

Transcript of Oral History Monologue with Sierra Janssen

Interviewee: Sierra Janssen

Interviewer: Self

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Location: Washington

Transcriber: Lily Crigler

Abstract: In this monologue, Sierra Janssen describes a personal experience of getting the COVID-19 vaccine.

Sierra Janssen 00:00

Hi, this is Sierra Janssen. I want to talk about my COVID vaccine So I've got my first dose in the beginning of April 2021. I signed up on the day that Washington State allowed for like everybody to get the COVID vaccine; it opened up to everybody. I immediately I was up at like, probably 5 or 6am trying to get a vaccine appointment. I got one through Kaiser Permanente, which was my insurance company, and it, I ended up getting a second one, a second appointment just in case the first one, something happened with the first one, through a state-run vaccination clinic, and my partner was able to get his vaccine through the same clinic, so I canceled my Kaiser appointment and went with the state-run clinic, and it was one of the like, coolest vaccine experiences I could have imagined. We didn't have to get out of the car. We just drove through, it was like they loaded everybody in a line, and you drove through. They gave you your vaccine, they gave you your card, and they sent you on their way. I ended up getting Moderna, which is the one I wanted, and they, it didn't hurt at all. It was painless. It was impressive, actually, I was worried it was going to burn. I tend to have pretty bad reactions to vaccines, I usually get pretty sick afterwards, and my arm swells all up. And I just, my body just does not work with vaccines for some reason, but it didn't hurt at all going in. I did get sick after the first vaccine which a lot of people did not, and I got really sick after the second vaccine, but it wasn't bad in all. And I am really glad I got it obviously, but I feel like I had waited so long for the vaccine that it was just this very emotional process for me and afterwards, in the 15, they made you wait 15 minutes after you got it, and it was, it was, it was an extreme relief. It, I think I, if I remember correctly I cried because afterwards it was just like, finally I was not worried that I was going to you know die or that I was gonna give it to my partner, and they were going to die. It, COVID scared me; I'm very scared of getting sick, and it was... well it is an experience that I don't want to live through. I have not had COVID, I obviously do not plan on getting it. I my, my vaccine appointment was very good, I know, it was, I feel like it was my civic duty to do it, but all in all, I feel like it was more important for me personally that I get it, and I am very glad that I got it and that it was, went so smoothly. It was great. Who would have thought a state-run vaccine clinic would be easy?