

## Primary Source Reflection

9-24-21

The start of my personal experience over the COVID-19 pandemic was very difficult for me to adjust to. Although every individual has their own experiences, I think we can agree that this pandemic impacted everyone negatively. However, the pandemic enabled me to look at things in a different way. I went into the outbreak unaware of the potential downfalls we were all about to encounter. I didn't expect the spread of the virus to affect people, businesses, relationships, education, and more as much as it did. It's been over a year, yet we are still going through this crisis. The thought of 'quarantine' sounded great at first, "We don't have to go to school!" my friends and I said in excitement.

Suddenly, quarantine wasn't as it seemed. My parents were strict with the rules provided by the government. I was frustrated with not being able to get out of the house as much as I used to. The adjustment started by finding ways to still hangout with my friends. Even if it was not in person, we organized group calls so that my friend group can play video games together. Unfortunately, the pandemic got the best of me mentally. My relationships started to fall apart, including my extended family. COVID-19 hit my family and I at the worst time. Prior to the pandemic, I lost both my grandmas in a week's time, my entire family was devastated. Quarantine, along with the strict rules around the nation, tore my family apart. Fights broke out, relationships started to crumble, and desolation arose. How was I going to adjust? Months passed without contact with my extended family. I sat in my room asking myself the same question repeatedly.

Once I came to the realization that the virus was something I needed to adapt to, I decided to change my mind set. I started to reach out to each of my family members and organized zoom calls to stay in touch frequently. However, it was not the same, when the call would conclude I was surprisingly disappointed. Although it was not the same, it was what

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everyone needed. Conversation was unlocked after a quick call organized by a 17 year old teen. I then started to see my adjustment becoming successful. I want future generations to learn that no matter what warriors come across, there is always a way to get around it with adjustments. Life during quarantine was a huge setback, but an opportunity to see the world with fresh eyes.