

Transcript of Interview with Mohammed Husain by Fatima Husain

**Interviewee:** Mohammed Husain

**Interviewer:** Fatima Husain

**Date:** 03/31/2021

**Location (Interviewee):** Toronto, Canada

**(Interviewer):** Atlanta, Ga

**Transcriber:** Fatima Husain

**Abstract:** This interview speaks about a teenager, Mohammed Husain, who has described her life through the course of the pandemic including how she has felt what she had experienced including some losses, things that have changed and ways she has coped. The set of questions provided are descriptive and offer directed questions that allow the interviewee to answer them thoroughly. Mohammed speaks about how she felt lonely during the pandemic. She describes things she has missed such as shopping going out with friends and effects on her mental health. She has also spoke about the limitations and how they have made her enjoy her own presence and made her evolve into a person who enjoys her own presence. She lists some positive aspects of the pandemic including closer relationships with family members along with a time to reflect on her own self. She has included that she has taken advantage of the time of the pandemic to really look back on her life and understand the moment as not everyone in their lifetime gets to live through such a scene.

**FH:** Hi, my name is Fatima Husain, and I am an undergraduate student at ASU enrolled in HST 494. The date is 3/31/2021 and the time is 8:15 PM EST and I am speaking with Mohammed Husain.

**FH:** Okay I will start with the first question. Tell me about things you've experienced during the pandemic? Such as emotions, struggles, breakthroughs.

**MH:** I miss shopping I would love to the mall to hang out with friends, and I couldn't do any of that because I always worried about these things. I felt it was very lonely. Causing me some depression as well.

**FH:** Okay, were there any changes in your life that you feel have changed you as a person?

**MH:** I feel that limitations of going out and the limitations with distancing has made me a bit of a person who now has realized to enjoy their own present. Before I used to be more social, I would always have someone or the other around me, but now I've evolved to appreciate my own presence.

**FH:** What are some things that you have done to cope with the state of the world?

**MH:** I have found to cope with the state of the world is to start new hobbies now. Specifically, I do love reading. But I have stopped it for a while and pandemic has allowed me to re-continue. I have also used this time to become closer with my family and siblings, I think because of being at home a lot, you kind of start to make deeper connections with the people who are already around you.

**FH:** Do you think you have missed out on your childhood due to the year-long pandemic?

**MH:** I do think that I have considering the fact that I had graduated and usually after graduation not really made as much friends as I would have liked to in college because of the whole social distancing

**FH:** Do you have any older or younger siblings that are being impacted by the pandemic?

**MH:** I do have a younger sibling that lives with my mom. She is 4 years old and. Though I am not that close with her due to me being college, I do know from talking to my mom that she relies a lot on electronics to keep her busy as we cannot take her that often to parks and she doesn't have that when you friends due to schools being closed.

**FH:** Okay, What is one thing you miss about pre pandemic life?

**MH:** What I miss about pre pandemic life would be the normality of certain public. For example, I do think it would be normal to use a public bathroom with the mindfulness of germs, but after the pandemic I do feel that I would never use a public bathroom.

**FH:** Do you think you will return to your normal self when the pandemic is over, or will you think and act differently?

**MH:** I do feel I have had some soft growth during this time. I have been alone, and I've learned to understand myself, but I will also be different because I won't necessarily think normally because of the pandemic and the situation with spreading of germs.

**FH:** Are there any other things you would like to share with us about your experience through the pandemic?

**MH:** I don't really have any anything to add. But I'd like to say that during the pandemic, I do feel that through this isolation I think a lot of people have had some growth in mindset. I used this time to reflect on my own life. I do take advantage of this time as a period of reflection of my own life as this is not something that is given to everyone through your life.