



**Ebola Virus**

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"People don't want to talk with you, you just walk in the street and they yell out, 'African, go back to Africa with your Ebola' is what a resident of New York said that another person has said to them. People are so afraid of coming in contact with a person infected with it that they become paranoid everywhere they go. Paranoia is a consequence of fear."



# Silenced by Fear: The Nature and Consequences of Fear at Work

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What are the consequences when we allow ourselves to be ruled by suspicion and fear?

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In general, people allow fear to get the best of them. Fear overrules and causes them to act differently and most of the time it is in a negative way. In the novel, *The Crucible*, by Arthur Miller, gives examples of the effects of fear on individuals.



# *The Crucible*

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There are various of examples of the consequences of fear in this novel, but some stood out more than others. Marry Warren says, "I cannot charge murder on Abigail. She'll kill for me for saying that" (Miller 80). As shown, Marry Warren is obviously afraid of Abigail so she explains how she objects to tell the truth. She'd rather sin and lie to protect herself than to be honest, do the right thing, and save the right people due to her fear.





# *The Crucible*

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Tituba is a great example of how fear plays a role in an individual's behavior. Tituba is being blamed for playing with witchcraft and if she's guilty she will be lynched. In order to save herself, she must reveal any other witches. Tituba begins giving out names whom were in reality not guilty. Therefore, she made false accusations to save herself because she was afraid of being sentenced to death. In addition, Tituba states, "I love God with all my bein'!" (Miller 45). Tituba does not mean this. She just states this so she won't seem suspicious because people who weren't lovers of God were immediately accused of messing with witchcraft. Again, this fear cause Tituba to lie to make herself look good and get innocent people in trouble to save herself.

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The Ebola Virus transportation into the United States caused people all over the country to freak out. Citizens of the United States began mistreating African Americans because they feared that they carried the virus.

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Africans have been discriminated for centuries now but this time it is because of a deadly virus. CBS News claims that someone they interviewed said, "...they're scared of Ebola virus, this hasn't helped stop the slurs against West Africans in this neighborhood" (Pearson 12). This implies how people who feel like a certain group of people is a danger to them turns against them. The fear that they feel turns into anger.

**Connection**

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To sum it up, all these quotes from the novel and article give examples and explanations of how fear affects the behavior of an individual. It may cause people to lie and be selfish while others discriminate those who they feel is a danger to them. Therefore, the answer to, "What are the consequences when we allow ourselves to be ruled by suspicion and fear?" is that there are multiple consequences to fear. Being selfish, mistreating others who you feel are a threat to you, and paranoia are just a few.

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