

## **U.S. should study Sweden's coronavirus response**

Regarding COVID-19, if we: (a) had sufficient foolproof tests for all Americans, and (b) knew for certain that those previously infected cannot become reinfected and cannot infect others, then we could test everyone simultaneously, quarantine those who test positive, and allow those who test negative to "run free." But we don't have (a) and (b). And someone who does not have the virus today could get it tomorrow. Testing makes little sense when someone who is sick is told (regardless of testing outcome) to quarantine and recover, but to go to the hospital if they have difficulty breathing. So, absent a vaccine, we have very little. Given the damage to businesses and government finances, we should closely monitor the Swedish experience. Sweden seeks "herd immunity," while recommending social distancing and requiring the elderly and those with compromised immune systems to quarantine.

**ALLEN BUCKLEY**, ATLANTA

AJC 5/6/20