

Covid-19 is getting tiresome.... Lockdown; come out; lockdown; come out then lock back down again. We know this is a serious disease, but it's not being taken serious by those working around us. We are being treated as if we're spreading the virus from us to them. When obviously it's the exact opposite at this time. Their favorite quote is "Y'all not being punished; we're stopping the spread." But we can get a misconduct for not wearing a mask properly. And given a misconduct will keep these guys from making parole.

Speaking of parole, I have a neighbor who had a hit from parole a year ago. Now was scheduled to see them again in October. But our quarantining has caused his meeting to be pushed back again for a third time. So instead of him making it home to his loved one 12 months late, he'll be 15–20 months late, if he make it out. "Due to Covid."

Reminds me of South Park's pandemic special episode where a black kid was shot by police taking the job of a teacher. The police officer said the kid was being taken to the hospital due to Covid. Another kid spoke up, saying, "It wasn't Covid. You guys shot him." The cop made up a scenario, stating if Covid never came, the teachers would be teaching, and us police officers wouldn't have been there to shoot. So the kid was shot due to Covid. SMH! Meanwhile some staff sit around here in groups of 5 or more eating and having a ball.

Well, I think to stop this spread in prisons, we will need instant testing for staff just like first responders on the streets. October they offered us \$5.00 to take a supposedly "flu" shot which instead ignited a Covid-19 pandemic inside this facility. Causing well over 100 positive cases. In return shutting down the entire facility excluding the Culinary Department, where no staff wants to work.

Now the people that live here were offered 42 cents an hour, then 51cents an hour to work in the kitchen. Unfortunately, wasn't told about the 14-hour days for 15-30 days straight. [end of first message]

After 10, 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. days was offered 1 day off a week. Not to mention at least 7 of the 20 workers' cell mates tested positive for Covid-19. Nothing was done!

There was never a back track being done for those given that sickening shot. I might've lost respect for these people after learning of the death of one of my mentors Al Joyner November 3rd 2020. Our first Covid-19-related death. Some minimize this event like he wasn't a human being. But the guys that live here KNOW the MAN we lost that day. A father. A brother. A teacher. A writer. A friend. A mentor. A supporter. A neighbor. A neighbor I frequently hugged before this pandemic began — and we don't receive many hugs in prison.

I remember a brief encounter we had in the hallway. I embraced him, at that very moment he told me "Ima have 50 years in prison tomorrow." Damn! Why? Is a question I have and will always ask myself. That's a question that will never be answered. He passed after serving 52 years. He was 77 years old, I believe. A good man.

Yesterday was a record high number of deaths in the U.S. Which was the day I turned 30 years old. An ugly milestone....