

***The Critical Need For Awareness and Education To Impact Public Health***

**HIGH PRIORITY GLOBAL/U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCACY  
LEADERSHIP:**

**COVID-19, PROSTATE CANCER, TELEHEALTH**



***Harold Michael Harvey Atlanta Interview  
with  
Global Public Health Legal Expert  
Dr. Peter Glegg M.D., J.D.  
University Hospital of the West Indies  
and  
U.S. Public Policy Leader Al Bartell  
Board Member, Georgia Prostate Cancer Coalition***

**ATLANTA --**

With many saying the United States is facing its most urgent [public health situation to-date](#), global public health leadership has been pointing to the critical need for public health policy accountability.

In a compelling and revealing interview by Atlanta's Harold Michael Harvey, global public health legal expert Dr. Peter Glegg M.D. from the University Hospital of the West Indies shares the experiences of how the Jamaican Ministry of Health has been dealing with COVID-19 with the global health community -- as well as their public health crisis with prostate cancer among West Indies/Afro-Caribbean men.

Invited to speak in Atlanta at the request of the Georgia Prostate Cancer Coalition (GPCC) at a high level global public health advocacy event series,

Dr. Glegg was joined in the interview by GPCC Board Member Al Bartell. Bartell, a public policy leader and, at the time of the interview, a U.S. Senate candidate, underscored Dr. Glegg's statements, and highlighted existing challenges to public health/treatment in America.

A former Civil Rights lawyer and political commentator, interviewer/journalist Harold Michael Harvey posed piercing questions on the legal ramifications of the COVID-19 public health situation, telehealth medicine, public policy legislation for alternative medicine treatments, and the need for public health engagement initiatives.

Here are a few excerpts from the interview session held by Zoom during Dr. Glegg's Atlanta visit:

**HARVEY:** Dr. Glegg, has the World Health Organization been factored in as a part of the COVID-19 response in Jamaica?

**GLEGG:** Yes. My boss at the Ministry of Health always says, "Listen to the experts". If you have a global pandemic, you need a "global response". The best approach is to listen to the experts, think globally, and then act locally.

**HARVEY:** What advice do you have for healthcare providers in America?

**GLEGG:** My advice for the American [healthcare] system is simple: One of the things that makes America a great nation, is that in times of serious trouble, in times of existential crisis, the American people have always rallied together -- man, woman, boy, girl -- irrespective of race or creed -- to fight whatever that threat was.

We're facing an even greater enemy than the second World War. More people have died from the Coronavirus than have died in the Vietnam War. The U.S. is being faced by an enemy you cannot see with the naked eyes....The best solution is for the United States of America -- as the name suggests -- is to become united in their effort -- as they have done in the past when they were faced with a crisis. It will require a united effort from

everyone, from every walk of life -- rich, poor, black, white, Democrat, Republican, Independent...Without a concerted effort, it may not work.

**HARVEY:** Mr. Bartell, from a public policy perspective, are there alternative medical treatments that can cure/prevent prostate cancer -- if so, what public policy initiatives are needed to give the community access to these alternative treatments?

**BARTELL:** We have lobbyists, special interest groups, and corporations who are doggedly determined to control the American market. There are products, services, and practises that could be made available -- yet the FDA and other special interest groups are controlling the market. Our President -- who has withdrawn from the World Health Organization -- tested positive for COVID. Some of the remedies used to impact his immune system have not been approved by the FDA. So that public policy barrier needs to be addressed in an honest, meaningful way, and as a public policy advocate, that's the kind of change I'm interested in bringing.

**HARVEY:** As you're aware, Atlanta has a sizable West Indies community. Do you see areas you can impact regarding the health of this community -- and if so, how?

**BARTELL:** When Dr. Glegg pointed out that we must now double our efforts to include these communities, he is absolutely correct. As a Board member of the Georgia Prostate Cancer Coalition, we will be implementing a series of roundtable discussions, development sessions, summits, and conferences that includes the West Indies community. GPCC is positioned to do that, and we'll be including that engagement framework in our strategic plans starting now.

To view the entire interview, click [HERE](#).

For information about Dr. Glegg and the partnerships going forward with the Georgia Prostate Cancer Coalition, contact: Uzma Khan, Executive Director, Georgia Prostate Cancer Coalition, [uzmakhan@georgiapcc.org](mailto:uzmakhan@georgiapcc.org).