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Longwood: Life during COVID-19

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Final Exam Essay

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To who might be reading this,

This whole Covid-19 virus has been one of the weirdest experiences of my lifetime. Everything has just stopped, it feels exactly like a scenario that came from The Walking Dead. Everything has closed down, stores, restaurants, just all everyday life has just been put on stop. The only people that are allowed to really leave their houses are people who are considered “essential”. Those include some government officials, and people that work in high demand jobs like gas stations, banks, grocery stores.

As a college senior, I have had to miss out on experiences that I have worked all college to see. I have missed my final semester of being with people who I will probably never see again, which makes me feel upset. I have missed out on events, like Greek Sync, Pig Roast, Senior week and everything that comes with someone who has almost finished his college years. I miss those days of finishing my classes for the day knowing I do not have homework or anything to complete and coming home to see my roommates and friends hanging out. I miss the large gatherings of my fraternity brothers just hanging out and talking to them. I miss doing stupid stuff with everyone I call dear to my heart.

While I understand why these measures have been taken, to ensure that everyone is the safest they possibly can be. I have to question why some of these laws are still in place, a lot of people are not following the laws that have been set into place: like staying 6 feet apart from one another, do not leave your house for anything non essential and no more than 10 people at a gathering. My question is and has been, why are we going to put into law something that is supposed to help the community but if no one follows them, why are they in place? What is the point in having something like this? No one is following the rules, no one sees how dangerous this can become. This is a serious thing, people are dying the world is shut down but people cannot stay home for 2 weeks. It sounds selfish to get my life back, but why should I continue to quarantine when no one else will.

People are out of work. A lot of people are relying on the government to give them help because of how many places have been shut down. More and more of my friends are receiving help from the government through unemployment. I just want this to go back to normal, where everything can open up. Where everyone can make it back to work and everyone can go out and do things like go to the park, or the beach and enjoy life for what we have taken advantage of.

The one thing I can see the positive side from this whole pandemic is the fact we can all take a look at ourselves and see what we have taken advantage of. I have learned from this virus that nothing should be looked at as nothing. Everyone we have met and still talk to is worth something, as little as you communicate, you still should take the time to appreciate everything. We have had the ability to freely go out and see

your friends, go to bars, or even a store. These are things we used to think nothing of, and now its things we all wish to have back.

This whole quarantine has been hard on everyone. I have learned how to keep myself entertained. I have been able to get my homework done with all the time in the world. Even though some professors do not understand overloading the students with work during times like this does not make it any easier to deal with the stress going on. Some people have family at high risk for this virus and are not fully able to focus solely on school. I have seen the amount of work, I would normally have triple because of this virus. It almost seems like busy work for the students just so the professors can say they have done something with us. Some of my professors have been very understanding about the work that we have received has been a lot on us, and I thank them for their consideration and help. When not doing homework and studying I have found time to watch some new shows that I have been dying to watch, so that has been a plus. The only thing is, there is only so much you can do during this time you find yourself bored of things quickly. I cannot wait for this to be over with!

I hope by the end of this quarantine people will understand the point behind this. People will no longer take things like this for granted, and people will no longer be as terrible to each other. I only want positivity to be seen through all.

Sincerely,

A College Senior who misses his life