

Memes about COVID-19 helped us cope with life in a pandemic, a new study finds

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YOU DON'T SAY?



The Meme consists of two images. The first image is of an article, with its title at the top of the meme reading "Memes about COVID-19 helped us cope with life in a pandemic, a new study finds," with an image of graffiti depicting Bernie Sanders sitting sullenly in a medical mask and mittens at President Joe Biden's inauguration. Below the article is a black and white minimalist

recreation of Nicolas Cage giving an expression resembling faux shock along with the words "YOU DON'T SAY?" written in bold, red font.

I chose this meme for two primary reasons; I believe it accurately expresses a component of many people's experience over the years of the pandemic, and has an element of meta-commentary that is in itself entertaining. For many people, the pandemic and subsequent lockdowns were filled with new, precarious life challenges, and an escape through entertainment, often in the form of memes such as this, was helpful in maintaining a sense of relative normality, and this meme demonstrates an active awareness.