we could expect 5,000 cases a day , 1500 in hospital & 250 in ICU .So , my question: is anyone accountable for this ludicrous modelling ?" [A Gript.ie story](#) on the projections asks: "How did NPHET get it so wrong?"

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

In recent days, a few stories from Israel have been widely shared by the global community of anti-vaccine activists. One of these has been around since late August and refers to a study, still a preprint, which allegedly claims vaccinated people are more likely to get COVID than people with natural immunity.

[FactCheck.org](#) and [PolitiFact](#) have detailed posts on this. Another Israeli [story](#) being widely shared features the health minister Nitzan Horowitz caught on a hot mic saying that the "green pass" is about societal pressure, not medicine.

A group called No More Lockdowns UK is pushing a campaign to get followers to send letters to anyone involved with the vaccine rollout for children, claiming they will be held criminally responsible. The group [responded](#) with delight after an education representative asked for the campaign to stop. See the letter [here](#).

[AP](#) and [PolitiFact](#) both produced fact-checks about the impact of vaccines on male fertility after the tweets from Nicki Minaj.

The role of singular anecdotal stories is still hugely prevalent within the anti-vaccine movement. Children's Health Defense [published](#) an exclusive interview with a 16-year-old named Sarah Green who claimed she developed serious neurological problems after taking a Pfizer vaccine. The Gateway Pundit [promoted](#) a video of an employee at a staff meeting speaking out against mandatory vaccines. We're following developments around a [story](#) about a two-year-old who was allegedly kicked off a flight for not wearing a mask.

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

Sent: 14 September 2021 14:59

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Tuesday, September 14

Tuesday, September 14

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

#RESIST

#MarkOfTheBeast

#LeaveOurKidsAlone

#HoldTheLine

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

[A new video](#) shows Gemma O'Doherty surrounded by thousands of issues of the latest edition of the Irish Light freesheet, which she says will be distributed "all over Ireland." The front page story demands that the leaders of Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael, and Sinn Féin be arrested. The second page is headlined: "Covid 'vaccine' carnage: summer deaths soar." It also includes an illustrated page aimed at children which doubts the existence of COVID-19.

TRENDS

A new [Ivor Cummins video](#) claims that COVID-19 isn't dangerous to the general population and that vaccines do not reduce transmission. He also claims that hospital capacity has not been expanded enough since the start of the pandemic and dismisses "long COVID" as a concern. The YouTube version of the video has been shared 22,000 times.

Anti-vaccine activists have [targeted](#) Milltown Medical Centre in Co Kerry (which [appears to be](#) a small doctor's office) over a supposed sign on the door which asks that "patients that refuse the covid 19 vaccination are requested to seek medical care at a different practice than here." It has [been suggested](#) that the sign may not be legitimate. Some of the [anti-vaccine activists](#) have spread the phone number and address of the medical centre on social media.

The political party [Aontú has accused](#) Fine Gael councillors of preventing an investigation into nursing home deaths in Co Meath to "save face" for their party. The story was covered by [Gript.ie](#).

MONITORING

[Some activists](#) are focussing on the term "off label" in relation to booster shots, which [they interpret](#) to mean that "they can prescribe it for whatever they bloody well like." One tweet about proposed booster shots reads: "If this genuinely doesn't scare the crap out of people then you have serious issues. Be afraid, be very afraid". A Twitter account that claims (plausibly) to be of a

HSE consultant also took issue, [saying that he](#) would not be able to discuss giving such booster shots with the intended recipients as “up to half of these patients lack the mental capacity to have such a conversation due to dementia, and cannot consent”.

[The story](#) of a Co Clare couple who were convicted over refusal to wear face masks in a supermarket have been spread in fringe communities. We previously reported on this (see September 10 digest). Barrister Tracey O’Mahoney has said that she has [made contact](#) with the couple, after a public appeal to her followers.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Nikki Minaj generated huge controversy yesterday when she announced she wouldn’t be going to the Met Gala because she wasn’t vaccinated. She [referenced](#) a story about her cousin’s friend who allegedly became impotent after taking the vaccine. On a QAnon forum, the community seemed baffled that Minaj was sharing this story, but [claimed](#) it as a win.

The fallout continues after the death of Veronica Wolski, a QAnon supporter who had COVID and demanded ivermectin from hospital staff. There are [claims](#) she had ivermectin at home and that Lin Wood had sent an ambulance to the hospital for her.

We’re watching for [promotion](#) of betadine as a COVID cure, although in response to some commentary about this, conspiracy theory groups [suggested](#) they haven’t been promoting it.

We’re also watching for the possible growth of a fundraising campaign by a father who says he is grieving the death of his son after he had a Pfizer vaccine. Ernest Ramirez has been sharing pictures of him and his son on

[Twitter](#). His GoFundMe was shut down but a replacement was set up on [Lifefunder](#).

The Gateway Pundit [claimed](#) that there were 3,296 “COVID vaccine deaths” in the US since July 24, based on unverified VAERS data.

In the UK, a local news site [reported](#) that a school in Chesire had to be put on “lock down” because anti-vaccine protesters had descended upon the school’s property.

