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COVID-19

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The condition our world is in today is something no one ever thought we would experience. The rising of COVID-19 has brought difficulties of all different types to people all over the world. COVID-19 put a stop to normal daily activities as simple as going to school. As a graduate of the class of 2021, I can confidently say that I, as well as all other graduates, did not have the opportunity to experience a normal senior year.

To start , I missed out on having a senior trip. At my high school, it is a tradition for all the seniors to take a week trip to Disney World. This trip was something I looked forward to throughout all my high school years, it was one last time all the seniors would be together and have fun. Since my school decided to do in-person classes last year, I thought that we might go on our senior trip but in the end, COVID-19 took that away from us.

Another big difference COVID-19 caused with my senior year was how my classes worked. At my school, we have six classes but only two of mine were in person so I was only able to go to school for two hours every day. Online classes made it extremely hard to learn the material and engage with my teachers. Going to school was something everyone took for granted and complained about but it being taken away was sad and disappointing. It was disappointing that I was not able to have normal school days and spend the last year with my friends, instead, I was stuck in front of a computer screen doing my work online.

The worst thing COVID-19 did to my senior year was put restrictions on my graduation ceremony. I attended a small school so graduation there is very personal and an amazing experience and I am glad I was able to experience it. At my school, the seniors have Baccalaureate and class night, both of which we were not able to experience. I know a lot of

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schools were not even able to have a graduation ceremony, so I am thankful that I was able to have one. However, we were limited to eight guests per graduate which made it extremely hard to have to pick which family and friends were able to see me graduate. Having to graduate wearing a mask was very different but, in the end, I am thankful I was able to have a graduation.

COVID-19 took away a lot of exciting experiences of my senior year. It is sad to think about all the things I missed out on while being a senior, but at the end of the day, my school had to make decisions to keep us safe and healthy. Living through COVID-19 is an experience I never thought I would live through, but it will be a crazy story to tell.