Covid 19

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**Covid-19**

Hello, my name is Imani Charles, and I currently am enrolled in to East Carolina University. I’m currently an intended nursing major at the university. When covid-19 really started to circulate all around the news, social media, and the states East Carolina University was on spring break. The first plan of action started with an extended week of spring break. Of course, college students, including myself, were excited to have an extra week added on to our vacation. Little did I know, that was the last time we would be able to have the true college experience.

Once spring break ended classes began online. Then when every class was online, we were all instructed to move out of our dorms immediately. When I had to move out of my dorm, I was by myself, and homeless for a period of time. My mother had bought a new home, and subtly didn’t allow me there because she didn’t have enough room. In results of this I was couch hopping between my nanas home, and my friend Natalie. I was still working at the time so I was able to contribute, but my grades were slightly slipping due to how much I had on my plate. It was a dramatic transition for me. I realized quickly I needed to get myself together, stay on top of school, and to keep my priorities straight. The chain reactions that followed the Covid-19 outbreak really helped shape me to the person I am today. Especially when it comes to maturity and keeping myself afloat in life. The chain reaction did not only affect me, but everyone worldwide. The transition was drastic once people started to see just how serious covid-19 was. Curfew was implemented, mask mandatory, our everyday life came to a sudden halt.

Even with all of the repercussions implemented people still did not take the virus serious. Everday there was a new viral video of people not wearing a mask, being refused service, and creating a huge disruption in public. I personally had to refuse plenty of people service for not wearing a mask. I work at jersey mikes, which is considered essential, and have been very grateful to have a job since way before the virus began to spread. Though I had a job since the beginning of the pandemic, it definitely came with its downfalls as well. The biggest thing, like mentioned before, is refusing service due to a customer not wearing a mask. In my opinion it’s like being refused service for not wearing clothing. Also, if you do it to one person, you have to enforce it for everyone. Though I didn’t enjoy it at all, it made me really uncomfortable actually, I had to because it was my job to keep my coworkers safe.

I believe that this virus is indeed real, and needed to be treated as so. If not, you’re risking not only your life, but the lives around you. I personally have not had the virus, but I do know a few people who has had the virus. Not everyone's symptoms are the same, which is the scariest part. You could be asymptomatic, and spreading the virus to people around you and not be aware. Which is why wearing the mask is so important.

Everyone has been going on vacation and coming home to not only infect their family, but to their coworkers as well. It’s an endless cycle everywhere you go. Covid cases spike at school, work places, states, and it’s like the locations are put into a temporary pause. Though not every country is such a terrible position like America is. I believe we should have had a complete country-wide shut down to quarantine for two weeks. Or even now, I don’t think it is too late to be able to have a clean sweep through to be able to limit the control of the virus. Once we can eliminate spreading the virus completely, the virus will be a lot easier to maintain and control. Yet everyone does not have the same outlook on the virus as me. Everyone wants everything to be back to “normal”, but will not take the steps needed to get back “normal”. Until these steps are taken, and everyone is involved with the steps in placed, Covid-19 will be a part of our normal for a long time.