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

Sent: 13 September 2021 15:27

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Monday, September 13

Monday, September 13

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

#StopTheMandate

#WeWillALLBeThere

#NoVaccinePassportsAnywhere

#NoMoreLockdowns

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

TARGETS

A [Co Dublin doctor](#) has been targeted by [COVID conspiracy theorists](#) for a

[tweet](#) in which he said not to take ivermectin. “I think I can safely say I speak for the vast majority of Irish doctors when I say don't take medicines designed for animals,” Conor McGrane wrote. “Was quite honestly shocked to see it alluded to by a colleague earlier. Sheep dip is for sheep not people. Even if it's cheap don't take it ! #COVID19”

Critics of the tweet seized on an old photo of McGrane where he thanked the company Pfizer for [sponsoring](#) a bike race he was involved in. Some, including known [anti-vaccine doctors](#), said the tweet indicated McGrane had been bought off. McGrane hit back at one of his critics, Marcus DeBrun, who [he said](#) had accepted free website development from a company involved with the manufacture of ivermectin.

Others [pointed out](#) (correctly), that ivermectin is also administered to humans (though usually for parasites). In [subsequent tweets](#), McGrane appears to indicate that any ivermectin obtained to counter COVID-19 would likely be a formula designed for animals.

Ryan Tubridy has also [drawn](#) the [ire](#) of anti-vaccine activists for suggesting that people who refuse vaccines should not be invited to weddings. [A long Twitter thread](#) by a known conspiracy theorist, published this morning, accuses Tubridy of being a propagandist.

Businesses that enforce COVID restrictions continue to be targeted with bad reviews. (For one example, see [here](#) and [here](#)).

NEWS STORIES

A story on Gript.ie was published yesterday entitled: “New Study: Vaccine side effects 6 times more dangerous than Covid-19 hospitalisation for teenage boys”. [The study referenced](#) is a preprint that uses unverified VAERS data — a regular tool for spreaders of disinformation.

The story has been rapidly gaining traction on Facebook according to the analytics platform Crowdtangle.

[Reports in The Irish Independent](#) that a law firm is planning to launch cases over alleged COVID-19 vaccine injuries has been widely [spread](#) in [fringe groups](#), including a separate writeup in [Gript.ie](#).

[An Irish Times](#) story headlined: “Nearly 15,000 reports of suspected Covid vaccine side effects made to HPRA” has also been spread by [fringe figures](#) over the weekend.

TheJournal.ie has reported that there has been a “[Huge surge in seizures of ivermectin](#)”, eliciting predictable responses by commentators that advocate the drug as a cure for COVID-19.

PROTESTS

Dee Wall, a known conspiracy theorist who has been arrested in relation to previous protests (see August 27’s newsletter), [organised a demonstration](#) outside the house of Stephen Donnelly. [Videos](#) from the protest were streamed live on Facebook.

Protests were held in [Dublin](#) and Ennis over the weekend. The Ennis demonstration was met with a group of [young counter-protesters](#) who have been [celebrated online](#).

A [major rally](#) is still planned in Dublin for September 18.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

We have previously reported in this newsletter on the story of Veronica Wolski, a QAnon supporter who was hospitalised with COVID. She demanded to be treated with ivermectin, the hospital refused, and prominent QAnon influencers began a campaign to harass hospital staff. Wolski has now died. On Telegram, Lin Wood [responded](#) by saying “Now go to war”, although he followed that up with “Non-violent civil disobedience.” A journalist [reported](#) that police have been called to the hospital amid bomb threats. Prior to her death, Wood [posted](#) a video to Telegram in which he called hospital staff and told them they would be charged with murder.

Ivermectin continues to be a large source of conversation. Some people online, who were warning of the dangers of taking the drug as a treatment for COVID, shared a study that found male sterility was affected by it. Both [AP](#) and [Reuters](#) debunked this.

Another big topic of conversation is Biden’s vaccine mandate. The Daily Wire has over 100 employees but Ben Shapiro [said](#) in an interview, “We’re going to use every method and resource at our disposal to defy the president’s unconstitutional order”.

The opposition of nurses to vaccine mandates has been a running theme. Anti-vaccine activists are eager to proclaim a rising tide of nurses resigning is putting pressure on the health system. A viral TikTok [video](#) shows one nurse in protracted discussions with staff in Bowling Green Medical Center in Kentucky, as they argued about whether she was being fired.

Another [video](#) that went viral on TikTok is being shared on multiple platforms. In it John Stokes claims he developed serious side effects from the vaccine with his heart. He says that people should not be forced to take COVID vaccines.

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

Sent: 10 September 2021 15:09

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Friday, September 10

Friday, September 10

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

#MassNonCompliance

#NoVaccineMandates

#DoNotComply

#ThisIsOurHill

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

On September 3, we referred to a new video from The Irish Council for Human Rights and Ryland Media titled “The Doctors Are Speaking Out”. Since then, the video has gained significant traction. It appears to have been taken down from YouTube ([this](#) was the link). It’s still on [Bitchute](#) with over 39,000 views, however Ryland Media [claims](#) it has over 113,000 views.

