

When people talk about COVID 19, the first thing that comes to mind is isolation. Growing up in a culture that is so group-oriented and close, the pandemic was a huge adjustment. It was very difficult to distance myself from my kaiaulu (community). Hours and hours of being trapped in my house was emotionally and mentally draining. There were many changes that happened during this time in my life. Changes in the way of learning and living.

Being in high school during the time of this pandemic almost seemed mythical. I never would have expected my highschool experience to be how it was. Imagine spending your whole life going to the same school and out of nowhere, you are sent to online schooling without any instructions on how to do so. It was a drastic change that I was not ready for. Learning online took a long time for me to get used to. I had to learn how to use ZOOM which is a communication app that allowed us to hold our classes online. Instead of engaging in class in person, we were sitting at our desks or beds at home staring at a screen. This pandemic was not the most ideal situation.

Living during these times was not any easier than it was to do online schooling. Being an active person that plays sports year-round, it was very painful to stay home all day with nothing to do. I had to find things to do around the house such as playing with my dog, watching youtube, doing body-weight exercises and, sleeping the day away.

COVID-19 took something away from everyone, whether it was time, money, or opportunities. We were all in isolation dealing with the same problems hoping for this pandemic to be over. Fast forward to today, I am a freshman in college and things are getting back to normal. Now, I can greatly appreciate all the little things that being outdoors with others has to offer.