

It is clear that so many people had the worst year of their lives so far in 2020. COVID-19 took away so much from so many people, some more than others. I know a number of people who lost their lives to the Corona Virus, those who lost their jobs, and those who are facing discrimination because of the racism that has intensified once this virus came into the US. I do have to say that fortunately I believe I had this year be an easy one compared to so many. When the virus first began, I had to move from taking just two online classes to being a full time student online, now that I could no longer attend my other two on campus. I expected this to be a rough time because I had tried more than two online classes before and it was tough on my mental health. I am glad to say that my professors made it very easy to get through the rest of that spring semester because it was new to it all. However, I could not imagine those that were displaced, or are unable to fully learn when they do online classes. The first three weeks of the virus I was out of work and I do not qualify for unemployment so it was no easy. Fortunately, my job was considered essential and I was able to resume working very soon. It was a hard time to get through without being able to be with family and friends because that is the kind of emotional break people need from going to both work and school. My family was all blessed because we were all considered essential for our jobs but it was hard to get through the first couple of months without each other. As time progressed and Texas began opening up more I did visit and social distanced from my family and friends because it was honestly an exhausting time being cooped up and going to work and school nonstop. I feel as though i took every precaution and continue to even though I enjoy going to visit friends and family and going out occasionally. I understand this virus has taken so much this past year and it is very scary but to me I felt that as long as I am being safe, I am doing just fine. There are so many people that were not able to stay home during this time, including me, and it felt good to be able to be around my loved ones and

out in general. I say all this because I understand we should still be distanced to help those around us but some of us are having to go out and make a living, and that is exactly how I contracted the virus. I was staying home especially because of the snow storm in the beginning of March, the next week back at work I came in contact with someone positive then and I then tested positive as well. It is hard to tell how or when or from who you can get this virus from and because of that, to me it needs to be a time of precaution but also still living and doing the things you love.