In the US, the QAnon influencer General Michael Flynn shared the video, [telling](#) his 285,000 subscribers they need to “Listen to this 7 minute video that could save you and your children’s lives.” He also shared the video on Telegram [here](#); this post has 115,000 views. Yesterday, Health Freedom Ireland [posted](#) the video on their site and Marcus De Brun [tweeted](#) it.

For more, see the digest from September 3.

TRENDS

David Thunder posted a video on September 8 which has already gained over 30,000 views on [Twitter](#). In it he rails against vaccine passports, “medical apartheid”, and references the Spanish Supreme Court’s recent decision against such passes, as has been documented here previously.

We’re watching for reaction to a story published by The Irish Examiner titled, “Elderly couple convicted over refusal to wear face masks in supermarket”. The story details how the couple would not wear masks in Aldi in Killaloe last January. The judge issued fines of €80 each. There has been a small bit of [outrage](#) online, with one person [claiming](#), “There is an actual grandmother currently in jail for not wearing a mask in Aldi.”

There continues to be widespread anger over the filming of The Rotunda series on RTÉ. Last night, The Irish Independent [published](#) an article titled, “Film crew of RTÉ’s The Rotunda entered hospital unvaccinated as partners of

pregnant women were made to wait outside”.

MONITORING

There has been some reaction to the [news](#) that the Irish medicines regulator received nearly 15,000 reports of suspected side effects from COVID vaccines ([1](#), [2](#)), and that apparently 50% of COVID patients in hospital are vaccinated ([1](#), [2](#)).

Gabriel Scally [spoke](#) positively of Anthony Fauci; one [reaction](#) was a gif featuring a throat slit gesture.

A short film satirising NPHET was posted on [Rumble](#). See a description on Telegram [here](#).

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Joe Biden announced yesterday a COVID vaccine mandate that would affect 100 million Americans. Following the announcement, 19 US Governors and two attorneys [issued statements](#) defying the mandates.

The new vaccine mandates have been received with a huge social media backlash led by anti-vaccine influencers. QAnon discussions, MAGA forums and fringe groups have been flooded with anti-mandate and anti-vaccine narratives. Anti-mandate hashtags [have been amplified](#) by QAnon supporters.

MAGA supporters are [suggesting](#) that Biden declared war and they are calling on people to use their Second Amendment rights. Others are suggesting that the new mandate will make some Americans “[radicals](#).”

Anti-vaccine activists [are calling for](#) a “Walk Out Day” to protest against the new vaccine mandates. They are encouraging “nurses, doctors, truckers, hospitality and grocery stores” to oppose the mandates.

Fringe groups [are pushing](#) truck drivers to block the food chain to put pressure on the US government to end the vaccine mandates. They are saying that “without truckers people will starve and die.”

Meanwhile, Children’s Health Defense [launched](#) 'Walk Out Week' calling on parents and educators to walk out to protest mask and vaccine mandates.

A user on Reddit’s conspiracy forum said that they [preferred](#) to die than to be forced to get the vaccine. The post was one of the most popular on the forum with thousands of comments.

Anti-vaccine activists [are suggesting](#) the need to create a small business coalition website for the unvaccinated. The website aims to help small businesses who want to hire unvaccinated people when the “big companies start to fire skilled employees who refuse to give up their freedom.”

Fringe groups [are re-sharing](#) a video of Tucker Carlson [advising](#) people who refuse to get the vaccine to buy a fake vaccination card.

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

Sent: 23 September 2021 14:03

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Thursday, September 23

Thursday, September 23

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

#IStandWithTradies

#WeStandWithTradies

#MyBodyMyChoice

#NaturallyAcquiredImmunity

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

A We The Sovereign People organiser has said that the group intends on

holding another protest at a politician's house this Sunday. The man, called Denis Delaney on his social media accounts, posted [a YouTube video](#) in which he says that he has been blocked from posting on Facebook and that future protests will be mostly organised face-to-face in order to prevent infiltration. "We've brought it to Stephen Donnelly's house two weeks ago, and Leo Varadkar's house this Sunday gone," Delaney says to camera. "We'll be bringing it to another house this Sunday, but we'll keep that quiet, because Big Brother is watching. So anybody who's in the know, drop me a line."

The News For All social media pages, which regularly post fringe content, [reported positively](#) on these protests, writing: "This small protest has got their attention quicker than thousands walking around the block to nowhere for a day out."

The We The Sovereign People video also promoted a protest today at Finglas Garda station, prompted by [a video](#) which is described as showing police kicking a 14-year-old boy during an arrest. Anti-vaccine activists from other groups have also [endorsed the protest](#), though there does not appear to be a COVID-19 or vaccine issue involved. DublinLive [reports](#) that the Garda Ombudsman is investigating the arrest that they say occurred on Saturday night after the boy, who was travelling on a scrambler motorbike, did not stop for Gardaí.

TRENDS

A group of anti-vaccine activists, including Irish spreader of misinformation Dolores Cahill, said that they had a meeting with "[a senior member of parliament](#)" in the UK, and they asked him to pause the vaccination programme there.

