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COVID19 Paper

Alexis Stuck in Quarantine

Never would I have felt the impact of being in quarantine with basically the whole world. Technically speaking, I am not in “quarantine.” I am social distancing. And I, for one, am not a person to be distant in social situations. Anyone who really knows me, knows that I am completely an extrovert. I am always one to always try to put her “two-cents” in and to always try to talk to everyone and anyone in any situation. I may be a really social person, but I was never one to ever be able to go out when I was younger. My parents are very wary of where I am and who I am with. So, you could say I was “quarantined” (sheltered) my whole life.

Being sheltered for most of my life, starting college was really where I started making my own decisions on where I would go and who I’d be around, because I lived on campus. Having to live on campus gave me that sort of freedom. Freedom was a like being able to have my own opinion. That freedom gave me the ability to express myself and explore the roots that I, myself, want to take on. So, whenever I come back home, I must adjust to old lifestyle where there isn’t a that freedom anymore.

Having to adjust back and forth, I had an expectation to come back from spring break and stay in Framingham till the end of the semester. So, when classes were switch to remote and students were not allowed on campus, I felt like I was ripped off. I felt like I had no control of the situation and everything was changing so fast. My time at school was shortened. Having online courses made things more complex. During this time of adjusting to school being remotely taught, time management has been one of many things to adjust to. It seems that my classes either go on at the same time as before or not, I am constantly doing homework or work

for a class. There are no breaks for online classes, and it feels like there is more work than it was before. It takes longer for classes to start and classes to end. It has become very complicated.

Lately, my life has been the same cycle every day. On an average day I would wake up around nine o'clock. I would brush my teeth, wash my face, and rush to the basement because I'm already late for my 8am class. The after that class is over, I do my homework due for the week based on the earliest one due. Then I go to my next class. After that class is over, I finally eat my first meal of the day at 3pm. Then I am doing homework until 6pm, and then I help y mo cook, watch my shows, and fall asleep.

In my family, we don't really talk to each other. We all start our day in separately. We don't eat together through the weekdays. All the kids have school, so we are all doing our assignments and attending our classes remotely. My mom is a teacher, so she is also constantly online to check on her students and emails from her coworkers. My dad is at work during the weekdays from about ten in the morning to ten at night. We don't really communicate with each other until six at night or even the weekend. We're all pretty used to staying indoors and staying at home during this quarantine.

During this quarantine, I really want to start something. I am hoping to start a new hobby. My mom wants me to learn how to dye hair, which is one of the hopes. I also want to start scrapbooking. Without being able to work as server, it also makes it harder to stay active, so I want to start exercising. I want to start going on run. I want to keep up with my skin care.

I am afraid that during this quarantine I will run out of things to keep me occupied. I'm afraid that it'll never end. I'm afraid that we'll never get to back to "normal", that I'll never get to go back to work. I'm afraid of losing people during this time. I am afraid for kids who do not

have a safe home environment during this time and go to work and school to avoid being home. I am afraid to go outside and face a racist incident. I am afraid that someone will blame me for causing the virus because people can't distinguish that not all Asians are Chinese, and not all Chinese come from Wuhan, and that the person who first contracted the virus is unknown.

The first time I ever heard about the corona virus was in the winter, around early December. During that time, there were memes about someone eating a bat, and it wasn't really a big deal to me. I didn't think much about it. The amount of cases that were rising as time went on, and then I found out that it was from Wuhan, China. As it continued to increase in the number of cases, a lot of racist incidents relating to the virus have been appearing all over social media and the news. It was hard to ignore. I really didn't think anything of it at the beginning. I didn't think it would get this serious, where millions of people have been affected from it. Now, I am avoiding going out to the stores or public places. I make sure that if I do go out in public to be sure to have a mask and gloves on. I make sure to sanitize my hands and areas I may have touched.

I only use my laptop and cellphone for entertainment. I use my laptop for my schoolwork and to communicate with my professors and classmates. I use my cellphone to keep up with social media and other relations. I don't really talk to my friend during this time. I don't really know why. I just kind of assume everyone is busy like me. I have a boyfriend. We started actually dating at the beginning of the semester. In the first month, we were arguing a lot because we don't get to see each other, but I think it's only like this because we spent almost every day together before the quarantine. I talk to my boyfriend every day. It's a lot different than being together in person. We either FaceTime or text, but we mostly just text. We talk about almost anything that comes up.

