

Over the past several months, my life has changed right before my eyes due to the global pandemic we all know as “COVID-19.” COVID-19, I would say, has gone from putting my life on hold, to through a rollercoaster ride, and now to what we all know to be the new “norm.” Sometimes, it is hard to believe that we have been living in quarantine for almost half a year now and things just continue to get worse. As an individual, my life has never been more up and down but from a worldly perspective, life has come crashing down. Cases continue to rise, the death toll continues to expand, and it seems like less and less people are actually sticking to quarantine these days. Nonetheless, I am here, alive and well and I can only thank God for that.

After being in quarantine for more than half of a year, it has manufactured many positive opportunities for me. For starters, I applied and was hired for my first job. Working was a whole new experience for me because it instilled responsibilities in me that I did not think would be recurring at this age. Some of these recurring things included me having to wake up at 4 AM every single morning. Like anything else, it took me a few weeks to adjust to, but I persevered through it. Though this was a positive outcome of COVID-19, there have also been negative outcomes. First of all, I finished my senior year of high school through zoom. This was definitely harsh for not only me but my fellow classmates because it deprived us of what we had all worked so hard for, which was to simply be able to graduate together. As time progressed things just continued to get worse. My grandmother who just turned 90 years old in February, passed away after contracting the virus. She passed away in May, just a few months after her birthday.

Some of the things that I would like future generations to know about COVID-19 is that they should work to conquer a pandemic like this in unity. Meaning if they follow guidelines, take the proper precautions, and think before they act in situations like these, there can be more structure and less chaos in times of panic. I think the future generations should take things like this seriously due to the rise in cases that the current generation has seen and the death tolls that are also on a continued rise. They should know that although life will be very tough for an extended period of time, eventually things will start to feel as if they are getting better. Lastly, I want them to know that in order for this to not only happen but also to be effective, they must commit to sacrifice and be dedicated to finding the proper solution, however it may present itself.