An Irish Inquiry video was streamed live to YouTube, in which conspiracy theorist Aisling O'Loughlin [interviews a mother](#) who accuses doctors and

medical staff of killing patients and covering up their deaths as part of a conspiracy to coerce people to take vaccines. The video has been [taken down by YouTube](#).

The National Party's Philip Dwyer has filmed himself shouting at a group of women about supposed adverse reactions to COVID-19 vaccines outside Dáil Éireann. [The group shouted at included](#) Senator Lisa Chambers as well as two female victims of stalking and harassment. The video has been spread and celebrated in fringe groups, [though mocked](#) by [others](#) online.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Project Veritas has released a second “whistleblower” [video](#). It features Taylor Lee, who allegedly works at the FDA, who talks about the need to “blow darts” into people and compile a registry of unvaccinated people. The video is already gaining traction, with over 700,000 views within 10 hours of being uploaded. The [first video](#) has over four million views now.

Yesterday, a video was widely circulated showing Michael Flynn [claiming](#) that COVID vaccines were going to be put in salad dressings. That's false, no COVID vaccine is being surreptitiously added to salad dressings, but as Snopes [pointed out](#), “similar mRNA vaccines could be grown in edible plants like lettuce, and that is something that is now being actively researched.”

Anti-vaccine activists have been sharing [videos](#) and [articles](#) about Black Lives Matter of Greater New York, after the group slammed vaccine mandates as racist. They say the rules disproportionately hurt Black Americans, who have a lower vaccine uptake rate than others.

A [study](#) by University College London found that COVID restrictions have had a huge impact on cancer treatment. A key line in the summary reads, "It can be conservatively estimated that in the order of 10,000 individuals will die of cancer significantly earlier than would have otherwise been the case because of delays in diagnosis and treatment." [The Epoch Times](#) and the Facebook page of the [Great Barrington Declaration](#) are two examples of those who have been critical of COVID restrictions who have been sharing the study.

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

Sent: 22 September 2021 14:07

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Wednesday, September 22

Wednesday, September 22

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

#ValidConsent

#SaveTheChildren

#AustraliansRevoltNow

#NoVaccinePassportsAnywhere

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

Fringe figures have reacted with anger to news that some of their tweets had

been reported as misinformation by the HSE. The list of reported social media posts was released by FOI request and [published by TheStory.ie](#).

In response, Eddie Hobbs [referred to social media companies](#) as “the [Goskomizdat](#)”, the name of the state committee for publishing in the Soviet Union, and [asked](#), “So to where can a citizen of Rep of Ireland report HSE / NPHET and ISAG for spreading propaganda, fomenting panic and fear, for ditching decades of science in favour of Chinese Communist LOCKDOWN which has inflicted far more harm on Liberal Democracy than the virus?”

Members of the Burke family of activists have [released a video](#) complaining that University Hospital Limerick has not released the medical information of a patient in the ICU who had been transferred from Co Mayo (see the September 15 newsletter for more). The patient has been described as a woman who had informed her family before being admitted to ICU. The video has been viewed more than 14,000 times on Josiah Burke’s Facebook page.

TRENDS

A new video by the Irish conspiracy theorist channel Computing Forever called “The Hill I’m Willing to Die on” has been spread in fringe communities. The video reiterates many of the channel’s COVID conspiracy theories, many of which are long debunked.

The host, Dave Cullen, claims that, “So-called vaccines cause the sickness and death”. He says they will cause further “sterilisation and slow death” in people who have taken them because they allegedly contain graphene oxide ([they don’t](#)). He says that PCR tests are fraudulent, doubts that COVID-19 even exists anymore, and says that talk of variants is part of a plan to blame cold and flu deaths on COVID-19. He says that this is all part of a government conspiracy to reduce the population and bring about totalitarian control, and encourages his followers to prepare to “bug out” — [a term](#) popular among

survivalist groups meaning to physically flee from society into isolated areas. The video has more than 34,000 views on fringe platforms [Odysee](#) and [Bitchute](#).

John McGuirk of Gript.ie appeared on Newstalk yesterday where he argued that COVID-19 was not as lethal as people had first thought and that predictions of its spread in Ireland were wrong, a [popular argument](#) in recent days. While McGuirk was ably rebutted by DCU professor Anthony Staines, the host, Kieran Cuddihy, said that “[doomsday merchants](#)” had been “wrong on every single occasion” and pondered when the public would start ignoring them. A clip of this has been spread widely in anti-restriction groups.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Australia Protests:

- For the third consecutive day, violent protests continued in Melbourne, Australia, where construction workers and anti-vaccine activists protested against vaccine mandates.
- Protesters marched across the city [blocking](#) traffic and highways and [converged](#) on the Shrine of Remembrance.
- A reporter [was hit](#) by a can and attacked during the protest.
- A social media user [shared a viral video](#) on Twitter with over a million views describing the protests as an “uprising.”
- Other users shared videos claiming that the police were shooting at the protesters (see [here](#) and [here](#)).
- Far-right activists and conspiracy theorists are encouraging demonstrators to “keep fighting” (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).
- A rare earthquake [hit](#) Melbourne yesterday. Activists on fringe groups started to spread conspiracy theories suggesting it was human-made to stop the anti-vaccine protests (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

During his speech at the United Nations general assembly, Brazil President Jair Bolsonaro [promoted](#) a drug cocktail that included chloroquine as an early treatment against COVID.

