

1 Hello everyone, and welcome to Late Night from my hallway. As I am sure you all know, our show is
2 dark, our staff is all at home and we have no idea when we are going to be back. But, obviously, it is
3 not just a surreal time for us, it is a surreal time for everyone.

4 We are all trying to process it, so we thought we would start doing that the way we always do with A
5 Closer Look. Now, you might have noticed I am doing this closer look from inside my house which
6 may be weird to do it from a hallway. But at least, I am not doing it from a public beach. Look at
7 those dummies. And let me be clear. I am not saying that people are dumb for going to a public
8 beach during a pandemic, which they are. I am saying they are dumb for going to the beach, period!

9 You can die from going to a beach right now, and it is still not in the top five worst things that could
10 happen to you at a beach. When I die, I fully expect my last words to be, "but at least I don't have to
11 go to the beach anymore." I mean I am not happy being stuck inside all the time, but at least I am not
12 finding sand in my butt-crack...yet!

13 Anyway, Late Night is in quarantine, but we are still processing the public health crisis, the economic
14 crisis, and the crisis of leadership at the federal level. There is a lot to process, so for more on this, it
15 is time for A Closer Look.

16 The stock market plummeted again this morning, the number of coronavirus cases has now
17 surpassed 300,000. With about 40,000 here in the US or as the President assured us at the start of
18 this crisis, (Trump) "when you have 15 people, and with the 15 within a couple of days, it is going to
19 be down close to zero."

20 Ahhh, so close! He sounds like the dumbest Price is Right contestant in history. Donald, how much
21 for this new Porsche dining set and 10-day luxury stay at the Ritz-Carlton in Hawaii? (Trump. "Close
22 to zero.")

23 Does the horn sound mean I won? Was that the winner's horn?

24 But, I really hope people remember that comment as we watch a pandemic overwhelm our
25 healthcare system and our economy while we sit on our couches scrolling all the way to the bottom
26 of Netflix looking for something new to watch. Honey, look, look, honey, look I found a documentary
27 called "Secret Wildcats of the Scottish Highlands. I don't think we've seen that one yet, honey. No,
28 we watched it last night and the secret is that it is a boring documentary."

29 Because while the federal government could have been ramping up testing, tracing and quarantining
30 people, and containing the spread, the President was lying and claiming this was all no big deal. In
31 fact, we now know thanks to the reporting in the Washington Post that US intelligence agencies were
32 issuing ominous, classified warnings in January and February about the global danger posed by the

33 coronavirus, while President Trump played down the threat and failed to take action. So, either he
34 knew about it the whole time and lied, or he wasn't paying attention during the briefings. And
35 honestly, both are probably true. Donald Trump cannot stand when someone else is talking in a
36 meeting. I mean look at him. He literally looks down at the table and hugs himself like he's hoping it
37 is all a dream. Pretty soon, he is just going to start going to meetings wearing a thunder shirt.

38 Of course, we can't expect Trump to actually read one of his intelligent briefings unless of course
39 Sean Hannity holds it up to the screen during the show. In fact, the Post reported that Trump's
40 advisors struggled to get him to take the virus seriously. Health Secretary Alex Azar couldn't get
41 through to Trump to speak with him about the virus until Jan. 18. When he reached Trump by phone,
42 the President interjected to ask about vaping and when flavored vaping products would be back on
43 the market.

44 He was more concerned about vaping than coronavirus. He is a 16-year old high school burn-out
45 trapped in a 70-year old retiree's body. Our hospitals might run out of masks and ventilators but at
46 least Trump will still make sure they have plenty of Peppermint E-juice. Smoke this, it'll make the
47 pain stop or it won't, there is no science behind any of this.

48 And now, partially because of Trump's negligence over 100 million Americans literally one-third of
49 the country have stay-at-home orders. Basically, it is a cross between a staycation and a Saw movie.
50 Now the situation is grim and surreal but that doesn't mean there have not been moments of
51 positivity like those penguins who are let loose in the aquariums and left to gawk at the other
52 animals allowing them to be as snooty as the tuxedos nature provided them. Oooh, look at the rif-raf
53 in their casual wear, this is an aquarium not an above-ground pool. Or Steve Martin playing his banjo
54 in – I don't know – I guess the middle of the woods.

55 And you know things are bad when the sound of someone playing a banjo in the woods is
56 comforting. Usually that is when you run back to the camper and head for the city. I have to say.
57 Deliverance would have been a whole...an entirely different type of movie if it had been Steve Martin
58 instead of that weird kid. So, how was your camping trip? Do you know what? It was hilarious. It was
59 so funny. It was so funny even when someone got shot through the head with an arrow.

60 Now countries across the world have taken drastic measures to slow the spread of the pandemic by
61 quote flattening the curve, which sounds like something a cross-fit instructor would yell during a
62 work-out. Come on, Janet. Janet, let's finish those squats and flatten those curves. But, it basically
63 just means slowing the spread out over a longer period of time rather than having one big spike that
64 overwhelms the healthcare system all at once. European governments from France to Italy to Spain
65 have all taken extreme measures to lockdown their countries and slow the spread of the disease.

