

# You Are Not Alone

Nobody asked but ...

I just read two case histories on coronavirus. In one, a young mother died, in another a young mother lived. Both people had to face their outcomes alone. But many others were affected.

I don't know if there were clear choices that could have been made, nor whether either of these young women were free to make choices.

But there is no guarantee of good, even if you check every box. One is an individual, and one's circumstances roll out unpredictably.

*... never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls for thee.*

— *John Donne*

We are all susceptible. This is not a commercial, however, for fatalism. I believe that every course has a point, maybe points, where the individual could exercise an option. The option may be more or less clear. But no option has guaranteed alternatives. The natural laws on unforeseen consequences still apply.

The important thing is to be as prepared as possible with rational information. For instance, politicians rush in regardless of their ability to effect change. One should keep a jaundiced eye toward their theatrics. You still have to make the choices.

— Kilgore Forelle