



Appeal from the mayor Rogg

"The virus cannot be fought with justice"

Dear Dietzenbachers,

2020 should have been a special year, namely our anniversary year. But it has become a year of disaster, with restrictions on our freedom to an unimaginable extent.

The second lock down is a done deal and is nicknamed "light". But it will be a very difficult time for many. Lives are at stake. Loneliness, fear of the future, and depression will be the result. The economic damage can hardly be forecast. Difficult months lie ahead. Unfortunately, the virus cannot be fought with justice.

The resolutions of the federal and state governments are drastic and in parts feel unfair. But these measures apply (for the time being) until the end of November. Opinions differ as to whether all the restrictions of this type are correct at this point in time. There is no blueprint either. But the fact is that measures must be taken to prevent a **national health emergency** in Hesse and Germany. It is not an unrealistic scenario for hospital staff to decide whether to rescue patient A or patient B because there is insufficient capacity for both. Such a situation would be absolutely unacceptable for a country like Germany.

All of us can and must help prevent this from happening. If we are honest, there are signs on the horizon that such a horror scenario could soon become a reality. Unfortunately, it already affecting neighbouring countries. The exponential growth needs to be stopped. The number of newly infected people is currently doubling every six days. The critical incidence value of 50 newly infected people per 100,000

inhabitants in the last 7 days, which was often mentioned a few days ago, has already been exceeded many times more.

Therefore, with my urgent appeal, please follow the AHA-L regulations. Wear a mask, follow hygiene procedures, and keep your distance meticulously. And especially now in autumn and winter it is important to ventilate, ventilate, ventilate. We also have to drastically reduce the number of contacts in order to keep virus from spreading. It's serious. But these times are also a chance to reflect on the essentials in life.

Like in March, it is now important to stick together. With a distance, but together. Mutual solidarity, support and respect are more important than ever in dark times like these. Mutual understanding and reflecting on a culture of discussion are also part of it. Together, let us consciously approach our fellow human beings, neighbours, family members, colleagues, seek conversation and convey the feeling that there is someone who is there for you. The lack of personal contact cannot be replaced at all. We have clearly noticed that since the beginning of the year.

Due to the restrictions, appointments have become fewer. Once again, we have to live without restaurant visits, popular sports, culture and much more. This is painful, but as I said before, it is urgently needed to break the chain of infection. On the other hand, time slots become free. This is also an opportunity to devote more time and intensity to people, call them, write to them. For a person who has to spend days alone at home, a phone call or a letter can be medicine for the soul.

I know that the vast majority of people in our city adhere to the AHA-L rules, i.e. everyday mask, hygiene, keeping distance and ventilation. Thank you so much! However, there are also people who do not (want to) adhere to these simple yet effective rules. They act in a lack of solidarity and can tip the health system. In the Rhine-Main area we are on

the verge of this, so patients are already being taken to the north of Hesse for medical care.

In the town hall, at the municipal companies and the municipal utilities, we are doing everything we can to fulfil our public service tasks despite the Corona crisis. Our employees take care of fresh water, sewage, garbage, street lighting, district heating and a lot more. We do it for you with great commitment. But there are already bottlenecks here too. In the kindergartens and day-care centres alone, we cannot avoid temporarily closing groups or even entire facilities. People with COVID infections are on the rise, including within our area. I don't know how we can still offer care across the board without the discipline of the population. As you can see, our system is on shaky ground in many areas.

As with the beginning of the pandemic, I would like to thank the citizens who responsibly comply with the previous restrictions. Those who act sensibly and in solidarity. Those who support each other in neighbourhood initiatives in our city. That gives me strength and confidence, also in this second wave.

However, I would like to tell the ignorant out there that we as a society are, and will remain, vigilant. You are loud, but not the majority. We as a regulatory authority will control and sanction penalties. There will be severe penalties. These are decisions that are not easy for anyone but are necessary.

At the moment it still applies: We stand together, but at least 1.5 meters apart!

Stay healthy!

Your mayor,

Jürgen Rogg

