



102. Coronavirus Update

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Future Sense is a podcast edited from the radio show of the same name, broadcast on BayFM in Byron Bay, Australia, at www.bayfm.org. Hosted by Nyck Jeanes and well-known international futurist, Steve McDonald, Future Sense provides a fresh, deep analysis of global trends and emerging technologies. How can we identify the layers of growth personally, socially and globally? What are the signs missed; the truths being denied? Political science, history, politics, psychology, ancient civilisations, alien contact, the new psychedelic revolution, cryptocurrency and other disruptive and distributed technologies, and much more.

This is Future Sense.

Nyck: Welcome to my co-host here on *Future Sense*, Steve McDonald. Good morning, Steve. What's coming up on the show today?

Steve: Good morning, Nyck. We're going to give another update on the coronavirus because there's a lot happening there, and it's a very significant issue globally for many, many reasons. And then after that, we're going to talk about Earth's energy grids, and relay some information which was passed on through Kryon recently.

Nyck: Yes. For many people, of course, that sort of science is a little edgy, and yes, it is. But it's also true that some of the purely scientific factors of the Earth's resonance—magnetic fields or so forth—and things like the Schumann Resonance, do have clearly scientific, biological and other effects on human beings; and just on that basis, we should pay attention to the movement of these subtle energies, and perhaps we are becoming more and more awakened to exactly those things.

Steve: It's actually advanced science.

Nyck: It's advanced science. There you go. Thank you.

Nyck: You're tuned to *Future Sense* here with myself, Nyck Jeanes, and Steve McDonald. Welcome out there, for those listening on the podcast, which we put out a couple of days after this broadcast, live-to-air in Byron Bay. We edit the music and sponsorship announcements out for the usually two, sometimes three-part piece on each week's podcast.

Steve: Thanks to Dena for doing the podcasting for us, and often we get the podcast out the same day or late, so you don't have to wait too long.

Nyck: Yes, that's very true.

Thanks for your texts already. You can, of course, text in at any time.

Now, in the world, of course, some big things going on as usual. I notice that some commentary has said that the coronavirus is a black swan to the Chinese. I thought that was interesting, the black swan being an unpredictable or unforeseen event, typically one with extreme consequences. Is that the case? Where are we up to with the coronavirus?

Steve: Well, it's certainly having a huge impact and broader than we might have expected. I think we've got a lot to learn from this, and that's why we're continuing to provide coverage every week on where it's at, because the implications are growing; and we've got a lot to learn because it won't be the last pandemic that we see. There'll be many more in the future, I'm sure. It is highlighting the interconnectedness of our world in many different ways, and although great attempts are being made to limit the spread and limit the impact, I think we're all going to feel the impact of this coronavirus outbreak in some way. It might not be a health impact; it might be an economic impact that we feel, and yes, that Black Swan is very popular in the futurist world to indicate unexpected events.

At the moment, the Chinese government is facing a great dilemma because by quarantining people and shutting down activity, they are, in fact, crashing their own economy, and they have the difficult choice of whether to maintain the quarantine and watch the economy slump or get economic activity up and running again and risk the virus spreading and having great impact. So a very, very tricky situation that they're in there.

I just wanted to point out also, that it's very much in line with the prediction from Martin Armstrong's economic confidence model, which noted a turning point of the 18th of January and predicted subsequent scarcity of commodities and inflation and prices, and this particular outbreak is having exactly that impact. Part of the reason that Martin's model is so accurate is that it is in line with natural cycles, including solar cycles. He didn't design it that way, he actually found out later on, after he produced the model, that it just happened to be in sync with those things. And it makes sense when you think about it—that the weather and solar activity would impact human activity, particularly the rate of human activity and whether we're indoors or outdoors, and those sorts of things. So this is not unexpected in terms of the economic impact, but it is having a huge impact on supply chains right now. Apart from tourism and the travelling of people backwards and forwards to and from China, shipping and things like that are being massively disrupted, and because of the lead times—

the time it takes to load a ship and for the ship to sail to another country and unload—it's kind of a delayed impact, and we haven't seen the real impact of the supply chain issues yet. But there will come a time in the not-too-distant future where things aren't available that we normally expect to be there when we want them.

