

- 1) In the year of 2020, the covid-pandemic hit the world by storm. Schools closed, Churches canceled mass, and all in all, entire countries went on lockdown. I vividly remember my friends and I elated that school was gonna be closed, thinking that we would only be away for a month so that things can die down. But little did we know that our supposed “one month” vacation would turn into years of home imprisonment.

The first few weeks of lockdown were not too bad, In the morning till early afternoon I would attend my classes (which were now online) via zoom, and in the afternoon play my playstation 4 with my friends. This became routine and soon enough become extremely repetitive. I missed being able to hang out with my friends, going to the movies, playing soccer, and I even missed going to in-person school.

During this pandemic, I decided to show some initiative and teach myself things that I was not able to do prior to this worldwide dilemma. For example, I bought a dj mixer from one of my close friends and taught myself how to use it by watching tutorials that I found on youtube. And after some time I became really good at mixing music. Additionally, I woke up every morning at 5:00am to practice soccer with my dad. I figured that not a lot of people would go out of their way to train during the pandemic (particularly partake in contact sports) so by time a cure is found and we are able to play amongst one another again I would be ahead of the pack.

- 2) During the global pandemic, many people contracted the virus and sadly quite a few lost their lives as well. Unfortunately, my family and I lost my uncle Daryl. Uncle Daryl used to attend all of my soccer matches since I was 6 years old, and losing him really hit home. He contracted the virus and died in his sleep less than a month later. This tragedy truly made me fear the virus, as the death toll due to Covid in Trinidad was

getting higher day by day. In fact, a few of my friends family members passed away from contracting the virus as well.

I was beginning to think that there was no hope. Time and time again I thought to myself if the world would ever go back to some form of normalcy..... But thankfully, the world was able to create a vaccine for the virus which saved billions of lives. I was able to go to school again, I was able to see my friends again, and I was even able to put my newly aquired skills to use (as the pandemic is over). Though Covid had very negative effects on the world, there were some positives that I was able to take from the pandemic as well. I was able to aquire new skills in my freetime, I was able to keep practicing my soccer, and lockdown made me appreciate going to school in person way more than before, as highschool was the best days of my life.