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Mr. Lee’s Commentary and Dairy



Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

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## U.S. intelligence reports warn of extremist threat around election



FILE PHOTO: Yard signs supporting U.S. President Donald Trump and Democratic U.S. presidential nominee and former Vice President Joe Biden are seen outside of an early voting site at the Fairfax County Government Center in Fairfax, Virginia, U.S., September 18, 2020. REUTERS/AI Drago/File Photo

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. security officials are warning that violent domestic extremists pose a threat to the presidential election next month, amid what one official called a “witch’s brew” of rising political tensions, civil unrest and foreign disinformation campaigns.

FBI and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) memos say threats by domestic extremists to election-related targets will likely increase in the run-up to the Nov. 3 election.

Those warnings so far have largely remained internal. But New Jersey’s homeland security office took the unusual step of publicly highlighting the threat in a little-noticed report on its website last week.

“You have this witch’s brew that really hasn’t happened in America’s history. And if it has, it’s been decades if not centuries,” said Jared Maples, director of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, which published the threat assessment.

Nationwide protests in recent months over racial justice and police brutality have been largely peaceful, but some have led to violent confrontations, including between extremist factions from left and right.

The United States is grappling with the coronavirus pandemic, high unemployment and a contentious presidential election in a polarized political climate.

President Donald Trump last week declined to commit to a peaceful transfer of power if he loses the election to Dem-

ocratic rival Joe Biden. Trump has sought to cast doubt on the legitimacy of the election because of his concerns about mail-in voting, which Democrats have encouraged during the coronavirus pandemic.

Documented cases of mail-ballot fraud are extremely rare and election experts say it would be nearly impossible for foreign actors to disrupt an election by mailing out fake ballots.

A recent internal FBI bulletin warned that domestic extremists with varying ideologies would likely pose an increasing threat to government and election-related targets in the run-up to the election, according to a person familiar with it. The bulletin was first reported by Yahoo News.

An FBI spokeswoman said the agency “routinely shares information with our law enforcement partners in order to assist in protecting the communities they serve,” but declined to comment on the specific document.

A DHS memo dated to Aug. 17 said ideologically driven extremists and other actors “could quickly mobilize” to engage in violence related to the election. The document, also first reported by Yahoo News, was confirmed to Reuters by a person familiar with it.

The memo said that lone offender white supremacists and other lone offenders with “personalized ideologies” pose the greatest threat of deadly violence.

A DHS spokesperson directed Reuters to early September remarks by acting Secretary Chad Wolf, in which he said that the de-

partment “has taken unprecedented actions to address all forms of violent extremism, to specifically include threats posed by lone offenders and small cells of individuals.”

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT**  
Trump and his top officials have not so far publicly highlighted any threat by violent extremist groups to the election.

Trump officials have pointed the finger at left-wing anarchists and anti-fascists during protests against police brutality and racism over the summer, but federal court records provide little evidence showing those arrested for violent acts had affiliations to far-left groups. Last week, the top two DHS officials acknowledged in congressional hearings, however, that white supremacists have posed the most lethal domestic threat to the United States in recent years.

FBI Director Christopher Wray said during congressional hearings earlier this month that his agency was conducting investigations into violent domestic extremists, include white supremacists and anti-fascist groups. He said the largest “chunk” of investigations were into white supremacist groups.

White supremacist, anti-Semitic, anti-government, and related ideologies were tied to 77 percent of 454 alleged domestic extremist murders in the past decade, according to data compiled by the Anti-Defamation League, a New York City-based anti-hate advocacy organization, and presented at one of the congressional hearings last week.

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WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

09/29/2020

CORONAVIRUS DIARY

First Presidential Debate Tonight

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President Trump will face the most direct challenge to his presidency by challenger Joe Biden tonight.

Trump and Biden meet tonight in Cleveland for their first of three debates. Fox News host Chris Wallace is the moderator. The candidates won't shake hands.

Tonight's debate topics will include, "The Trump and Biden Records," "The Supreme Court," "COVID-19," "The Economy Race," "Violence In Our Cities" and "The Integrity of the Election." Each segment will last 15 minutes.

According to a New York Times report,

Trump paid no income taxes in 10 of 15 years beginning in 2000. In both the years he won the presidency and in his first year in the White House Trump paid just \$750 in federal income tax.

Trump denied the report and said this was fake news despite the newspaper having copies of the tax return.

No single issue will dominate tonight's debate more than the coronavirus pandemic. We have now lost more than 200,000 lives in America to this virus.

In the Supreme Court nomination, Republicans have decided to press forward with nominated Amy Barrett to be the new Supreme Court judge. If she

is confirmed, the conservatives would hold a 6-3 court majority for long time.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin are trying once more to get a stimulus deal finished before the election. Democrats have unveiled a new \$2.2 trillion plan. This bill will be very important for the economy recovery.

