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IT'S ALL OVER BUT THE SHOUTING:
The outcome is certain, though it
may not be widely known.



*The exact etymology of this idiom is contested. This idiom first appeared in a 1942 article by Charles James Apperley featured in *The Sporting Magazine*.*

However, this idiom is often traced back to 19th century voting practices. In elections, ballots were counted by hand.

Usually, when the count was first announced, the customary crowd of people that gathered to await the results cheered loudly. Oftentimes, this was a preliminary indication of who would win the election, hence the expression, all over but the shouting.

Another theory about the origin of this idiom refers to the general argumentative shouting that might occur when it is revealed that an outcome has been previously decided. None of these origin theories have been verified, but all of them are plausible. (lyricstranslate.com).

Though major league baseball is currently on recess due to COVID-19, who doesn't love the time honored heated discussions between umpires and managers? One of the more classic arguments was the "Dirt Throwing Incident"

by the always fiery Manager Billy Martin. (BTW, the umpires **NEVER** change their rulings regardless of the shouting).

Billy

“Recession is when your neighbor loses his job. Depression is when you lose yours. And recovery is when Jimmy Carter loses his.” President Ronald Reagan



Lots of questions about "Recession or No Recession" have been voiced over the last few months. I hope the following article helps with your decision making process.

A recession is a period of economic downturn. In the U.S., recessions are declared by the National Bureau of Economic Research's business cycle dating committee — which, despite its name, "has nothing to do with Tinder," Moser says.

The dating committee is a bunch of renowned economists who gather to assess how the economy is doing. They determine when recessions formally start and end.

The committee weighs several factors in its decision, but a commonly used definition of recession is two quarters of declining gross domestic product, or GDP. However, most of that data comes with a delay, meaning the committee usually can't declare a recession until after one has actually begun.

"The whole world, not just the U.S., is watching this," Moser says. "They want to rest their judgement on solid, reliable macroeconomic data."

Updated GDP numbers aren't due for a few more weeks, but the Bureau of Economic Analysis currently estimates a -4.8% decrease for the first quarter of 2020.

"It's pretty certain that, at some point in very near future after these numbers are confirmed, the NBER committee will have to call the shots and formally announce we are in a recession," Moser says, adding that'll likely be in July.

Are we in a recession right now due to the coronavirus?

Yes and no.

It's tough to untangle. On one hand, because the data isn't nailed down and the committee hasn't officially said so, we're not in a recession yet. But on the other, because the committee often does retroactive calls, we probably are in a recession. (For context, the committee declared in December 2008 that the Great Recession had started in December 2007.)

Notably, Gimbel says the situation right now is bleak enough for some talking heads to make the leap anyway. They're not waiting for the committee, which is a big deal in itself.

"Many economists are talking about us being in a recession despite the fact that we have not yet seen the GDP fall for two quarters, because we do not yet have the data," Gimbel says. "That speaks to how bad this is."

Fehr confirms that, formal definition aside, everyday Americans may be feeling the recession already.

"A recession is far more about an economic downturn that produces a negative effect for households and for companies, and so far as unemployment goes up, incomes go down, consumer confidence falls, business investment declines, that can be a self-deprecating cycle," he says. "That's where it becomes a bit more tangible."

Why does it matter if we're in a recession?

Though the semantics not might matter to you personally, Moser says investors, business owners and politicians do pay close attention to the declaration. The committee is known for being extremely careful in making its decision, which can itself have serious effects on the economy.

"The announcement will make it crystal clear that this is the confirmed state of the economy, and that might shake markets a little bit," Moser says.

On December 1, 2008 — the day the Great Recession was officially confirmed — the Dow slid 680 points. Shares of firms like Citigroup fell over 20%.

Moser says once we're definitely in a recession, businesses may change their outlook, shifting decisions to expand or stock up on inventory. The declaration could also trigger policy solutions like extended unemployment claim periods.

"Altogether, these three pillars — financial markets, business reactions and policy triggers — mean there might be a really significant effect of having the certainty come July," Moser says.

What's the difference between a recession and a depression?

Unlike recessions, which it's up to the committee to declare, depressions are kind of vague. The NBER doesn't define depressions or identify them, according to an FAQ on its website. They're also rare: Whereas there was a recession just over a decade ago, the most recent period that's generally regarded as a depression was in the 1930s.

Generally, depressions are linked with a long period of high unemployment, Gimbel says.

Recent Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates put the national unemployment rate at just under 15%. But the bureau noted that it thinks some people mistakenly classified themselves as employed but absent from work. If that group was reclassified as unemployed, the rate would be nearly 20%.

The highest unemployment rate during the Great Depression was in 1933, when it reached 24.9%. Given that the U.S. is currently a couple percentage points below that, "we are at depression-level unemployment," Gimbel says.

However, Moser says it's premature to say we're in a depression now because the committee hasn't even declared a recession yet.

"What people generally have in mind when they talk about the Great Depression is a very severe and lengthy recession," he adds. "If the recession we might head into were to be very severe — and we have signs it will be very severe, will last for a long time and take a long time to recover from — then people, maybe in a couple of years, will say, 'Look, this really was the onset of a Great Depression.'" [Recession](#)



In spite of the surging U.S. stock market, we are **DEFINITELY** in a recession. The real question is what the recovery will be like. We are all hopeful that we get a "**V**" which will be a short recession with a quick bounce back to normal economic conditions. However, hope does not pay the rent, so the prevailing feeling is a "**U**" which is a bottoming and then a slow recovery. There has been some talk of a "**Nike Swoosh**," A hard down economy and a rocketing recovery. But,

God help us, if we end up with a "**L**" recovery which is like sinking to the bottom of the swimming pool and not floating back up. Unfortunately, this has been Japan's economic fate for the last 30+ years. [Japan](#)

Recovery

At the time of my writing this missive, **41 MILLION Unemployment** Americans have applied for unemployment insurance (the figure is surely higher as many people have been initially denied coverage by their states due to employment status). Thus, **the published 14.7% unemployment rate is really around 20%. 20%**



The total number of unemployed is a number we have not seen since the Great Depression! Meanwhile, "**Back at the Ranch,**" the U.S. stock market continues its' upward march back to the old highs before the March 23, 2020 collapse. **Are you: Confused? Bewildered? Addled? Bewildered? Discombobulated? Flummoxed? Puzzled? Punch Drunk? Glassy Eyed? Baffled? Dazed? Unscrewed? Astonished?** (And yes, I was working Roget's Thesaurus this morning!) by this seemingly contrarian view of our economic landscape?

You might find some clarity about this situation from the link below:

Stock Market

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Who's on First



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