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REL101 Spring 2021

COVID -19. Religion, and Public Life reflection

Many ASU students work for Starbucks and that is where my public life has been the last 6 years. It has been great, but the most important thing must deal with the fact that the last year has been this COVID way of life instead of our own. The location that I work at did not shut down once, even during the thick of COVID, for we are a small town (Yes, we followed guidelines) and was not directly affected compared to the bigger cities in California. We are a drive-thru and lobby location and the biggest change, besides only going to a drive-thru store for quite some time, would be the fact that the rushes that we would receive on the weekends after church got out, did not exist. That was something that I truly missed.

One of the reasons why I missed being able to see those groups of people was that they not once attempted to throw their #RE101 onto me. It made a massive assumption that due to the Virus going around, that we would be getting more to pray for us and spread GOD'S word. But in all reality what had happened was the fact that many knew some people were in a bad spot but also could separate church and a helping hand. Another thing that I had found interesting is that Starbucks had to come out saying they were not an essential business but were for those wearing a badge of some kind. I find that relating to power.

Power was a big, huge play in this pandemic. The little businesses were harmed while those not so small of businesses got to thrive. The small businesses were following the guidelines and then some while the bigger companies did less and stayed open. Now if you think that is fair or a way to explain it to me that makes it fair then I am all ears. That is power abuse and that cannot be taken advantage of.

Overall, my life did not change besides my daycare shutting down for quite some time and that needed to happen. I worked my 40 hours a week thru the whole thing, and when I needed daycare taken care of, Starbucks said we got you. My wife's job stayed open in, Dental field, so the only thing that changed a bit was the flow of customers at my job directly.

It got us closer to those that are around us for the pandemic had a chance to attack us and for those that did and lost someone, I feel for you and all that it had affected. #REL101 was a great class this spring and can not wait to take another soon in the future.