KB Article Title: Example: Framing Coronavirus Messaging Using MFT Framework

Question: Practical question: Can you take an example like Coronavirus prevention and apply it to all six intuitive moral values in the Moral Foundations Theory (MFT) advocacy framework?

Answer:

We have been asked in several recent leadership presentation discussions to take the topic of Coronavirus (COVID19) prevention and apply it to community outreach and advocacy using all six Moral Foundation Theory (MFT) values.

Here is a quick example drawn from our workshops that can be used both for frontline public health workers engaging members in any local community and also can be used by spokespersons advocating for Coronavirus prevention in various conversations with decision-makers.

Using the framing concepts and the 6 MFT Values Worksheet described earlier in this Series, below is one concise way that Coronavirus prevention can begin to be framed using all 6 different values and then adapted depending upon the audience.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Moral Foundation</th>
<th>Your Public Health Message</th>
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| **1. Care** (pairs with Harm) | - Protect yourself and others  
- Help those most vulnerable  
- Public health can assist you  
- Stay healthy and safe |
| - Reflects the base of Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs  
- (Security, Shelter, Food, Water, Warmth) |
| **2. Liberty** (pairs with Oppression) | - Coronavirus can threaten our safety and freedom  
- We want our community to be free from fear of contagion  
- The quicker we beat this, the quicker we recover and return to normal |
| - Physical and Mental Freedom  
- Social Intolerance of Bullies |
| **3. Fairness** (pairs with Cheating) | - Everyone has an interest in beating his outbreak  
- Those at home all need to have resources to stay there  
- Infection does not discriminate  
- We have an interest in everyone getting appropriate care |
| - Equality of Opportunities  
- Social Intolerance of “Free-Riders” |
| **4. Loyalty** (pairs with Betrayal) | - Do your part, wash your hands and don’t be a risk to others  
- We need to protect our community  
- Limited resources should go first to responders, HCW’s and those caring for us.  
- I’m loyal to you and want to keep you safe |
| - Personal Trust, Group Identity, Patriotism  
- Social isolation of those who betray |
| **5. Authority** (pairs with Subversion) | - Scientific evidence and common sense show that protective measures really work  
- Listen to your local public health official  
- Quarantine and social distancing may be necessary  
- Be a good role model for others |
| - Competitive advantage of organized groups  
- Deference to “good” leaders (Alexander the Great)  
- Social intolerance of those who subvert the system |
| **6. Sanctity** (pairs with Degradation) | - Public health does not run, it stands by your community  
- Support those taking risks to care for your loved ones  
- Look for ways to serve others  
- Help nurture the spirits of those needing comfort |
| - Not simply a religious value  
- Respect for the human spirit  
- Social aversion of personal degradation |
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