My Coronavirus Pandemic Experience

 Aylin Garcia

Whoever thought 2020 would be quarantined due to the coronavirus. If I’m honest I don’t exactly know how it all started because people have different versions of the story. There is a lot of misinformation given said by the different beliefs and theories people have about the coronavirus. Many believe the virus is being used by the government to stall their economic plans while others are taking the virus seriously. As for my family, we don’t know what to believe, but we are following the given protocols.

Life during the coronavirus pandemic for my family has been both good and difficult for various reasons. There are many perspectives out in the world by infinite people, but here are some of my family’s perspectives. As a college student who used to go out to campus 3 days a week and would go out every other weekend with friends, I can’t even remember the last time I went out of my house. I remember when we were told we might go into online classes, but with a possibility to come back to face to face classes and now we are two weeks away from finishing the semester online. First, I want to say how I personally find it difficult and hate online classes because being quarantined has made me become lazy on assignments and not paying attention to zoom classes. Two big reasons I believe are that many professors weren’t ready to have online classes and another is I learn better face to face with no phone or family distractions. Also, sometimes my nephew and I are on zoom classes at the same time which is a distraction for both of us. My nephew is a middle schooler in which he was going to graduate to go off to high school. Due to the Covid-19 he won’t be able to have a proper graduation as well as another niece who won’t be able to have her high school graduation and a friend who still doesn’t know what Cal State LA’s plan for this year's graduation is. They find that very upsetting because graduations are what everyone waits for their next big steps. As for my nephew, he enjoys his online classes because he has more free time from finishing his online classes and work in a shorter period of time. I believe that since he has always been an on-time boy, he’s able to do and finish his class work early. A good thing about quarantine is the gas money I’ve saved and time. However, the time quarantine has given us, has affected many people positively and negatively. Personally, my family and I have gotten closer to one another. I used to not be able to talk to my mom about anything and now I find it easy and fun to talk to her. We have bonded with each other on another level in which I believe many other families have too. On the other hand, being inside our homes for hours has led us to think more about life and have more time on our phones. For example, a friend of mine has been texting me about how she's been feeling for the past two weeks. She has had time to over think about her life which has brought confusion and second guessing everything in her life. In addition, other friends and I have admitted to being stressed and depressed because of the amount of time we have been spending home. Even though I've been bonding with my family, I have days where I feel really down, and sometimes even cry from over thinking my life. For example, I’ve been thinking about my past errors and my fears about my future life.

Furthermore, my mother is a stay at home wife/mother and my father still continue to go out and work. My mother is used to having more people at home during the week and walking her grandkids to school and picking them up daily. Having the dramatic change has affected her because she misses having to spend time with her grandkids and having outside time. She frequently tells me she feels a desperation inside her telling her she can’t handle being “locked” inside. After these weeks in quarantine, I’ve noticed she has the same daily routine from starting her day with cleaning to ending her day watching tv and sometimes she decides to go outside to play basketball to distract herself. My mother is under her 60’s but has had health problems and for that reason she doesn’t want to go out for precaution. On the other hand, my father does have to go outside to work as a gardener to garden other people’s homes. One of the biggest fears for my dad was that they were going to lose clients because of the virus. Luckily, they have the ability to continue to work and pay the bills. However, my parents are tired of being in quarantine and want to return to their regular lives with no protocols to follow. Also, my parents own a small business in Mexico and are having a few problems that they are upset that my father currently can’t travel so he doesn’t risk his life with the virus. Talking about Mexico, we do have a lot of family and friends out there in which the virus has spread as well, but a lot less than the US. Therefore, people in Mexico say they are quarantined, but continue to go out with big groups of people. The economy is more difficult for the people that they tried to stop working for the open spaces, but it didn’t work out for them because they need the money to pay their bills. Overall, I believe we all have different experiences with quarantine during the coronavirus pandemic depending on who they are as a person and where they are living. Many of us have come to a point where they are tired of being home and want this all over due to the effects the coronavirus pandemic has brought to people. I can definitely say we all continue to have various questions about Covid-19.