

Orangevale, CA May 3, 2020

(Still in Quarantine supposedly California will reopen May 22, 2020?)

There have been positive and negative outcomes from being locked up in our homes. Personally, I live in a small house with seven family members and at times, they can get on my nerves, but nevertheless I love them, they are familia. On Instagram, I follow Brown Issues; they are a social justice organization that highlights Latinx issues in the United States. On my feed, I came upon this political cartoon by Lalo Alcaraz. In the cartoon, Trump supporters refuse to listen to the CDC guidelines and are protesting the lockdown, claiming their civil rights are being violated. However do they understand that civil liberties and civil rights are two different concepts? Civil liberties relate to the protections one has before their government, while civil rights relate to the protections we have amongst one another. Civil rights include: the right to vote, right to a public education, right to a fair trial by jury, and right to use public facilities. Civil rights grant an individual equal opportunities and treatment regardless of their race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation. Civil liberties are the rights granted from the Constitution that give us, the people, freedoms of the first amendment. Though these Trump supporters are free to practice their civil liberties they are infringing upon the civil rights of others, since they can possibly

infect other individuals who are at high risk. However, the cartoon artist makes a good point by including how the Trump Administration has dealt with immigrants and DACA recipients.

May 4, 2020 - Still in Orangevale where else can I go?

How about we talk about Zoom? It is Monday and I have started my last week of class for the spring semester. Finals are only one week away, and staying motivated during times of crisis is difficult. Just imagine: You have been going to school K-12 for eight hours five days a week and if you choose to continue school, another four to five years of going about your school routine. Then all of the sudden you are forced to be home. Home sweet home! Home is relaxation, or if you grew up in a Mexican household you are constantly ordered to do chores, more if you are a woman. The point is I have made it a habit to “get into the zone” in an academic setting. The library, an empty classroom, or a coffee shop have been my go to places. I have sat in the same desk for half of the spring semester in my garage. I have made this space my classroom because I live with seven other people in a confined space. It was also very easy to lose focus on the professor, whether the camera was on or off. Or maybe it was just my Environmental Science class, but I zoned out and I am not the type of student that would do that on a normal basis. Other than for just school purposes, I had to interview for a job through Zoom. I had

never done an online interview, but I had no choice and it was a group interview. I don't think I got the job. I had my interview in early April.

May 5, 2020 -Still in my Garage in Orangevale, CA

Happy Cinco De Mayo and Taco Tuesday, although I don't celebrate either. Yesterday, I had a meeting with the Career Exploration center at Sac state. I met the individual virtually, just to clarify. He was friendly and helpful in answering my questions about graduate school. After all the recent events that have happened in the first five months of 2020, how can I even fathom thinking about the future when the present seems to be the end? Thinking about the future distracts me from the anxiety and stress I have experienced during quarantine. To relieve that stress I have painted, danced, and read fictional novels for fun. I am a sophomore in college, but I must think about the steps I need to take to get into graduate school. I am a first generation student, so I have no idea how to go about higher education. My career exploration mentor advised me to network during the summer, do virtual volunteer work, or interview someone in the same line of work I would like to go into someday. In addition, he made it clear to do research about the graduate programs I would like to apply for. So I guess, I do have plans for the Summer of 2020?