66 And in Germany, even Chancellor Angela Merkel was apparently getting ready when she was
67 photographed over the weekend at her local supermarket buying four bottles of wine and some
68 toilet paper. Either she is preparing to self-quarantine or she is about to get hammered and tee-pee
69 the principal's house. Take zat Mizter Himmelschmidt, ohhh I just saw the lights go on. Run, schnell,
70 schnell. And drastic measures are already having a major impact on economic activity across the
71 world. The Financial Times reported on Sunday that road traffic has also fallen in most major cities.
72 Rome, Paris, and New York have all seen rush-hour traffic running at considerably below their usual
73 average levels. Rush-hour traffic has fallen in New York. And in New York, all traffic is rush-hour
74 traffic. Every hour is rush hour. If someone gets a flat tire in Queens, the whole Eastern Seaboard
75 locks up for three hours. If you try to catch a cab in mid-town at rush hour, you'd be better off just
76 ordering all the parts and building your own cab. Order them from rockauto.com, which is a
77 commercial a lot of writers on our staff enjoy. And yet, there are still some people who don't seem to
78 take the situation seriously. Typically, young people who are still crowding beaches and parks. So,
79 over the weekend, New York Governor, Andrew Cuomo, had a message for them.

80 We do have an issue with younger people who are not complying. Do you want to have an opinion?
81 Have an opinion. But you can't have your own facts. Well, young people don't get this disease. You
82 are wrong. You can get this virus. And you can transfer the virus. Social distancing works and you
83 need social distancing everywhere. There is a significant amount of non-compliance, especially in
84 New York City. Especially in the parks, I'm gonna go down there today, I wanna see what the
85 situation is myself.

86 OH SHIT! If you guys don't stay at least six feet apart, Andrew Cuomo will turn this car around right
87 now. He's gonna go down to the park himself and bust some skulls and he's gonna bring his brother
88 Chris with him. Look at these guys. Not only are they going to enforce social distancing, they are
89 going to hang you upside down and steal your lunch money. Seriously, I would watch an entire After-
90 School Special; undercover Andrew Cuomo posing as a teen skateboarder, you know, trying to bust
91 kids for hanging out in the park. Pot is cool, do you know what else is cool? Staying inside to read
92 books. That is what I loved. One of the slides in his presentation literally said, "young people, you are
93 wrong." That is serious big-dad energy. You were wrong, now go to your room for two months.
94 Think about what you did. I better hear you washing your hands in there.

95 So, the coronavirus pandemic has impacted virtually every aspect of society; from Hollywood to
96 sports to politics. Just yesterday we found out that Rand Paul was the first senator diagnosed with
97 coronavirus. Thankfully, his office says, he's feeling fine and that is great news. Now we could point
98 out the fact that Paul was the only senator to vote against the bi-partisan, anti-coronavirus aid-

99 package or the fact that he stood by an incompetent President who botched the response to this
100 crisis and called criticism to his response a hoax. But, I want to focus on this part of the story.

101 Out of an abundance of caution, Senator Paul, despite the fact that he did not have symptoms
102 decided to get tested about six or seven days ago. What we are learning is that in that timeframe,
103 those six or seven days since he got tested, he has been up on Capitol Hill attending GOP lunches, he
104 also, as we reported earlier today, was spotted at the Senate gym.

105 Senator Rand Paul tests positive for the coronavirus. Several lawmakers spotted him in the Senate
106 swimming pool earlier today.

107 So, Rand Paul thought he might have coronavirus and he went to the gym and the pool. What else
108 did he do? Lick every desk in the Senate chamber and shake hands with the Lincoln memorial? Of
109 course, he goes to the Senate pool; that explains his hair. Dude, wear a swimming cap. Maybe that is
110 a swimming cap. Seriously, if you think you have coronavirus, you are supposed to stay home, not go
111 to the gym.

112 Corona doesn't care if you are jacked! Here is Elba guy and look at him. If anyone is capable of
113 knocking out corona virus by punching it, then it's Indris Elba. And now, several other Republican
114 Senators have been forced to self-quarantine including Utah Senator, Mitt Romney. Trump, who has
115 feuded with Romney, apparently found out about that fact in real-time during his daily coronavirus
116 reality show on Sunday night and deployed his trademark charm and compassion.

117 On top of Senator Paul now, four senators are in isolation and the rules say that in order to vote,
118 they – (Trump) who are they – (reporter) uh, Mitt Romney, Senator Lee, Senator Gardner and
119 Senator Rick Scott, also. Two of them were in contact with – (Trump) Rick is coming out.

120 With the critical stimulus package vote expected soon, - (Trump interrupts) Romney is in isolation? -
121 yes – gee, that's too bad...uh go ahead.