All these issues are facing us today. We hope the three presidential debates will tell the people the truth and give answers to solving the problems.

For all of us what we want are the basic needs of health and a sufficient living standard. With this crisis, political

slogans will not help us at all.

Election Day is around the corner. All of us can start early voting on October 13th. You need to register before October 3rd in order to qualify to vote. Let's act on now. This is our right and responsibility that is directly related to the future of the nation.

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BUSINESS

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Poll: Resistance To Vaccine Growing



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The share of Americans eager to try a first-generation coronavirus vaccine dropped significantly in the latest installment of the Axios-Ipsos Coronavirus Index, as President Trump hyped suggestions that one could be ready before the election.

**Why it matters:** As the U.S. reaches a milestone of 200,000 deaths, this underscores the risks of politicizing the virus and its treatments.

- The trend is taking place among Republicans as well as Democrats.
- It's another warning of the potential difficulties health authorities will face in convincing enough Americans that a vaccine is safe and effective.

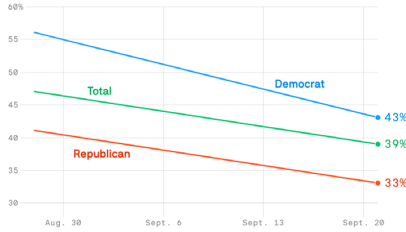
**The big picture:** Americans don't see the vaccine as a silver bullet right now. Many respondents in Week 25 of our national survey feel it's risky and at least want to wait to see how others do. And only half are prepared to pay out of pocket for it.

- Just 13% say they'd be willing to try it immediately.
- This all comes against the backdrop of an uncertain return-to-school experiment. One in three parents of school-children says there already have been virus-related scares or outbreaks in their

school district.

Percent who say they are likely to get the first generation COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it is available

Aug. 28 to Sept. 25, 2020



Group	Aug. 28	Sept. 6	Sept. 13	Sept. 20
Total	55%	50%	47%	43%
Democrat	58%	53%	50%	47%
Republican	52%	47%	44%	40%

**Data:** Axios/Ipsos surveys. 1,100 U.S. adults surveyed Aug. 28-31, 2020, and 1,008 U.S. adults surveyed Sept. 18-21, 2020; Chart: Axios Visuals

**By the numbers:** Six in 10 Americans now say they don't want to take a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it's available, up from 53% at the end of August.

- Their reluctance also intensified. Only 9% now say they're "very likely" to take the first-generation vaccine, down from 17% in August; 33% say they're "not at all likely" to take it, up from 26%.
- A plurality of respondents — 30% — said they plan to get it a few months after the vaccine first becomes available
- 13% would try to get it immediately; 16% would get it after a few weeks, 18% said they'd likely wait a year or more and

23% said they wouldn't get it at all.

- Men remain more likely than women to take the first generation vaccine, while Black Americans are about half as likely as Hispanics or whites to take it.

**Between the lines:** 38% of respondents expect their health insurance to pay for them to get the vaccine if they decide to get one; 11% think the federal government will cover costs; and only 4% think they'll have to pick up the tab themselves.

- The biggest share expect to get it from their doctor (38%), followed by a pharmacy (17%), their employer (6%) or a drive-thru (5%).

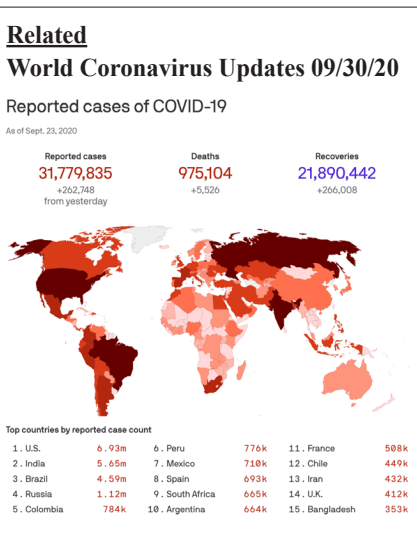
**What they're saying:** Cliff Young, president of Ipsos U.S. Public Affairs, says growing concerns around the vaccine reflect a combination of scientists urging patience and the "political ping-pong" of President Trump's messaging and Democrats' pushback.

- Democrats showed the biggest drop in those saying they're likely to try the vaccine as soon as it's available, down 13 percentage points to 43%. Republicans dropped eight points, to 41%.



- Meanwhile, independents fell just two points, to 43%. That suggests they aren't as tuned in to partisan bickering or political news.
- "These cues, whether red or blue, immediately elicit negative emotion from the other side," Young said — creating "a negative sort of sheen" over the idea of a vaccine that's distinct from the actual science. (Courtesy axios.com)

**Poll Methodology:** This Axios/Ipsos Poll was conducted Sept. 18-21 by Ipsos' KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 1,008 general population adults age 18 or older.



