

## **Transcript of Interview with Hogan Choi and Reily O'Buckley by Each Other**

**Interviewee/Interviewer:** Hogan Choi

**Interviewer/Interviewer:** Reily O'Buckley

**Date:** 09/21/2021

**Location (Interviewee/Interviewer):**

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**Abstract:** Two freshman in college discuss how the pandemic affected them - both positively and negatively - and the broader implications on the future and the way we conduct ourselves in society.

**Hogan Choi 0:01**

My name is Hogan Choi.

**Reily O'Buckley 0:04**

My name is Reily O'Buckley, and we're going to do the COVID-19 Archive Project interview at 6:41pm on September 21, 2021. Alright, so do you, Hogan, give consent to be interviewed for the COVID-19 Archive Project?

**Hogan Choi 0:21**

Yes, I do.

**Reily O'Buckley 0:22**

Alright, so name one way that your life has drastically changed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Hogan Choi 0:28**

I usually really like to stay in my house, so there hasn't been a really major impact toward my personal life. Obviously, considering- concerning education and social interaction, there has been some effects in that area. Do you, Reily, give consent to be interviewed for the COVID-19 archive project?

**Reily O'Buckley 0:53**

I do.

**Hogan Choi 0:54**

Okay, so my first question is when you first heard about the COVID outbreak in Wuhan, what was your first reaction?

**Reily O'Buckley 1:01**

Yeah, my first reaction to hearing it, I was initially like, you know, kind of concerned. I pay attention to like, you know, sicknesses, outbreaks in like different countries, so I just sort of fuzzing another thing like Ebola where it's gonna be like a quick, you know, blob in a little area and then we go away after a while. After I saw it spread to Europe and other parts of Asia, I got a bit concerned and well, that's how it led to this.

**Hogan Choi 1:24**

Yeah.

**Reily O'Buckley 1:25**

Alright, so what is one thing that helped you get through the pandemic?

**Hogan Choi 1:30**

I'm really close with my family, so us being together. Actually, I felt that helped me get through the pandemic because we support each other through any other problems. And also, movies and games and other entertainment so it's helped me get through quarantine. Riley, so what did you do during quarantine and how is quarantine for you? And do you believe you changed in any way during this period?

**Reily O'Buckley 2:03**

Yeah. You know, in quarantine it can- it was just like, you know, what, I would do an average weekend. I would usually stay home. I didn't have any reason to go out to see friends. So I stayed home. I studied, read some books, played video games with my friends online, talk to my family, watch movies. What you would do, you know, at home if you got a lot of free time. I definitely changed over the course of the pandemic, you know, it was- I became a bit more reserved, introverted. I already was an introvert, but I did definitely get a bit more so... Yeah, so overall, it wasn't terrible, but you know, it definitely had an impact on me. Do you think the pandemic has more negatively or positively affected your life?

**Hogan Choi 2:43**

In general, I think I wasn't that affected by COVID. But regarding education, and just my communication skills in general, it has been in the more negative side. So obviously, during- during quarantine, we had education through Zoom. Do you think that had an any effect on you? And if so, how much?

**Reily O'Buckley 3:11**

Yeah, it absolutely did affect me. I used to, you know, like, I was like a high 90 student and when quarantine happened and online schooling, my grades sort of plummeted down to like the 70s, 80s. It wasn't really good for me. Overall, it definitely negatively impacted me. What are your thoughts on the pandemic right now? And do you think things will get better or worse?

**Hogan Choi 3:32**

So currently, right now, there is the Delta variant surge, and other strands of COVID that have been affecting a lot of people. But I feel like with the vaccine and the booster shots on its way, it is going to get a lot better. The trend right now is looking very hopeful. And I believe in the near future, we'll be able to get over this quickly. Um, my question is, so at first, we didn't know how severe COVID was going to be. But if we did, do you believe we could have prevented it from happening or minimized the damage anyway?

**Reily O'Buckley 4:18**

Prevent, absolutely not, unfortunately, because people will not always listen to the government and regulations and stuff as you know, freedom and stuff, I guess. But we definitely could have minimized a lot of damage because most of the deaths we saw happening during like, you know, the early parts of it when it started to spread really fast. So, yeah, we definitely could have minimized the damage but not overall prevented. All right. So how is the pandemic limiting you right now or not limiting you at all.

**Hogan Choi 4:46**

So overall, aside from the mask, I believe it's not really limiting me a lot. Concerning academics, everything seems fine. It seems very normal for me to do this. However, regarding extracurricular activities, there are a lot of restrictions in that area. So, last question. In the aftermath of COVID, do you think it will have any major impacts on our society?

**Reily O'Buckley 5:22**

Absolutely, we're going to see, I imagine, a lot more like care towards like mini outbreaks of like a new strain of something in like different countries because as we can see, if something like you know, spikes like it happened with COVID, we can lose millions of lives. So that's a serious problem. And I believe that masks are going to be used a lot more if you're sick and in public. So it's only been doing- being used in like Asian cultures for a long, long time. But now we're going to see a lot more in Europe, North America and parts like that.

**Hogan Choi 5:51**

All right. Thank you.

**Reily O'Buckley 5:52**

Alright. Thank you very much.