Anti-vaccine activists are still reacting to the latest Project Veritas video which [has been viewed](#) more than three million times on YouTube since it was released yesterday (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). The founder of Project Veritas, James O'Keefe, [said that](#) the video was removed from Facebook and Instagram.

Megadeth lead singer Dave Mustaine [told a crowd](#) in New Jersey last week that COVID restrictions in the US are like tyranny and people have the power to push back.

QAnon and MAGA communities have been widely sharing a [viral video](#) of the President of Croatia, Zoran Milanović, ending the vaccine rollout in the country (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

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

Sent: 24 September 2021 14:54

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Friday, September 24

Friday, September 24

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

#iStandWithTradies

#COVID1984

#NurembergTrialsForCovid

#Scamdemic

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

A new “Iconoclast” video featuring independent TD Mattie McGrath [is expected](#) to be released soon. Previous videos in this series claimed that the government was conspiring to lie about COVID-19 and spread debunked claims about the pandemic.

TRENDS

Derry GP Anne McCloskey was given an 18 month [interim suspension](#) preventing her from practising medicine in the UK as the General Medical Council investigates her involvement with COVID-19 misinformation. McCloskey continues to share claims that COVID is “[poison](#)” on her social media accounts.

A [video from Israel](#), which purports to show that vaccinated elderly people have almost the same chances of catching COVID as unvaccinated elderly people, has been spread by Irish figures. They have used it to argue that vaccines are ineffective or that vaccine passes are useless. Wellness writer [Ivor Cummins wrote](#): “There is now zero logic or ethics relating to Covid Permits or ‘Passports’”, while Eddie Hobbs expressed his distaste for vaccine passes [using emojis](#).

[A lengthy blog post](#) including multiple screenshots provided as evidence claims that an unqualified psychologist is misleading people into thinking she works with the HSE.

MONITORING

Notions about a “pandemic bonus” for certain workers have been accused of being a scheme to distribute “[hush money](#)” according to some conspiracy theorists.

The term “Ivermectin” was trending on Irish Twitter this morning, but appears to have been triggered by the sharing of international stories with no original or

standout narratives.

The Belfast Telegraph has [reached out](#) to Ivor Cummins for comment about the death of Paul Hamill, a DUP politician. Their email asked: “Do you feel any responsibility for the death of a man who avidly followed your claims, who then refused to be vaccinated, and who is now dead from a virus whose mortality rate in Northern Ireland you dismissed as a “nothing-burger”, leaving a widow and two fatherless young children?” It is unclear when an article should be expected.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

A British funeral director has been gaining some traction online after claiming the pandemic is not real and that there is a deliberate depopulation agenda at work. See example videos [here](#) and [here](#). He claims he came across a hospital with a pop-up morgue two months before COVID, that old people were euthanised, and that recent deaths are all of vaccinated people. Lead Stories [debunked](#) some of his claims.

The Gateway Pundit [published](#) an interview with the organisers of pro-Nikki Minaj, anti-Anthony Fauci protests, who say they will be outside the headquarters of the CDC today. They say the ‘Fraud Fauci Friday’ protest will take place every Friday until November 22, which they hope will be the biggest one of all.

Some anti-vaccine activists have [shared](#) claims that an employee of the FDA said, “The vaccines kill more than they save”. The FDA told [Reuters](#) the person who said this does not work there.

One of the [top posts](#) on Facebook in the last 24 hours mentioning vaccines is

from Candace Owens, as she focuses on the Black Lives Matter of Greater New York opposition to vaccine mandates. For more, see our newsletter from yesterday. Another highly engaged [post](#) is from left-wing activist Russell Brand decrying “vaccine apartheid”.

Children’s Health Defense [published](#) an exclusive interview with a doctor, Danice Hertz, who claims the Pfizer vaccine left her “horribly injured”.

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

Sent: 30 September 2021 14:21

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Thursday, September 30

Thursday, September 30

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

#NoVaccinePassportsAnywhere

#Together

#GetFactsinated

#VaccineMandates

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

Former journalist-turned-conspiracy theorist [Gemma O'Doherty](#) was [convicted](#) of threatening and abusive behaviour and two other charges at Bray District Court yesterday, and received a two-month suspended sentence and a €750 fine. About 30 supporters were outside the court as the case was heard ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)). O'Doherty, who is appealing the verdict, has chosen to view it as a '[victory](#)' against [corruption](#).

Far-right [anti-vaccine](#) activist Dara O'Flaherty was [arrested](#) at a [protest](#) outside the Australian embassy on St Stephen's Green yesterday, which was also [attended](#) by other regular anti-lockdown, anti-vaccine figures.

Emerging from court later, O'Flaherty [spoke about](#) the need for guns to "to free yourself of oppressive governments", and appeared to address Americans out of shot: "when you're finished sorting out your oppression in America could you kindly get your asses over here because we have no guns and we need you over here."