**Data: The Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins; Map: Axios Visuals**

India became on Monday the second country after the U.S. to surpass 6 million cases.

**By the numbers:** Globally, nearly 997,800 people have died from COVID-19 and over 33 million have tested positive, Johns Hopkins data shows.

- The U.S. has reported the highest death toll and case count from the novel coronavirus, with more than 204,700 fatalities and over 7.1 million infections.
- Brazil has reported the second-highest number of deaths from COVID-19 — over 141,700. India has the second-highest number of cases.

**What's happening:**

- A curfew in Melbourne, in the Australian state of Victoria, lifted and other restrictions eased early Monday.
- The next G20 leaders summit that was planned for Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, will take place "virtually" on Nov. 21-22 and "will focus on protecting lives and restoring growth, by addressing vulnerabilities uncovered during the pandemic," per a statement Sunday.
- France's second wave "is arriving faster than we thought" as coronavirus cases surge, the head of the National Council of the Order of Doctors said Sunday, per AFP.

**Between the lines:** Policy responses to the crisis have been every-country-for-it-

self and — in the case of the U.S. and China — tinged with geopolitical rivalry. But the scientific work to understand the virus and develop a vaccine has been globalized on an unprecedented scale. (Courtesy axios.com)



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Editor’s Choice



An interior view shows a house, which locals said was damaged during a recent shelling by Azeri forces, in the town of Martuni in the breakaway Nagorno-Karabakh region, September 28. Foreign Ministry of Armenia/via REUTERS



Ethnic Armenian soldiers are seen in a vehicle during fighting with Azerbaijan’s forces in the breakaway region of Nagorno-Karabakh, September 29. Defense Ministry of Armenia/via REUTERS

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A man points to a fence which locals said was damaged during a recent shelling, in armed clashes over the breakaway Nagorno-Karabakh region, in the city of Tartar, Azerbaijan, September 28. REUTERS/Aziz Karimov



An ethnic Armenian soldier fires an artillery piece during fighting with Azerbaijan’s forces in the breakaway region of Nagorno-Karabakh, September 29. Defense Ministry of Armenia/via REUTERS



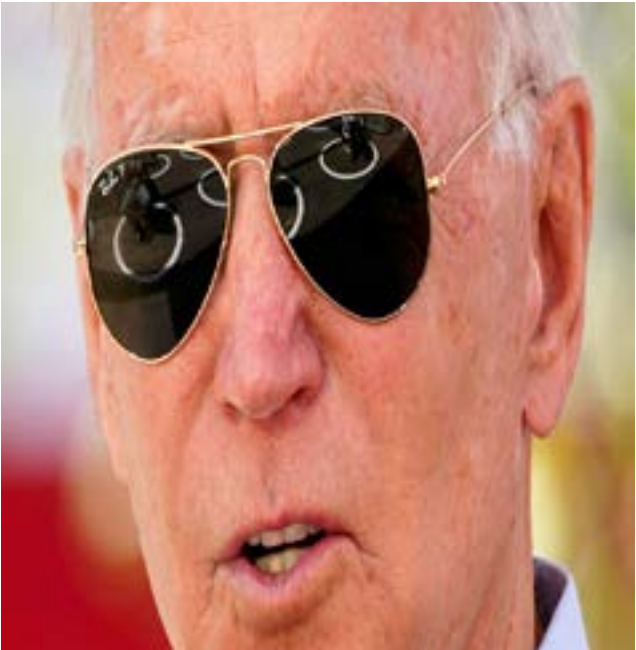
Kuwait’s ruling Emir Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, regarded by many Gulf Arabs as a savvy diplomatic operator and a humanitarian champion, died September 29 at age 91. Kuwait’s emir, an unwavering champion of Arab detente amid wars and regional..



Toots Hibbert, an influential and veteran Jamaican ska and reggae singer and founder of the band the Maytals, died September 11 at age 77. Hibbert was one of the early proponents of reggae in the late 1960s and is often credited with giving the genre



A woman touches hands of a child through a fence at a new temporary camp for migrants and refugees, on the island of Lesbos, Greece. REUTERS/Yara Nardi



Democratic U.S. presidential nominee Joe Biden speaks at an outdoor “Black Economic Summit” while campaigning for president in Charlotte, North Carolina, September 23, 2020. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque



The Childless Vaccine



Illustration: Eniola Odetunde/Axios

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

It'll likely be a long time before children are vaccinated against COVID-19, even though vaccinating kids could eventually play an integral role in reducing the virus' spread. **The big picture:** None of the leading contenders in the U.S. are being tested for their effectiveness in children. Even once one of them gains authorization from the Food and Drug Administration, there will only be a limited number of available doses. **It's normal** for vaccines to be tested on adults before being tested on children. **Why it matters:** Children have a relatively low risk of severe coronavirus infections. But they can still spread the disease to more vulnerable adults. Vaccinating kids could play an integral role in reducing community spread, and of reopening schools. • For now, the consensus is that those vulnerable adults — which could include teachers and school staff — will likely be able to get a vaccine early in the process. Eventually, though, vaccinating children would

be helpful.



