

My experience during the 2020 Covid pandemic,

I remember it was about late march when my school announced that the remainder of the semester was going to be taught through virtual instruction. That was around eight months ago. The entire fall semester for 2020 has been online. School however is the least of my worries. Today there are something like 14 million Covid cases in the United States and around 63 million world wide. Many, like myself have spent these last eight months abiding by the regulations put in place to ensure public safety.

I am just really thankful that I am in a position where I have been able to ride out these last eight months safely. When I returned home to San Diego I moved back in with my mom and dad. They have supported my financial needs for the most part, and I have just been going to school and helping out around the house. I guess I'm at risk of more severe complications if I were to contract Covid because I am an athmatic. I really try to keep that in mind, and am very cautious. I follow the recommended guidelines like gospel. I just wish others would as well.

Some of my best friends are not being as cautious as me. It really disappoints me because both are extremely capable humans yet they are contributing to the problem. Neither takes the virus seriously and both blatantly disregard social distancing measures. I honestly don't know why, it really isn't too much to ask to wear a mask and limit outings unless necessary. Yet millions chose to ignore trained health officials, because they are inconvenienced and suffering from "pandemic fatigue" or don't believe in science.

Personally I feel Trump was a key factor as to why the virus is affecting America so severely. It was his disregard of the severity of the corona virus and for the safety of Americans that allowed us to get to where we are now. I learned in history 301 that we as a nation are oftentimes guilty of providing reactive care rather than preventative care. What this means is that rather than prepare for an event like this ahead of time, we wait until it is already really bad and then try to provide widespread care after the fact. This is not effective. It's really frustrating to think about how the pandemic affects could have been lessened if we would have just had some sort of competent leadership.

I saw in class, a case in South Korea, where individuals who were exposed to the virus were tracked down and contacted using contact tracing so they could self isolate and get tested to prevent the spread. If techniques like this are available and have proven effective, I can't for the life of me imagine why we are not utilizing them more. This is where leadership improvement would have helped dramatically. But here we are preparing for our second national shut down with a total death toll of 268,000. Hopefully, come this next January Biden will make more of an attempt to end the pandemic before more life is lost.

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