

COVID 19 Diary: April

Now that school is online my whole life has changed! I've had to adjust where I live several times because of the lack of funds I've had. My lease from my apartment was canceled by my roommates because there was no point in living in Sacramento. Now that school is online there's no need to stay in the city when they can save money and live in their homes. In consequence, I had to move into another home temporarily until I can go home. This transition has been difficult for me to adjust to economically and academically. When the campus was closed so was my job that was on campus. I have applied for unemployment since March and still have not heard back if I am ever qualified for the program. I was very hopeful when I applied for the program. It was a sense of relief that I might have the chance to have a source of income. Since I have not heard anything from unemployment I have been worried excessively about how I'm going to take care of my essential needs. I am aware that I am not the only one in this country worried about my next meal or my economic status. The number of college students struggling with putting food on their plates has simply shocked me. I know I am not alone when it comes to struggling in this aspect of my life. Will I ever be able to make up for the loss of my lifetime savings?

On the news, people have begun making this health crisis about keeping people from being free. People are approaching this pandemic as something that's taking American's freedom rights away. It worries me to think that people have begun viewing this through the lens of politics. This is the reason I have stopped watching politics on the news and leaned to watching different series. Over the time of being in quarantine, I have had the chance to binge-watch so many shows on Netflix, Hulu, and Showtime to distract myself from always being bored. The little amount of time I had to have fun before quarantine due to all my responsibilities has been replaced by laying in bed all day or going to the stores in case I lack the essentials.

Due to the lack of toilet paper in every store yesterday I and my boyfriend had gotten up at 6:30 am to be able to get some before everyone else did. As we were walking up to the Target line already forming a woman angrily said to me "6 feet apart!" I was shocked by the way she said her comment. I wasn't trying to cause any problems. I just wanted to get in line to get some toilet paper. After yesterday I have grown afraid if others would react the same if I am too close. I know they're simply trying to take care of themselves but they must be able to communicate in a respectful manner. Since then I have had to ask people if they're okay with me being even six feet apart or if they need more space.

Before COVID 19 I had never had to worry about keeping my distance, not going out, wearing a mask, or not sitting in restaurants to dine in. Since this pandemic, my entire life has had to change for the safety of my life! This change has made me worry if my future would also look the same. This pandemic can change the future I had in store for myself. How long will it take for COVID 19 to disappear? That's the question that can't be answered and it worries me for the future. If COVID 19 is still found in American society after years when can I be able to start my career? How would the regulations of the government affect my work in the future? These questions will take time to be answered but I am scared that things will never be able to go back to what they used to be. It has been embedded in me to continue social distancing, being at home all day, keeping hand sanitizers in my pockets, and having a mask at all times. Would I be able to continue with my regular life again the same? I'm in hopes I will have the chance to do the things I would have taken for granted all these years. I've learned to appreciate every moment I can and enjoy my daily routine.