A Positive Outlook

Luigi Ciccia

“During hard times, family always comes first.” The Coronavirus has been around for over two months in California and people have to keep going on with their lives. This virus not only has affected people with their health, but also with the economy and the way they live; in my case this virus has affected my life starting with having to move to a new city to attend classes on a laptop. Places have been closed and people have locked themselves at their house for their safety; this virus is making a strict change to what we used to do, but we need to adapt to this situation. It is important to write what we are living through to have an honest account to read in the future. In the next pages I am going to talk about the role this pandemic took on my life.

Family Can’t Be Separate

During this hard times our society depends on us by avoiding social interactions. Social distancing can be a hard thing for many of us because it’s changing our routines and is making us be worried about what can happen. As an international student this whole situation has been really hard because my family is far away and the airports are closed. Yet with the technology I have been able to talk with my family via Facetime. Also, I’m very happy about this because I was able to talk with my grandmother for the last time before she passed away a week go. First it was hard for me because I have been always used to living with people and at this time I was alone at the dorms; so then I moved to my friends house in Santa Barbara for sometime until I got my own place. Thankfully I was able to find a nice place that is close to my friends house and were I feel comfortable. Living in isolation has been exactly what I expected, but I didn't imagine it was going to be this long. I have been going out to get things that I need like food or doing my laundry. First I was scared of going out because I’m taking this whole situation very seriously, but there are some things that are essential so I need to do them. This whole situation has made me realized that my family is not only my mom and my sisters, but also my friends and the people that do their best to help me.

Personal Paradise

Empty Spaces

Pipeline is a beach in Hawaii where people go on sunny days. Beside being one of the prettiest beaches in the world, it’s also a paradise for surfers. The best barrels of the world can be found at Pipeline. The thing about Pipeline is that in a day good for surfing you can see from 30 to 50 people in the lineup, making it really hard to get waves. Is every surfer’s dream to have this beach for themselves. As a surfer myself, this is the place I would love to have for myself.

Biased Information Can Be Dangerous

How dangerous can COVID-19 be? That’s a question that many people ask. This virus is very dangerous and if your immune system is weak you may die, but that’s not the only way that the virus can affect you. The virus is very famous and this has led to famous people giving it their thoughts. When famous people talk about things they don’t realize that they are notably affecting themselves, they’re also affecting the people that follow them; in this case I’m going to talk about Donald Trump. As we know Donald Trump is the president of the United States and many people listen to him. About a week ago Donald Trump gave a speech of how we can protect ourselves from the COVID-19, but he gave wrong information. He said that it was an interesting idea to inject the human body with disinfectant, I know this sounds very unprofessional and uneducated, but there are people who believe him and tried it’ these people almost died and they’re in the hospital for the moment. This misinformation that gets out of hand can be very dangerous and harm innocent people.

Banning Sports Shouldn’t Be An Option

How is surfing affected by the COVID-19? Surfing is my passion and in this moment of my life I dedicate my time to it so I can get in the WCT (World Championship Tour). Not all the surfers have been affected by the virus. In places like my hometown Lima, Peru, it is forbidden to surf for the moment. If they catch you surfing they would wait until you get out of the ocean and then take you to prison for 24 hours. In my case is different because I have been living in Santa Barbara since the quarantine started and thankfully the beaches are still open. I have been very careful about surfing because I think is very important to respect the quarantine. In other places like San Diego they closed the beaches and gave a fine of 1000 dollars to the people who didn’t respect the quarantine. Now, they have reopened the beaches and people are free to surf. I don’t know what I would be doing if I wasn’t able to surf. I suppose I can do what my friends in Peru are doing and practice at home. People may be confused when I say that you can practice your surfing techniques at home, but is 100 percent true. What I think about is being thankful for the freedom to surf and not abuse of this privilege. Just because they haven’t closed the beaches it doesn’t mean that is not a risk for us or the people we are in contact with.

Laughing Can Cure

People always say “laughter is the best medicine during difficult times.” Well, it’s hard to understand people that are happy during these moments, but in my own opinion everyone should laugh because laughing gets your mind distracted from all your problems. It is also prove by doctors that it is really healthy. When I talk about laughing and having a good time I mostly refer to interacting with someone and make them laugh or the other way. I say this because for me it is fun to look at memes and jokes, but there is nothing more fun that laughing with someone. People should understand that in these hard time we only have each other to make live better. I’m not saying that you shouldn’t care about the situation and just care about having fun, what I’m trying to say is that people should also see how important is to laugh and enjoy life.

Haiku

Weird Times

The world is not safe
I stay in my home watching

the city sits still

Essential worker

the title keeps me outside

when I should be home

Together again

my family has kept me sane

during these hard times