Anti-vaccine figure Dolores Cahill is due in [court](#) in London tomorrow. There had been a bench warrant for her arrest, relating to charges arising from an allegedly [illegal rally](#) in Trafalgar Square last month, but it was [withdrawn](#) after she agreed to appear in court.

The Journal is [reporting](#) that no further action will be taken in relation to a St Patrick's Day party at a castle in Athy owned by Cahill, although fixed penalty notices were issued for non-essential journeys.

TRENDS

A video flagged in the digest on September 27th which showed supposed hospital whistleblower Kieran Morrissey is beginning to gain traction across several platforms ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [7](#)). Morrissey, who describes himself as an engineer who has worked for 22 years in a major academic teaching hospital,

makes multiple claims regarding vaccines. He airs a conspiracy that the [Marburg](#) virus is the next big pandemic and that RiVax vaccine is being fast-tracked which contains the toxin Ricin. He claims the COVID booster shots will cause further bleeds and clots which will appear as hemorrhagic fever which will cause “mass hysteria and panic.” He also promotes Ivermectin and Hydroxychloroquine as treatments. He has posted his conspiracy on [anti-vaccine](#) site Lew Rockwell.

Anti-vaccine activists are pointing to the [news](#) that Slovenia has temporarily halted use of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine after a death possibly linked to the shot, as proof it is [dangerous and/or ineffective](#). They are also [focussing](#) on the [number](#) of COVID [deaths](#) (40) in Ireland the past seven days.

MONITORING

Anti-Lockdown Ireland is promoting two protests; one in [Roscommon](#) town on Saturday and a [‘youth rally’](#) in Stephen’s Green, Dublin on Sunday. Neither appears to be in wide circulation online.

Denis Delaney, one of the activists who protested outside Leo Varadkar’s house, posted that he contacted two newspapers to make statements re homophobic comments made outside the Tánaiste’s home. In [this report](#) he also urged readers to join his group’s Sunday protests outside private residences.

In a comment under a news report on the funeral of Joe McCarron, musician Jim Corr has called for a [“full and independent investigation”](#) into his death at the hospital. He asked, “did they [hospital staff] kill this man with their government prescribed covid protocols”?

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Prominent anti-vaccine activists have been responding to YouTube's [policy changes](#) regarding vaccines. After his channel was taken down, Joseph Mercola [posted](#) about "censorship". Robert F. Kennedy Jr's Children's Health Defense [asked followers](#) to join their daily newsletter, and Erin Elizabeth [promoted](#) her Telegram channel. Larry Cook [said](#) his channel was reinstated after he appealed its takedown.

Del Bigtree has begun a campaign called #GetFactsinated. Short videos are streamed [on his site](#) spreading various aspects of COVID vaccine misinformation. In the most recent video he highlights a recent viral YouTube [video](#) of Robert Malone and Geert Vanden Bossche in conversation. He also shows the viral clip of basketball player Jonathan Isaac which we have mentioned already this week.

That clip of Isaac was [reuploaded](#) to Facebook by Dan Bongino, where it has gained traction.

A recent Bitchute [video](#) showed Reiner Fuellmich deliver the results of his "Coronavirus Investigative Committee", wherein he claimed COVID is no worse than the flu and it can be treated with ivermectin. He also said COVID vaccines are lethal. Lead Stories [debunked](#) his claims.

The AP [reported](#) about growing concerns for the safety of health care workers in Idaho, as anger and dangerous misinformation combine.

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

Sent: 29 September 2021 14:24

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Wednesday, September 29

Wednesday, September 29

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

#FakeShot

#AdverseReactions

#PreserveTheHerd

#Plandemic

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

TDs with the Rural Independents Group — including Mattie McGrath, Michael Collins, Michael Healy Rae, and Richard O’Donoghue — met with Irish Nurses for Transparency and Openness (INFTO), according to a [fringe media group](#) associated with anti-vaccine activists.

According to their story, INFTO spoke to the deputies yesterday afternoon about an alleged “alarming increase in the number of patients they are dealing with of all ages presenting in hospitals around the country with serious complications, such as myocarditis, aneurysms and clotting disorders.” They also complained that reporting vaccine injuries to the HPRA is “cumbersome, time consuming and not fit for purpose.”

As mentioned in previous newsletters (see August 23), INFTO is an anti-vaccine group claiming to represent 300 nurses and healthcare workers, though it is unclear if they represent any.

[INFTO had also claimed](#) to have previously met with members of the Rural Independents Group in August.

TRENDS

[Anti-vaccine signs](#) were carried by protesters rallying in Bray as Gemma O’Doherty appeared in court there today.

A Polish Facebook group that has previously spread COVID-19 misinformation has [recently hosted](#) Dr Piotr Rubas on a livestream. Rubas has strongly recommended against vaccination, especially of children, in [Polish-language media](#).

[A letter in the Irish Times](#) by a doctor criticising the staff welfare measures in the HSE has become popular online, including among mainstream

commentators. The letter argues that measures like yoga and choral singing won't be effective at reducing stress unless staffing levels allow healthcare workers to take time to use them. The letter also criticises a proposed bank holiday in recognition of healthcare staff, but suggests some measures to improve staff wellbeing, including improved locker space, food available at night and early mornings, and "adequate rest space" for shift workers.

