**Transcript Interview with Charlotte Tibollo by Ashley Tibollo**

**Interviewee:** Charlotte Tibollo

**Interviewer:** Ashley Tibollo

**Date:** 07/09/2021

**Location (Interviewee):** between Williamsville and Watkins Glen, New York

**Location (Interviewer):** between Williamsville and Watkins Glen, New York

**Abstract:** Mother interviews 5 year old daughter about life for her during the pandemic.

**Ashley Tibollo** 00:01

We are recording. My name is Ashley Tibollo. I am here with Charlotte Tibollo, the date is July 9, 2021. The time is 12:55pm. We are driving in our car between Williamsville and Watkins Glen, New York. I understand that this interview will be recorded in digital video and our audio format and may be transcribed. The recordings of possible transcriptions of my interview copies of any supplementary documents or additional photos that I wish to share and the informed consent and deed of gift may be deposited in The Journal of the Plague Year: A COVID-19 Archive and the Indiana University Library System and will be available to both researchers and the general public. I understand that my name and the name of Charlotte, my daughter, and other means of identification will not be confidential. So, I, as Charlotte's mother confirm that I have agreed that the interview will made, be made available immediately upon submission to the archive.

**Ashley Tibollo** 01:24

Okay, Charlotte, can you say your whole name?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 01:32

Charlotte Rose Tibollo.

**Ashley Tibollo** 01:34

You're gonna have to talk nice and loud. Okay? Because of the road noise. And how old are you?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 01:41

Five.

**Ashley Tibollo** 01:43

Yeah, what grade are you going into?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 01:46

Kindergarten.

**Ashley Tibollo** 01:49

Yeah, do you know what city we live in?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 01:55

Buffalo.

**Ashley Tibollo** 01:57

Yeah, and that's in New York State right? Okay, do you remember how old you were when the pandemic started? You were three.

**Charlotte Tibollo** 02:14

Three.

**Ashley Tibollo** 02:17

Yeah, in March of 2020, you turned four that June. Hey, what do you remember most about when it started?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 02:28

That we didn't know how it started.

**Ashley Tibollo** 02:36

Mhm. What changed about life?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 02:40

We had to wear masks, we couldn't hug and kiss anyone until [inaudible] COVID was over. It wasn't very fun.

**Ashley Tibollo** 02:55

No? What did you think about all that?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 03:00

I, I guess, I wasn't really comfortable because I couldn't hug or kiss anyone.

**Ashley Tibollo** 03:15

Yeah, do you remember, um, what we did for your birthday? What did we do for your birthday in June of 2020 when you turned four?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 03:29

We had a George Washington cake.

**Ashley Tibollo** 03:32

Mhm.

**Charlotte Tibollo** 03:32

And we had outside in the backyard.

**Ashley Tibollo** 03:37

We were outside in the backyard. Do you remember anything else about it? We had some friends, right? And how do we do that with COVID? Do we stay apart? Yeah, we socially distanced, right? Do you feel safe when you go into the store? Why do, Why do you feel safe now?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 04:20

Because of wearing a mask and I know I won't get sick.

**Ashley Tibollo** 04:25

Yeah. You started school during the pandemic. Right? You did EK? What was school like? With COVID?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 04:39

It was a little weird not, like not, not wearing masks.

**Ashley Tibollo** 04:51

Not, not wearing masks? What do you mean?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 04:55

Like, not wearing a mask in school.

**Ashley Tibollo** 05:02

Well, you did wear masks in school. What else did you have in school to protect you from COVID?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 05:22

Dividers.

**Ashley Tibollo** 05:23

Yeah, you had big dividers. What was your favorite part about school?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 05:38

Playing with my friends.

**Ashley Tibollo** 05:41

Did you and your friends ever talk about COVID? No?

**Ashley Tibollo** 05:47

Were you always in school during COVID or was there sometime that you had to do online learning?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 05:56

Sometimes I had to do online learning.

**Ashley Tibollo** 05:58

What was that like?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 06:01

It was different.

**Ashley Tibollo** 06:04

What did you have to do? How did you do school? Well, you still had your teacher Mrs. Abbott, but she wasn't at your house, right? How did you see her?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 06:41

On the iPad.

**Ashley Tibollo** 06:42

Right, you went on the iPad and could you see your friends too?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 06:47

Yeah.

**Ashley Tibollo** 06:47

Yeah. Did you like learning from home on the iPad?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 06:50

No.

**Ashley Tibollo** 06:51

No, how come?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 06:52

Because I didn't get to see Mrs. Abbott on the playground [inaudible] everyone.

**Ashley Tibollo** 07:00

Yeah, did anybody help you while you're at home trying to learn?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 07:05

Sometimes Daddy.

**Ashley Tibollo** 07:09

Yeah. What was Daddy doing while you were in school?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 07:14

He was working.

**Ashley Tibollo** 07:15

Yeah, he was working too. What was mommy doing?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 07:24

Working.

**Ashley Tibollo** 07:25

Also working, right? That was hard sometimes, huh? Do you think you learned as much when you were at home as you did when you were in school?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 07:38

I don't know.

**Ashley Tibollo** 07:40

You don't know? How do you feel about the COVID vaccine?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 07:51

I feel better that it's coming.

**Ashley Tibollo** 07:58

Coming, yeah. Are you gonna get one? Do you want to get one? You have to say it out loud.

**Charlotte Tibollo** 08:08

Yeah.

**Ashley Tibollo** 08:10

How come?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 08:12

Because I don't want to have to wear a mask all the time anymore.

**Ashley Tibollo** 08:17

Do you do any sports?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 08:21

I do basketball and gymnastics.

**Ashley Tibollo** 08:27

And what else?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 08:28

Taekwondo.

**Ashley Tibollo** 08:29

Yeah, did you do any of those during the pandemic?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 08:35

I did Taekwondo.

**Ashley Tibollo** 08:37

Yeah, what was that like during the pandemic?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 08:40

It was like, it was just like, it's a little weird that some people are wearing masks in Taekwondo.

**Ashley Tibollo** 08:52

That they aren't anymore? Yeah.

**Charlotte Tibollo** 08:54

Yeah.

**Ashley Tibollo** 08:58

Do you remember doing it from home?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 09:04

No.

**Ashley Tibollo** 09:04

On the iPad or on the TV? Yeah. Did you like doing that?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 09:09

No.

**Ashley Tibollo** 09:11

No? How come?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 09:14

Because I like to see my friends for real.

**Ashley Tibollo** 09:18

Mhm. So, what is the first thing you want to do after you get your vaccines?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 09:18

I don't know.

**Ashley Tibollo** 09:43

Go to Disney World?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 09:44

Yeah!

**Ashley Tibollo** 09:45

[laughs] And, so, there are going to be adults in the future listening to this, right? They want to hear what you have to say. So, what would you tell them? What do you want people to know about the pandemic in the future?

**Ashley Tibollo** 10:11

Is there anything they should know? Like to help kids?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 10:24

I don't know.

**Ashley Tibollo** 10:25

Would you want anything to have happen differently? What would you want it to, for the record, Charlotte is nodding her head yes. What would you want them to have done differently?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 10:41

Not eat meats.

**Ashley Tibollo** 10:48

And why should they not eat meats?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 10:51

Because then we wouldn't have COVID and we wouldn't have to wear masks and we wouldn't have to get the vaccine.

**Ashley Tibollo** 11:01

Well, do, do all diseases come from animals and animal markets?

**Charlotte Tibollo** 11:07

No.

**Ashley Tibollo** 11:08

No, but this one you think did? Yeah. Okay. Thank you, Charlotte, for your interview today. Bye bye.