• “If you protect children, then you will reduce community spread and protect adults, so it’s more of a herd immunity rather than a specific immunity question,” explains John Moore, a professor of immunobiology at Weill Cornell Medical College. “If you need 70% protection in herd immunity, at some point you will need to include children in that.” **What they’re saying:** Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers, recently told Axios that her union would support requiring in-school teachers to take a COVID-19 vaccine, once one has been approved and is readily available. **A mandatory vaccine for kids** would be a long way away — we’d need to have one before we could even consider mandating it — but would likely be controversial, as so many vaccines have become.

• “We don’t know if it’s safe, or how kids will respond to it, so I can’t say next year that they definitely should get it,” said Rhea Boyd, a pediatrician and public health advocate. “I don’t think we would require it in a year from now, and maybe not in five years from now.”



**Regulators and vaccine developers** will face a series of difficult decisions, once it comes time to start testing a vaccine in children — likely the first big controversy in this phase of the vaccine race. • Move too fast, and parents will question whether the product is safe. Move too slow and the virus will be with us longer. • “I think they’ll try to come up with a compromise that gives them some safety information in the minimal amount of time possible,” says The Mayo Clinic’s Rick Kennedy, who studies the development of immune responses after vaccination. **The bottom line:** We know much less about a child vaccine than we do about an adult one, but do know that the ethical issues could prove even thornier. (Courtesy axios.org)

**Related**  
*Sharks produce squalene, a natural oil made in their livers, which is an ingredient in several COVID-19 vaccine candidates*

**Coronavirus: Half a million sharks ‘could be killed for vaccine’, experts warn**



Around three million sharks are al-

**ready killed every year for squalene, conservationists say**  
**Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor**  
Half a million sharks could be killed for their natural oil to produce coronavirus vaccines, according to conservationists. One ingredient used in some **COVID-19** vaccine candidates is squalene, a natural oil made in the liver of sharks. Squalene is currently used as an adjuvant in medicine - an ingredient that increases the effectiveness of a vaccine by creating a stronger immune response.



**Scientists are testing synthetic alternatives to avoid threatening shark populations**  
British pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline currently uses shark squalene in flu vaccines. The company said it would manufacture a billion doses of this adjuvant for potential use in coronavirus vaccines in May.



Around 3,000 sharks are needed to extract one tonne of squalene. Shark Allies, a California-based group, suggests that if the world’s population received one dose of a COVID-19

vaccine containing the liver oil, around 250,000 sharks would need to be slaughtered, depending on the amount of squalene used. (Courtesy https://news.sky.com/)



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Notice of Destruction of Special Education Records

Special Education records which have been collected by the Houston Independent School District (HISD) related to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or the provision of Special Education in the district, must be maintained under state and federal laws for a period of five years after Special Education services have ended for the student. Special Education services end when the student is no longer eligible for services, graduates, completes his or her educational program at age 22, or moves from the district.

This notification is to inform parents/guardians and former students of HISD’s intent to destroy the Special Education records of students who are no longer receiving Special Education services as of the end of the 2014–2015 school year. These records will be destroyed in accordance with state law unless the parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student notifies the school district otherwise.

After five years, the records are no longer useful to the district, but they may be useful to the parent/guardian or former student in applying for Social Security benefits, rehabilitation services, college entrance, etc. The parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student may request the records in writing or in person at the following address:

HISD Records Management Department  
4400 W. 18th Street Building B  
Houston, Texas 77092  
Phone: 713–556–6055  
Fax: 713–556–7010  
Email: recordsmanagement@houstonisd.org

Requests for records must be received prior to **December 4, 2020.**

公众听证通知

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公众可在Zoom上进入网址https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81623720367 或者拨打 346-248-7799 或1-888-747-5597 (免费)，会议ID: 816 2372 0367，参加虚拟听证会。公众听证会期间，只有希望发表意见的人才有必要参加Zoom会议。公众还可以访问RideMETRO.org/Pages/BoardStreamingVideo.aspx，观看虚拟会议直播。听证会的视频记录还将存档于RideMETRO.org。

基于目前公共卫生官员建议限制面对面公共集会以减缓冠状病毒（也称作COVID-19）传播的指引，公众听证会将只能虚拟举行。拟议的服务变动包括：

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