The death of Joe McCarron has been covered in [international media](#).

[News](#) that Ireland has been ranked best in the world for COVID resilience, according to Bloomberg, has been met with some cynicism, but has received a generally positive reaction, as has news of Ireland's vaccine [donations to COVAX](#).

MONITORING

An organiser of the We The Sovereign People has [put out a call](#) for volunteers to "protect" them during protests "from the eggs and whatever else this sick society and corrupt system throws at us". He says they they will be the group's "very own 'Guardians of the Peace'".

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

The NBA Vaccine Controversy:

- There has been a controversy over vaccines in the NBA, where about [90% of players](#) have been vaccinated against COVID.
- Basketball legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar said that players who refused to get vaccinated for COVID should be "disciplined."
- A video of player Jonathan Isaac [speaking about](#) not taking the vaccine has been watched over four million times.

- Anti-vaccine activists on fringe groups have been backing up NBA players who are refusing the vaccines and not declaring their vaccine status (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

Conspiracy theorists are still spreading misinformation about Joe Biden getting a booster shot. A post on Reddit with over 1,000 comments [claimed](#) that it was staged and that windows were made to look like the White House.

United Airlines [will lay off nearly 600 workers](#) who refused to comply with the company's vaccine mandate. This has not been received well by anti-vaccine activists (see [here](#)).

The AP [has fact-checked](#) social media posts that misrepresent comments made by Alberta's chief medical officer of health, Dr. Deena Hinshaw. The posts falsely claim that COVID cases are being counted in Alberta without proper diagnostic testing.

Conspiracy theorists on social media [are promoting](#) the [EMF Hazards Summit](#) from September 30 to October 3. The summit features anti-vaccine influencers such as Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Pregnant women have long been a target of anti-vaccine activists. One of the most popular [posts](#) on Reddit's conspiracy forum today features tweets of a woman who said she took the COVID vaccine while pregnant but then claimed she lost her child.

Anti-vaccine activists [have been criticizing](#) the implementation of the [vaccine mandate on health care workers in New York](#).

Lead Stories [debunked misinformation](#) spread on Rumble featuring anti-vaccine activist Jane Ruby. She [claimed](#) that COVID vaccines contain

"sharp metal pieces" or some kind of "metal structure". The video has been watched almost 500,000 times.

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

Sent: 28 September 2021 14:01

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Tuesday, September 28

Tuesday, September 28

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

#ExposePharma

#HerdPreservation

#NoVaxMandates

#SegregationLaws

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

PRIORITY

A clip of TD Mattie McGrath taking part in the upcoming Iconoclast roundtable

has been shared online. In [the clip](#), described as McGrath speaking about NPHET and Tony Holohan, McGrath says he was told: “Listen deputy, this is a pandemic. We’re doing a lockdown and we’ll do the science later”.

TRENDS

Anti-COVID vaccine advocates have [celebrated news](#) that healthcare staff in Beaumont Hospital, including 49 nurses, have refused vaccines. “I respect their Human Rights and I salute the courage of each one of them,” Marcus De Brun [wrote on Twitter](#).

Two protests are planned to take place by the Australian embassy, which has recently been the target of international anti-lockdown movements. The protests are expected to be attended by anti-vaccine activists and are planned for tomorrow ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)) and then again on [October 1](#). The dual dates seem to be due to confusion on the part of the organisers (though [Gemma O’Doherty has accused](#) the organisers of working for the government and trying to take attention away from her appearance in court tomorrow).

Further protests are planned for Stephen’s Green park in Dublin City [on October 3](#), and the Garden of Remembrance in Dublin City [on October 23](#). Neither of these events have gained significant traction online.

[Donegal Daily](#) reports that at least five people, including activists associated with the Common Law Movement, were asked to leave the funeral of Joe McCarron for refusing to wear facemasks. McCarron died last week after Common Law Movement activists encouraged him to leave a hospital where he was being treated for COVID-19.

[A faked screenshot](#) has appeared online that appears to show a tweet from Tony Holohan, saying: “COVID is a lie. You fucking idiots I can’t believe you actually complied with our bullshit rules lol”.

MONITORING

The Computing Forever conspiracy theorist channel is promoting a supposed whistleblower called Kieran Morrissey who claims his daughter developed an auto-immune disorder after taking the Gardasil vaccine for HPV. [In a video](#), the man claims that many diseases are caused by vaccines rather than by microbes. [A Twitter account](#) of the same name regularly posts Irish anti-vaccine content.

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Joe Rogan [posted a viral video](#) opposing COVID measures and vaccine passes. In the video, he linked vaccine passes and mandates to the Nazi period and described it as “anti-American”. The video [has been viewed](#) more than four million times.

Project Veritas [released a new episode](#) in its anti-vaccine series CovidVaxExposed. The new episode features two alleged Johnson & Johnson employees who question the merits of vaccinating children. The video has been watched hundreds of thousands of times on [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#). The video has been widely shared within fringe groups (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#)).

