

# Transcript of Interview with Anonymous by Carolina Esquerra

**Interviewee:** Anonymous

**Interviewer:** Carolina Esquerra

**Date:** unknown

**Location (Interviewee):** unknown

**Location (Interviewer):** unknown

**Transcriber:** This transcript has been provided by Otter.AI with a 2nd pass for accuracy provided by Bryan Paintiff, HST580 intern, at ASU.

**Abstract:** The interviewer asks the interviewee three questions relating to their faith during the COVID-19 pandemic. The interviewee discusses how their faith has been affected, how they attend church, and what their church is doing to reach out and help communities during the pandemic.

**Carolina Esquerra 00:06**

This interview will be recorded and uploaded to the ASU COVID-19 archive project, which is public, do you understand and grant permission that this interview can be recorded and made public at the ASU website?

**Interviewee 00:18**

Yes, I understand.

**Carolina Esquerra 00:20**

Okay. So the first question is How has COVID-19 affected your faith or beliefs?

**Interviewee 00:28**

How has COVID affected my faith and belief? actually is a it has affected me a lot is it has made me stronger, my faith has become way stronger, I have more time to pray to get closer to God, ever since this, this notice, or these news about COVID came around. I just started to the go deep into the Bible and deep into my own personal time with him, and it's gotten closer. We also have like devotionals with my family. So we do that on a daily basis. And I believe that that helps me go through it.

**Carolina Esquerra 01:18**

it. Okay, that's good. And then the second question is, is your religious community still gathering currently? And how has COVID-19 affected your participation in the religious community?

**Interviewee 01:33**

Um, yes, my the church, I go to New Day church, we have been communicating or having our group meetings through zoom in, it has helped us because we've been bonding together as a small group. However, there is some people that don't have the technology, in order to do zoom. What we've been doing, we've been, we created several groups. As a church, I have a prayer group in the morning, and there's other women that have groups. And

I think that guys do want to, but just having the several groups helps us to try to communicate with the people don't that don't have that technology. But it does affect us. Because we love I mean, as Hispanics, we love to hug, and touch and see each other and have coffee together. We miss that we need. So it's not the same as seeing each other. I mean, we can see each other we can hear it. But isn't that the same? We feel like we need to touch each other. That's just my thing.

**Carolina Esquerra 02:52**

I mean it's good, at least the things are still going on. So

**Interviewee 02:58**

yes, yes.

**Carolina Esquerra 03:00**

Okay and then the third question is, is your religious community supplying or engaged in any kind of community service? Like, Is your religious community supplying or engaged any kind of community service in an attempt to help alleviate issues caused by the covid by the pandemic? And if so, what are those efforts?

**Interviewee 03:22**

Um, there is two issues about this. I don't know if it's just the Hispanic community, because the work that people that we work with church are Hispanic, in some of the family members of the church don't say, their needs. So we don't know. There was one girl that her father passed away, unfortunately, and we been praying for her and we gathered an offering to help her meet the needs. And we've also there's another person that unfortunately, in our in our church had the corona virus. So we, we help them financially. Talk to him. I mean, I know, I've done that. And I know other people have done that, talk to him, and try to find out what others what other needs he had. But I think we need the help of people to tell us we haven't done something with the actual community outside. And I think that's something that we should. There's just so much need, where I guess we haven't really talked about how we can help. Right now we've just been doing helping the people that that come to our church or the people that their family, friends or people that, you know that they know someone that needs, but I'm sure we can do better.

**Carolina Esquerra 05:07**

We really hope that everybody's doing okay.

**Interviewee 05:14**

But it is a sad situation. Because a lot of people, I think one of the things that we've been doing and I don't know, you don't We don't realize, but I know it has touched the technology, just the fact that you're posting something on Facebook or Instagram, something positive. I think that's a way to help the community just to to, to make them feel that they're, you know, it's okay. You're not a person that can do all kinds of problems at home or you're at home. It's okay to be depressed. I mean, it's normal. We live in this body, we're human beings, and the fact that if we could be I don't know, how do I say caring to everyone to let them know that we're all going through the same thing in the fact that we are what they're calling it spiritual. We're still human. And so the internet really helps us to communicate that and help maybe somebody that is in need. I guess that's how we're helping this community,

**Carolina Esquerra 06:32**

as well. Yeah.

**Interviewee 06:33**

Yeah.

**Carolina Esquerra 06:34**

Okay. Well, thank you. Those were all the questions I had for you.

**Interviewee 06:39**

Okay. No problem anytime.