

Probing The Pandemic Problem

The Coronavirus pandemic is irrefutably one of the most impactful phenomena to ever influence the permanent history of human experience, as it has left its mark on each individual life in a unique manner that will endure far into the future. Although I feel fortunate to state that I have not lost any loved ones to this dreadful disease, I am also aware of many others with family members and friends who have sadly succumbed to sickness. Regardless of whether or not one has a personal memory of mourning death and destruction provoked by the pandemic, it is transparently true that all have been affected in one way or another.

From a personal perspective, the most direct difficulty has been maintaining a healthy mental state in the midst of a period characterized by utter uncertainty and continuous chaos in addition to restrictions that have repressed the realm of social interaction. As someone who continuously craved communication with my peers during the school day due to the way in which it challenged my naturally introverted nature, the onslaught of online classes and increased intervals of time at home throughout my senior year proved to be particularly detrimental to my psychological well-being. Though my ample attention to academic performance persisted, I struggled to sustain the same love for learning as I previously possessed as a result of my inability to extensively engage in course content with others and soon started to dread experiences that were designed to be enjoyable.

While this may be interpreted as a minor inconvenience as opposed to others' witness of lives lost and circumstances forever changed, it contributed to a cycle that clouded my vision from all of the beautiful blessings in this world that the virus can never claim, such as space for self-reflection and the realization of who and what matters most. Because of this, I believe that

future generations must remember the role of the pandemic as both a gateway to great suffering and an opportunity to exhibit outstanding strength amid an era of abundant adversity, as the coming course of history hinges upon the education and activism of all.