One of the biggest stories discussed on fringe groups is Joe Biden [receiving](#) his vaccine booster shot (see [here](#) and [here](#)). Conspiracy theorists [are claiming](#) that Biden is tricking people into believing he got the vaccine. Others are claiming that the shot was a [saline injection](#).

Anti-vaccine activists [launched](#) the hashtag #HerdPreservation to encourage people not to get vaccines in order to preserve human species.

MAGA supporters [are encouraging](#) Air Force staff to resist vaccine mandates. They are suggesting that the vaccine refusal day is tomorrow.

Anti-vaccine activists have been using Harvard Business School's decision to go back to online classes as a way to discredit vaccine mandates (see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). [The school said](#) that all first-year and some second-year students would take classes online due to the rise in COVID cases among students.

Fringe groups [are circulating](#) unverified narratives made by the German anti-vaccine group Corona Investigative Committee. They claim that [contaminants were found](#) in COVID vaccines that include "Nano particles", "Morgellons" and "Graphene."

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

Sent: 27 September 2021 14:09

Subject: Disinformation Digest: Monday, September 27

Monday, September 27

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

#NoGreenPass

#NoVaxMandates

#MyBodyMyChoice

#ProFreedom

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THE IRISH OUTLOOK

THE DEATH OF JOE MCCARRON

Joe McCarron, the patient who was filmed leaving Letterkenny University

Hospital by activists who told him that the doctors there were trying to kill him, has died. [His funeral](#) was held on Sunday.

McCarron's death has led to widespread coverage in the media and has prompted [an ongoing investigation](#) by police, who described Antonio Mureddu, the activist who filmed McCarron leaving the hospital, as [dangerous](#). Keith Olbermann, a famous US broadcaster, [tweeted](#) "It's time to arrest Antonio Mureddu and Dolores Cahill". The death of McCarron also prompted [calls by a TD](#) to keep anti-vaccination campaigners off hospital grounds.

THE DEATH OF PAUL HAMILL

[A Belfast Telegraph story](#) on the death of DUP politician Paul Hamill, after he had contracted COVID-19, draws the connection between Hamill's refusal to be vaccinated and his support of well-known spreader of misinformation Ivor Cummins. (Friday's newsletter described an email exchange between the journalist, Sam McBride, and Cummins).

The article was condemned by fringe activists, who described it as a "[concerted effort](#)" to "discredit" Cummins and a "[political smear](#)" ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#)).

McBride, who wrote the article, said that Cummins [threatened to sue](#) him when he reached out for comment. McBride has been heavily targeted by fringe commentators online since the article was published.

HOME PROTESTS

A second protest was held outside the home of Leo Varadkar this weekend ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)), organised by the same group who organised the last one. The protest was again attended by Graham Carey, who was reported to have made homophobic remarks during the first protest. [In a video](#) posted to his social media, Carey claimed that they could have had 10 times the turnout that they

did, and accused Varadkar of sending the News of The World to this house earlier that week to intimidate him (The News of the World was discontinued in 2011).

However, Carey was in fact visited by [The Sunday World](#), who reported that he complained about his privacy being violated and threatened to sue them if they referred to him as being associated with the “far right”. Carey had previously posted an [anti-semitic rant](#), including the claim that Jews are trying to microchip children, to his social media accounts.

The leader of the anti-lockdown Yellow Vest Ireland group reportedly condemned the protests at Varadkar’s home, [saying](#): “No matter how much you dislike a parties politics or polices bringing someone's ethnicity and sexual preference is so stupid and counter productive... maybe that's the goal?” [sic]

Carey had previously accused Yellow Vest Ireland of being government-controlled opposition (see the September 20 newsletter).

THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK

During the weekend protests against COVID measures took place in the US, Italy, France and elsewhere. Videos and photos of the protests have been circulated by anti-vaccine activists on social media.

- Anti-vaccine protesters barged into the food court at the Staten Island Mall, New York City, chanting “USA” and anti-mandate slogans. A video of the protest [has been viewed](#) almost two million times on Twitter.
- In Italy, protesters rallied against vaccine passes in Rome and Milan where clashes erupted between police and protesters (see [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

- French protesters [took to the streets of Paris](#) and other cities to rally against COVID passes.

More than 4,000 anti-vaccine influencers and self proclaimed medical scientists [signed](#) the “Rome Declaration” to alert people about the “deadly consequences” of COVID policies. The news on this declaration has been shared on fringe groups (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

Anti-vaccine activists have been widely sharing reports of French tennis star Jeremy Chardy after his reactions to the vaccine (see [here](#) and [here](#)). According to [reports](#), Chardy was unable to train and play, putting his season and career on hold.

One of the most engaged posts on Reddit’s conspiracy forum today [features](#) a resignation letter, promoting opposition to COVID vaccine mandates.

Alex Jones [is promoting](#) a five-part series with the title “COVIDLAND” that features anti-vaccine narratives and conspiracy theories.

Anti-vaccine activists [are going after](#) The Rolling Stones for demanding vaccine passes, tests and masks to enter their concerts.

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