Nyck: And as you said, in China, of course, they're battling with how much to shut things down and how much to keep the economy running. The state newspaper, *The Beijing Daily*, said people failing to obey self-quarantine will be punished, but it was not immediately clear how that would be enforced or whether the restrictions would apply to non-residents of the Chinese capitals or foreigners arriving from abroad. So it's all pretty loose, isn't it? And especially because you can get the virus and show no effect and transmit it all in the space of 14 days or so without knowing that you're going to get sick.

Steve: Absolutely. We might run through an update on the health aspects in a moment.

I'm just looking at an article here about disruption to shipping, and it's saying that the world's top container lines have all reduced calls to China and the export of goods has already been hit. *Hyundai Motors* has said it will suspend production in South Korea because of a lack of spare parts, and that's just the thin end of the wedge. So there'll be a lot more to come in that area because so many things that we design in the West these days are actually either fully manufactured or partially manufactured in China, so pretty much a lot of the things that we see in the shops in our local area may be impacted at some point.

Nyck: There are articles talking particularly about Japan, which relies on securing parts from China, too, having trouble normalising production lines as Chinese factories delay reopening after the lunar holidays. So it just keeps on going and having a rolling-on effect with so many different countries.

In China itself, I didn't know that *Starbucks* has 4,300 stores in China, but all of them are closed. *Disney* is closed, both the Shanghai Disney Park and the Hong Kong Park, and China is the second largest motion picture market in the world and all the theatres have been closed because they don't want people in large public gatherings, obviously, so there's therefore a large impact on Hollywood studios themselves who rely on that for a significant part of their income. So the roll-on effect is extraordinary—where it's going to move into, in the areas of our existence.

Steve: It is, and a whole bunch of things that you just wouldn't expect at first glance. Things are so connected these days. It's a wonderful demonstration of how connected we are, and a problem like this anywhere in the world is really a global issue and it affects us all. I guess it just highlights the fact that we need to work together to resolve these issues.

Nyck: And purely on the level of the virus itself and viral infection, there's been some reporting of just the sheer number of people on the planet and the amount that we move around. It gives viruses a really incredible opportunity to spread themselves, and it's kind of a

natural process on that level, if it is a natural virus, which we're still tackling—whether it's a natural virus, or in some sense it's a produced virus and even possibly a bio-weapon. That's going out a little bit far, but there is evidence there.

Steve: Yes, someone I was listening to over the weekend made a good point, and that is whether it's come from a virus lab or whether it was released through contact at a wet market in China, either way, humans are responsible for the spread of it, basically. It comes down to human activity, so there's no getting away from our responsibility there.

Some of the more concerning issues that have popped up in the last week are evidence of transmission during the early symptom-free period, and also a risk of reinfection. It's really early days and a lot of the reporting can't necessarily be relied on right at the moment, but there's some suggestion that it may even be worse if you are reinfected and have it a second time; it may impact you more greatly.

Nyck: That's right. That article talks about that it is highly possible to get infected a second time. A few people who recovered from the first time by their own immune system, but used certain meds which apparently can damage heart tissue, when they get the virus for the second time, the antibody doesn't help but makes it worse and they can die a sudden death from heart failure. We don't want to scare anybody out there, but this is forwarded from the *Taiwan News*, from a relative of one of the doctors living in the United Kingdom who's looking at this virus. So while you don't want to believe everything that you read, it's certainly worth looking at these indications of what this might be about and how it's going to pan out.

Steve: It also kind of explains what I thought was an overreaction at first. When you look at the casualty figures from the virus and the widespread action that China took very, very quickly once it made a decision to act, I thought it was a bit unusual. It didn't really add up, but if they had some pre-knowledge of the fact that this could spread before the symptoms emerge, and the fact that there was a reinfection danger, then that would explain why they've been so severely cracking down on it.

