



**252 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York City, NY 10001  
tel. 212.967.3002 800.888.1622**

**Q: If everyone is being told to work from home and shelter in place, why are drycleaners and launderers considered essential?**

**A: Dry cleaners and launderers are essential to the 10% of the workforce that are essential.**

Consider the MD with a specialty in infectious diseases standing at the door of a closed dry cleaner with an armful of shirts. Think about the state trooper who has first responded to a covid 19 call, or the funeral home directors, the police, security guards, etc. all of whom are still working and need cleaning services.

While many may be fortunate enough to work from home in sweat suits or yoga pants, our essential people have more needs. For reasons of health and safety, they need their work wear cleaned. They do not want, nor should they have to, bring their 'worldly' garments into their homes and around their families.

Then there are the people who are at home and may be coughing into the sleeve of their dry clean only sweater, robe or shirt. They want to safeguard their personal space too, if only from cold and traditional flu viruses.

So, dry cleaners and launderers remain open to serve the 10% of the population that are essential to keeping the rest of us safe and healthy.

Cleaners are following CDC and NCA recommended protocols and adopting ways to do it with appropriate social distancing – pick-up and delivery services, by appoint in the store, and other innovative approaches. They are following protocols to ensure the safety and well-being of their staff and their clients. They are providing their essential service to the people who most deserve it and shouldn't be deprived of it during these perilous times.