

# Prehospital as Responsibility for Life: The Duties that Humans Who Survive from the Danger of COVID-19 as a Humanitarian Disaster

Anastasia Heni,<sup>1</sup> Dominikus David Biondi Situmorang<sup>2</sup> 

1. Master of Health Psychology, Faculty of Psychology, Atma Jaya Catholic University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
2. Department of Guidance and Counseling, Faculty of Education and Language, Atma Jaya Catholic University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia

## Correspondence:

Dominikus David Biondi Situmorang  
Department of Guidance and Counseling  
Faculty of Education and Language  
Atma Jaya Catholic University of Indonesia  
Jl. Jenderal Sudirman 51, DKI Jakarta 12930,  
Indonesia  
E-mail: [david.biondi@atmajaya.ac.id](mailto:david.biondi@atmajaya.ac.id)

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## Abbreviations:

COVID-19: coronavirus disease 2019  
WHO: World Health Organization

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Dear Editor,

Regarding the recent article on the topic of “*Maintaining Prehospital Intubation Success with COVID-19 Personal Protective Precautions*,”<sup>1</sup> it is a really timely subject globally right now. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has claimed millions in humanity. According to the World Health Organization (WHO; Geneva, Switzerland), the number of deaths up to October 2022 was 6,528,557 spreading throughout the world.<sup>2</sup> Those who survive from COVID-19 are those who have managed to fight in various ways. One way to survive is with “*Agere Contra*” (meaning to act against), where a family head dares to fight against the rules set by the government in order to keep his family members able to eat in the midst of a critical situation like the current one.<sup>3</sup> There are those who take steps to stay at home, obey the rules, limit themselves from all activities outside the home, and maintain health protocols. Meanwhile, those who are confirmed positive for COVID-19 are trying to recover in the midst of the difficult situation, to get to a hospital and the scarcity of oxygen, vitamins, and medicines. The medical personnel have taken care of the patients so that many lives were saved, even in the midst of the danger of contracting the disease themselves. Scientists collaborate with various disciplines, thus finding new ways of survival, namely wearing masks, washing hands, and maintaining body resistance. The latest is the application of a vaccine, which is believed to be a mass prevention of COVID-19 disease.<sup>4</sup> Vaccines are sought to end the acute stage of the crisis and put the world on a path to ending the pandemic.<sup>5</sup> Even in development, vaccines are a prerequisite for entering normal life after the COVID-19 pandemic.

What moves people to try to survive the COVID-19 pandemic? One of the most powerful drivers is a sense of responsibility for life. In the midst of a crisis situation that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, humans were returned to their basic nature as humans. Viktor Frankl, in the theory of logotherapy, raises “*responsibility*” for life as a value that must be carried out as a human being.<sup>6</sup> The responsibility for this life cannot be taken away by anyone and any situation.<sup>7</sup> Frankl’s philosophical thought, which is very important, is his view that humans have free will, the will to have meaning, and human purpose. Being responsible for life is the driving force for humans to make sense of their lives. Humans never close the possibility to experience the meaning of life, as well when they enter fate or suffering that cannot be avoided.<sup>8</sup>

Everyone who has survived the dangers of COVID-19 is a person who is given a second chance to live life. Responsibility for life becomes an inevitable task for the continuation of a healthy life. Responsibility can be instilled early and in a simple way. Even washing hands as something that is believed to be able to prevent disease can be done since children.<sup>9</sup> This simple responsibility, if instilled as a value, can reach a higher level and have a wider impact, namely social responsibility, and even ecological responsibility.<sup>10</sup> This responsibility for life must inspire every step of people’s lives after the COVID-19 pandemic as noble beings who have been rescued from danger.

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