

Maybe Next Year?

December 7, 2020

Once again, *TIME* is skipping right over you and me for consideration as the magazine's "Person of the Year for 2020."

What am I saying, YOU were named back in 2006!

TIME's choice can be important recognition for someone working against all odds to make a very positive difference in this world. Lech Wałęsa in 1981, for instance, and Gandhi in 1930.*

Last year's pick of Greta Thornburg? Not. So. Much.

While presidents often get the coveted cover, President-elect Joe Biden garnered only 3 percent of the public "advisory" vote. "Essential workers" had the most support at 35 percent. Seems too amorphous . . . a catalyst mostly for endless debate.

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Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the federal government's National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases for the last 36 years, was next at 31 percent of respondents. No one else had more than 5 percent.



Don't choose Fauci, please! Despite his experience, his pandemic performance has been less than expert. Under his leadership, Americans were told for months that masks would be of no benefit, then suddenly mandated to wear them.

Last June, Sen. Rand Paul, who is a physician, tried to get Fauci to address the ample scientific data indicating it was safe to open the schools. Fauci deflected and dithered until flippantly declaring last week: "Close the bars and keep the schools open is what we really say."

That is certainly *not*, Fox New's Tucker Carlson exasperatedly explained, what Fauci was "really" saying months ago.

Forget Fauci. For leading the best national response to COVID-19, *TIME* should name Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen 2020's "Person of the Year."

It would send a powerful message about leadership. And freedom.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.

* The magazine has also named dictators and mass murderers: Hitler served as 1938's "Man of the Year" and Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin took the top spot the next year, and again in 1942; in 1979, with Americans held hostage in Iran, the Ayatollah Khomeini glared at us from *TIME*'s cover.

Note: My biggest disappointment was in 2013, when *TIME* cowardly choose Pope Francis over Edward Snowden.