

Transcript of “Escaping from Fear at the Shoreline”

Interviewee: Gabriella Leon

Interviewer: self

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Location (Interviewee): New York

Location (Interviewer):

Transcribed By: Erin Craft

Gabriella Leon 00:00

So I'm here today to submit to lockdown Staten Island with the class history 718 at the College of Staten Island, and I'm here to talk about fear. During the COVID 19 pandemic, during lockdown, I'm at the beach, which is a place I would go to, often for a walk during lockdown, because you could be distant from people safe and feel calm along the shoreline of Staten Island. And that was something we really needed in 2020. Because the news was so scary. People were dying at really scary rates. The news was full of numbers of casualties of people who had passed people who had been infected, and we weren't really sure how we could be infected. We were wiping down groceries, and sanitizing our hands, masking, unsure whether to spend time with family members or to stay away to miss important milestones for fear of giving, of having and giving COVID to a loved one, but also for then missing that event. We feared for employment for stable employment many people lost their jobs during COVID-19, especially during 2020. At my job, we were furloughed, but we didn't. We managed to stay employed all of the people who worked there, but many weren't as lucky. So you feared for resources, and that you would be able to maintain your lifestyle and take care of your family. You feared for the political climate and realities. Misinformation was spreading. People were not eager to believe that masking was important. Or that social distancing was important in order for to prevent more people from catching COVID-19 and potentially dying from it. So there was a lot of disbelief and you found out even people in your social circle. were believing things that could be really harmful to them. So there was a lot to be afraid of. But there was also lots to find hope in whether it was talking with friends or loved ones on through technology, or meeting for a socially distance walk at the beach where I am right now. 2020 was a year of complex emotions and fear was certainly among them. Thanks