

STANDARD DEVIATIONS: Build That Wall!

Buenos Dias,

We are under attack. Our children, our families, and our very lives are at risk of invasion. A caravan of intruders is on the march and its destination is the citizens of Utah.

There are some bad hombres.

The sentinels and government agencies must provide surveillance and constant vigilance to keep the unwanted invaders from destroying our lives.

We need to use every tool in our arsenal to safeguard the people affected by the invasion.

We can put up barriers. We can use technology to identify the worst offenders and turn them away or expel them. We can cleanse the areas with chemical warfare and target the worst with precise weaponry. But there are always more trying to get in. They use these attacks to learn our systems and game them. They learn how to avoid our defenses and resist our best technologies. They teach their offspring to avoid our detection and find new ways to invade. They evade detection and resist arrest by hiding right among us.

Who exactly is under attack? The populations of cells in our blood. The constituents of our sera.

Our media reveals colonies of these parasites hell-bent on causing harm to our loved ones.

AND YOU, dear reader, are the Sentinel watchmen entrusted with safe-guarding our physical borders and you are the government agents that provide support and guidance to the sentinels. Working together to identify those who take our jobs, our homes, and our children from us through the most insidious actions with the sole intention of making more of their kind to infect our population.

These invaders come in many "nationalities". Some are small vicious creatures hijacking our own bodies for their nefarious work. Some are single "cells" of malicious intent just looking for the right circumstance to invade or cause harm from within. Some attack the weak and others show no regard for the strength of the host. Do they seek immunity? No, they are immigrants that flaunt their ability to get past local patrols of immunization and target the immune-compromised.

They come from all over the world. Africa, Asia and South America are notorious for harboring the miscreants. Criminals and Middle Easterners are mixed in.

Our government has recently discovered a cadre of hostiles just over the border in Tijuana, Mexico. These have invaded some Americans just visiting for some dieting help and they refuse to leave even after we give them drugs.

Some are smuggled in with drugs and use those drugs to get into our systems.

They use many different sneaky ways to invade. Some are brazen enough to just float in the air, some hide among friendly look a likes, some ride in on the backs of animals and the saliva of insects, and others hide inside our food to sneak past our borders.

Of course, not all those trying to get in are bad. There are many who contribute to our health and provide essential services. But in the right circumstances these enemy agents can multiply into a lethal force.

Defending our bodies from the intrusion of hostile invaders should be a priority.

We must implement policies of deterrence. We need to understand the enemy and fight with that knowledge. We need a unified, consistent approach that recognizes the value of policy. Our administration and leadership must make security and safety an integral part of our jobs. They must lay down the laws aimed at protecting the people; and we must follow those laws.

We need to be resourceful, using every tool in the bag. Having the laws on our side will not stop these invaders, alone. Our technology must be part of the arsenal. We need to make engineering part of our defense. The defenses used can be as simple as cleansing the area with detergents or using filters that trap even the smallest of the filth.

The protective barrier is our last defensive front. If the hordes get past the wall of personal protective equipment then the battle may be lost.

Hopefully, you recognize that I'm talking about viral and bacterial infection and the ways that we protect ourselves from lab-acquired disease. Administrative controls like SOPs, engineering controls like disinfection and biosafety cabinets, and PPE are the parts of the biosafety wall we construct to keep these infections away and lab workers healthy.

Have a great week and be safe,

Bryan

References:

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