I've got an article here from Australian *ABC News* just from yesterday, which gives an update about the health aspects and I'll just quickly skip through that for the benefit of all of you listening out there (<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-01/coronavirus-update-how-to-protect-yourself-from-outbreak/11918302>; note: this article has since been updated). As of Sunday, the death toll worldwide stood at 1,666—that's an interesting number—and all but 4 of those deaths were in China, so very, very much restricted to China in terms of deaths at the moment. Hubei province at the epicentre of the outbreak has reported 1,596 of those deaths, and the first death outside China was in the Philippines earlier this month. The reported death rate still sits around about 2%—they're saying 2.3% in this article—which is less than some of the previous pandemics that we've had, like SARS. The infection rate

continues to climb, however, and part of that, I think, has been because of the fact that it can spread before the symptoms emerge. This apparently has been a finding of what people are calling the 'Diamond Princess experiment', which is the ship that's being quarantined. No doubt they were quarantining people who displayed symptoms on the ship, but the virus continued to spread amongst the rest of the population, and that was indicating that this transmission does happen before the symptoms show up.

Nyck: The formal *Centre for Disease Control* guidance on this, is that the transmission risk is highest with peak symptoms equating to peak viral shedding, as was the case with SARS but not so with this virus, reinforcing the public health necessity of a strict 14-day quarantine. Very difficult.

Steve: They're saying that the incubation time from exposure is about 7 to 10 days, and so the 14-day quarantine that people are using at the moment is effective, which is good to know.

25 countries have been affected worldwide so far, according to the *World Health Organisation*. Singapore is the second highest affected with 72 cases. It's thought that the virus spreads mainly through what they call "respiratory droplets from an infected person", so sneezes, coughs, those sorts of things. However, interestingly, in this *ABC* advisory article, they are saying that there's no real need for the general public to wear masks, so that is interesting.

Nyck: I saw a report the other day of a flight from Melbourne to the Gold Coast, where almost everybody on the flight was wearing masks.

Steve: Someone sent me a photo on the weekend of a cat wearing a mask, which I thought was quite remarkable. It was a cat on a lead, too, which is also remarkable. I don't know why or how a cat would tolerate wearing a mask, but there it was right there with a mask on.

Nyck: We have a couple of texts in, one very relevant here, talking about the economic impact: "Coronavirus already is impacting my business as now materials are stuck on a ship in China", and it's The Shoe Doctor. G'day, thanks for listening out there.

Another text here: "Love Future Sense. Thank you for broadening my outlook." It's our pleasure.

Steve: I'm still skipping through this advisory article from the *ABC News*. They're saying that in the most severe cases the virus causes pneumonia, which is why it can be deadly. Other serious complications can include respiratory distress or failure, septic shock, acute kidney injury, virus-induced cardiac injury and secondary bacterial pneumonia. They're saying in

terms of precautions, if you feel you are in an area where you are at risk, keep your hands as clean as possible by washing with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitiser; avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth; clean and disinfect frequently touch services at home, work or school, especially when someone is sick; and they're saying quite clearly there's no need for the general public to wear face masks—I guess that depends where you are. This is particularly an advisory for Australia. If you have a trip to anywhere in China, they're urging you not to travel at this point.

Nyck: Lots of stuff there. We will come back shortly and continue to see what else we can dig up regarding the coronavirus, and move on to some other stuff during the show.

Nyck: You're tuned to *Future Sense* here with Steve McDonald and Nyck Jeanes, and tuned in also, possibly on podcast via our website, www.futuresense.it or your podcast platform, and thanks for joining us wherever you are out there in the world.

Steve: We're just giving an update on the coronavirus. At the moment, around 500 million people in China are affected by policies put in place restricting movement to contain the virus. That's more than the entire population of the United States, and it's equivalent to roughly 6.5% of the world's population. As of Friday, at least 48 cities and 4 provinces in China have issued official notices for lockdown policies, with measures ranging from closed-off management where residents of the community have to be registered before they're allowed in or out, to restrictions that shut down highways, railways and public transport systems. That's pretty extreme.

