



# PETER BALDWIN

# FIGHTING

# THE FIRST

# WAVE

WHY THE CORONAVIRUS WAS TACKLED  
SO DIFFERENTLY ACROSS THE GLOBE

**COVID-19 is the biggest public health and economic disaster of our time. It has posed the same threat across the globe, yet countries have responded very differently and some have clearly fared much better than others. Peter Baldwin uncovers the reasons why in this definitive account of the global politics of pandemic.**

Why have countries taken such different approaches to fighting COVID? How have assumptions about behaviour, or political cultures, shaped responses? Peter Baldwin draws on the history of public health to produce a wide ranging analysis which helps us understand such surprising national divergences and outcomes.

Virginia Berridge, author of *Public Health. A Very Short Introduction*

Peter Baldwin, a very distinguished historian of epidemics and of the modern state, provides a rich, thoughtful, and accessible account of the various attempts to come to grips with COVID-19 around the world. This book will be at the center of the discussion for years to come.

Timothy Snyder, author of *Our Malady: Lessons in Liberty from a Hospital Diary*

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