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The COVID-19 Pandemic: The New Way of Living

The beginning of the year, 2021, took a heavy toll on all generations. At this time, the introduction of the coronavirus to America left society in great fear. The development of this fear was because of the detrimental health affects the coronavirus has on the human body. Restrictions such as masks mandates and the closure of non-essential businesses were enforced to lower the millions of positive cases during the virus's peak. Students and teachers had to adjust to online learning as the risk for spreading the disease in schools was too high. The lockdown made communities a ghost town and initiated a new way of living.

The COVID-19 pandemic was the turning point in my life. It is the reason why I am currently pursuing a nursing degree. Unfortunately, I have seen the affects the virus can have on the human body firsthand because one of my close relatives was hospitalized for numerous days. After she was cleared to leave the hospital, she told me everything about her experience. She was placed in a coronavirus-only section of the hospital surrounded by others with the same symptoms. Some of the symptoms included were tiredness, a fever, and coughing. Looking at the inflated number of cases on television comes to reality when someone you know becomes one. When it became a reality for me, I knew from that point I wanted to follow a career in the healthcare field. I want to turn that feeling of waiting around for updates into me being a part of the reason why someone overcomes an illness. Even though advancements in medicine for the coronavirus have been established, the ongoing fear still exists today.

A contrary advancement that was developed during this time to prevent the spread of the coronavirus is a vaccine. City officials across the country encouraged the newly vaccines

with no evidence of the long-term effects because people were seeking for a permanent solution. Being a college student, I was mandated to receive the vaccine to reside on campus. Forcing the vaccine demonstrates the widespread urgency society had to stop the spread of the virus and ultimately, end the pandemic.