At the moment, there is no vaccine for the virus.

Nyck: And they say maybe it could take as much as a year to produce one, in fact.

Steve: Yes, there is a pharmaceutical drug called *Remdesivir*, which was developed to treat the Ebola virus, and in human clinical trials in Africa, it proved safe for humans, but it didn't actually treat the Ebola virus effectively at all. However, China has announced a full-scale, random, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in 761 patients, which started about three days ago, and they're hoping that they might get some action out of that. We'll wait and see how that goes.

Nyck: Yeah, big stuff, and as you said earlier, just one of the things that it does show us very clearly is how connected we all are. If you didn't know that already, if you didn't feel that already or didn't acknowledge that already, it's pretty clear when something like this happens that if you're living on this planet, then you are at the effect of anything like this

that can occur, either as this kind of viral outbreak or, of course, natural disasters or events—weather events, climate events—that are occurring on the planet, bringing attention again to that cyclone off the coast of Britain—30 metre waves. That's extraordinary. We're all in the same boat, really.

Steve: We are, really, and it's a great lesson in that respect. We can use it to reflect on things like trade wars, for example, which we think are somehow beneficial—they don't hurt us but they hurt the others—but in fact, they hurt everybody. It's just a matter of how far you follow the impact trail before you find how it's impacting you, so we need to learn that lesson and learn to work together and collaborate, co-operate much better.

Nyck: Indeed.

You're tuned to Future Sense here with Steve McDonald and Nyck Jeanes here on BayFM. And I think that's probably—have you got anything else on the coronavirus?

Steve: I think that'll do for the moment. I think that's a pretty good update on where things are at, and we'll continue to monitor the international situation and keep you up-to-date every week.

Nyck: We didn't touch on the possibility that this could be a bioweapon of some sort, or something that's escaped. I mean, there's evidence to suggest there's this possibility, or maybe that's just an extensive sort of conspiracy theory that's out there.

Steve: I have been studying everything on the Internet pretty carefully, and of course, you get everything on the Internet—all sorts of crazy ideas as well as solid facts—and I don't see any clear evidence pointing to where it's come from. Some sites are happy resting in the conclusion that it came from a wet market, and that's highly possible: that it was a transmission from an animal in the wet market in Wuhan. However, there's no clear and unchallengeable evidence to prove that. And also, there's no clear evidence about whether it was, in fact, sourced, either accidentally or on purpose, out of a bioweapons lab, so we still really are uncertain about both of those things.

With my ex-military hat on, from a military bioweapons perspective, it is an interesting development to find out that at first it looks relatively harmless, just like another flu, but after a while, the impacts are growing unexpectedly, and there's transmission without symptoms, and the risk of reinfection which some people are saying might even be more serious the second time around.

Nyck: I mean, it's definitely more insidious than SARS and other coronaviruses which have emerged so far, and that itself, I guess, is troubling—just that it is more complex and insidious.

Steve: It is troubling, and if one was wanting to design a bioweapon, then you might actually build those factors in because it would catch people by surprise.

Nyck: Indeed.

Here on BayFM on *Future Sense*, we will be back, and we're going to look at a completely different direction after the break. Where are we going to go, Steve?

Steve: We're going to look at the Earth's magnetic grid systems and we're going to be spanning some really solid science and some trans-rational information here, so we should give a small warning that the next part of the show is not going to be completely rational—it's going to be beyond rational in some respects—but there's some wonderful information that we are going to pass on, much of which has come from a recent video from Lee Carroll and Monika Muranyi. Those of you who are familiar with those names would know that Lee is an engineer from the United States who channels a disembodied entity called Kryon and has a wonderful record over 30-some years of predicting scientific breakthroughs very, very accurately.

Nyck: And it's certainly worth looking at these people—these channels—and we'll look at that shortly.

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