122 Do I detect sarcasm there? No. none whatsoever.

123 No, no, that wasn't sarcasm? So, you are generally concerned about Romney's well-being? Did you
124 also send him a get-well card that said "Oh you're sick? I'm so sorry." That is just a reminder that
125 Donald Trump never passes up an opportunity to remind us that he is an awful person; even in the
126 midst of a global pandemic. It is almost that he is afraid we will forget. Like he's worried that if he is
127 too focused on solving the crisis, people won't remember that he is also the same asshole who once
128 tweeted, "I have never seen a thin person drinking Diet Coke."

129 In fact, last night after yet another rambling, self-absorbed performance Trump, who just recently
130 called himself a wartime, took to twitter to complain about press coverage of his disastrous corona
131 virus response.

132 “I watch and listen to the Fake News, CNN, MSDNC, ABC, NBC, CBS, some of Fox (desperately &
133 foolishly trying to be politically correct), the New York Times and Washington Post, and all I see is
134 hatred of me at any cost. Don’t they understand that they are destroying themselves?

135 How do you have time to watch six networks and read two newspapers? I have been at home with
136 two kids for a week and the only thing I have read is the back of a box of Clorox wipes and the only
137 thing I have watched is my wife roll her eyes at me for not knowing how to make oat meal.

138 Trump thinks he is a wartime President because any time someone asks him a question, he’s like
139 “OK, it’s wartime.” If you want to be a wartime president, you can’t tweet petty complaints about
140 the media. Churchill never started any of his speeches by saying; “we shall fight them on the
141 beaches, we shall fight them on the landing ground, even though the fake news will never give me
142 credit.” My voice coach has been unavailable in case you are wondering why that Churchill was so
143 bad. We are in this crisis in part – he’s not sick or anything, he’s just doing other stuff. We are in this
144 crisis in part because of this authoritarian cult of personality that surrounds our president. Instead of
145 facing the stark truth, Trump demands constant praise and flattery. In fact, at one point last week, a
146 reporter simply tried to ask Trump about the very real urgent concerns faced by health care
147 professionals on the frontlines about the lack of medical equipment like masks and ventilators.

148 Things are so bad that TV medical dramas are donating their medical supplies to hospitals in need
149 during the coronavirus pandemic. That’s right. Our government is such a mess that TV shows have
150 had to pitch in. They are giving every hospital in the country masks and ventilators and one super-hot
151 doctor who gets killed off in Season 11.

152 Don’t you get close to cute doctor. They never last. They never do. So, Trump was asked about those
153 concerns at one of his press conferences and this was his response.

154 I just want to read you what some of the doctors on the frontlines of this crisis are saying. Do you
155 mean the ones that are saying good things or the ones that are saying bad things?

156 I assure you no one who is saying good things is a medical professional. Do you think that in the
157 middle of a global pandemic that is overwhelming out health care system and triggering an economic
158 collapse, a reporter is going to raise their hand and say, “Mr. President, I want to read you some of
159 the beautiful tributes that are pouring in.”

160 Seriously, why are you like this? Why do you have the emotional maturity of a middle-school student
161 passing a note in class that says; do you like me, check yes or yes. Now, on top of botching the public
162 health crisis, Trump and his Republican allies in congress are also trying to ram through a stimulus
163 package they negotiated with themselves as the economy craters and millions of vulnerable working
164 Americans miss out on their paychecks and struggle to make it through the crisis.

165 Trump and his allies want to shovel money into the pockets of corporations without any strings
166 attached. They have also proposed a one-time, one-thousand-dollar check to Americans struggling
167 through the crisis.

168 And during a live-stream yesterday, Senator Bernie Sanders, who has called for monthly payments of
169 two-thousand-dollars, said that was not nearly enough.

170 You know, some of my Republican colleagues are talking about, gee a one-time, one-thousand-dollar
171 payment. Really? Yeah, that'll last you for two or three weeks and what happens after that?

172 Ok, first of all "really?" is my segment, Bernie. You don't see me going around blasting millionaires
173 and billionaires. Uh, actually, yeah, I know. I have done that. Alright, we're even.

174 Secondly, he is right. A one-time check for one-thousand-bucks is not even close to what we need.
175 What is Trump going to propose next? Free vaping products?

176 To help with the pandemic, we will be sending every American a monthly supply of cucumber-
177 flavored Juul pods. Smoke them before your lungs are filled with coronavirus.

178 Instead of bailing out big corporations with no strings attached, maybe we can bail out the American
179 people instead by just giving them money. Besides, if you send a check to the airlines, there is a good
180 chance that it'll just get mixed up with someone else's check and it'll end up at the wrong airport.

181 And why do cruises need a bail-out before workers or rural hospitals? No one wants to see Goofy
182 walking around on the deck of a Disney cruise holding two bags of cash and smoking a Juul.

183 Naja, alright, I kind of want to see it.

184 At this point, it has become clear that to get through this crisis, we are going to have to rely on state
185 and local government and our courageous healthcare workers, our public healthcare experts, and
186 each other because when it comes to Trump, chances he'll supply real leadership are close to zero.

187 This has been [A Closer Look](#).