

The First Six Months of 2020 In Review

January	February	March	April	May	June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 7 Diagnosed US Covid-19 cases ❑ Impeachment procedures continue following the 12/19 vote to impeach Donald Trump ❑ Democratic field of contenders for the White House continue to narrow throughout primaries ❑ American drone strike kills Iranian general Qasem Soleimani; concerns arise regarding potential war ❑ Kobe Bryant, his daughter and seven other persons killed in a helicopter crash. ❑ Wuhan, a Chinese city of more than 11 million souls, cut off by Chinese authorities ❑ World Health Organization (W.H.O) declares “public health emergency of international concern” because of coronavirus. ❑ Trump places restrictions on travel to/from China 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 24 Diagnosed US Covid-19 cases ❑ Except for Republican Senator Mitt Romney senate votes along party lines to acquit Trump on both articles of impeachment ❑ W.H.O. proposed Covid-19, as the official name for the coronavirus disease; a name that makes no reference to any of the people, places, or animals associated with the coronavirus ❑ Ahmaud Arbery an unarmed Black man was pursued, shot three times and killed by white men while jogging in the Georgia town of Brunswick 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 188,724 Diagnosed US Covid-19 cases ❑ W.H.O. declares the coronavirus a pandemic ❑ Covid-19 Shutdowns spread across the globe ❑ Washington state became the nation’s first epicenter ❑ Stock market plunges ❑ Lacking national direction—U. S. governors and local officials enact shutdowns to halt the spread of the virus ❑ Florida beaches remain open to thousands of college students on Spring break ❑ A Black woman, Breonna Taylor, an EMT worker asleep in her home, is shot and killed by police during the botched execution of a no knock search warrant ❑ During increasingly chaotic White House Covid-19 briefings, Trump intentionally attempts to rename Covid-19 the “Chinese” virus, provoking fear and leading to race-based attacks against persons of Asian descent ❑ Concerns regarding the disparate spread of Covid-19 in prisons and long-term care facilities gain attention ❑ Trump launches a renewed assault on the United States Post Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 1,072,667 Diagnosed US Covid-19 cases ❑ New York becomes the epicenter of Covid-19 cases in the USA; the first case was traced to Europe ❑ Chaffing under loss of income, protesters begin to voice opposition to stay-at-home orders ❑ Conversations regarding collaborative efforts to address Covid-19, social distancing and wearing masks devolve into political divides ❑ Health care workers continue to put their lives on the line to treat Covid 19 victims ❑ Essential services, often provided by persons of color, continue during shutdowns ❑ Pervasive evidence that African American, Latino, American Indian, Alaska Native, and Pacific Islander populations are disproportionately impacted by Covid 19 emerges ❑ For myriad complex socio-economic and health-based reasons it becomes apparent that traditional preventative efforts, such as shelter-in-place, have less benefit among African American and Latino populations ❑ The negative impact of school shutdowns on poor children of color raises concerns ❑ Trump halts US funding to the World Health Organization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 1,799,122 Diagnosed US Covid-19 cases ❑ The delayed arrests of suspects and lack of investigation until after release of the video of Ahmaud Arbery’s shooting sparks debates about the lack of racial equality in the United States ❑ Protests, dialogues and concerns about racial inequality in the U.S. spread globally ❑ George Floyd, an unarmed Black man in Minneapolis, is killed during an encounter with police that was caught on cameras. An officer is filmed while kneeling on the back of his neck for 8 minutes and 46 seconds ❑ Streets abandoned during lockdowns fill with thousands of multi-cultural protesters demanding Black Lives Matter, justice, police accountability and sweeping reforms ❑ Clashes between demonstrators and police occur ❑ Debates about the nature of protests (violent or peaceful) rage ❑ Virtual graduations and commencement addresses are hosted across the nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2,635,603 Diagnosed US Covid 19 cases ○ Protestors gassed during Trump photo op outside St. John’s Episcopal Church ○ Protests sparked by George Floyd’s death go global reaching cities in the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Brazil, Australia, South Africa under the refrain: Black Lives Matter ○ Corporations begin removing racially offensive imagery from products ○ National sports voice support of #BLM, NFL supports kneeling during anthem ○ Polls indicate most Americans understand & support #BLM ○ Police officers associated with George Floyd killing arrested ○ Confederate flags and statues celebrating persons who championed bigotry and racial hatred and inequality are toppled ○ Experts warn the U.S. premature reopening may lead to another round death and suffering ○ Joe Biden clinches delegates needed to be the Democratic Party’s presidential nominee ○ Voter turnout soars in Georgia primary despite delays that lead state officials to call for investigations ○ Voters wait for hours to cast primary ballots in Kentucky and Alabama ○ Rayshard Brooks, is fatally shot by police near a Wendy’s drive-thru; protestors set fire to the restaurant ○ US Supreme Court rules federal civil-rights law protects gay, lesbian and transgender workers ○ A man is shot in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as protestors try to pull down a statue of Spanish conquistador Juan de Oñate. ○ Trump signs an executive order to enact modest reforms including the creation of a federal database of police officers with a histories of excessive force ○ In a 5-4 ruling the Supreme Court blocks Trump administration’s attempt to end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) an Obama-era program protecting immigrants who were brought to the country as children from deportation ○ The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an apolitical organization, begins showing signs of buckling under repeated attacks by Trump administration