

Life during the COVID-19 pandemic was, and still is, dispiriting. In March of 2020, the world went into a state of lockdown. During this time, traveling ceased, schools shut down, most people had to work from home, or got laid off, and everyone had to stay home. For me personally, I did not enjoy quarantining at all. I did enjoy seeing my family every day, however, I was very lonely. I couldn't see any of my friends, which was very disappointing. Thankfully with social media I could facetime them and text them, but face-to-face contact with other people is very necessary; it is something you wouldn't normally think is important, but when you are unable to physically be with other people, you realize how lonely you feel.

When I was not able to go to school and had to be taught virtually, I felt extremely frustrated. I am very dedicated to my studies, so I was able to get my work done; however, I was unmotivated and found myself getting easily distracted by my phone, my dog, my family members, etc. while being logged into class online. Not being able to learn in a school environment surrounded by my peers was specifically very tough, in my opinion. I love being able to interact with my classmates and teachers when learning and doing so through a computer screen at home made this challenging.

Although we are not currently in a state of lockdown at home anymore, it is still difficult to live life normally. With COVID-19 still prevalent, since the new Omicron strain emerged, wearing masks in public places is required or highly recommended. Quarantine rules are still set in place if one becomes sick with the virus. It becomes such a hassle if you get COVID because you then cannot go to school, work, out in public, or see family and friends. Getting the virus also poses a threat to your overall health, as the long-term effects of the virus are unknown at this time.