

Spartans Speak on COVID-19

COVID-19 has affected everyone worldwide differently and has changed what “normal” is like. I use to love to hang out with my friends outdoors while enjoying sunsets or the beautiful weather. Days where students would go to school and see our classmates and professors. Walking from class to class, seeing the occasional dog running around the grass on tower lawn.

Now, we rarely see our peers and professors but hear their voices through zoom. My normal day during this COVID-19 pandemic is staying indoors all the time except when I go to the store for groceries. I can’t even go visit my family in Sacramento because I do not want to risk giving them germs if I have any. I missed out on Easter, now Mother’s Day and I won’t be able to spend my birthday with my family and friends.

Going in public makes me extremely sad because individuals are so rude and selfish. I realize that everyone is going through things right now, but it is not an excuse to be rude and mean to others. We don’t know who is having a difficult time and who is not. When I went to Walmart not too long ago a man was waiting for the workers to get carts for the customers. I was patiently waiting however, this man would say rude things to the workers as if it would speed the process of getting the carts and disinfecting them for the customers. The man would say things like “chop chop,” “Can you hurry it up, I have things to do,” “what do I have to do to get my cart already?” This man would constantly bicker and complain about how long it was taking the workers to get the carts and disinfect them. The whole wait time was about five minutes, which isn’t too long considering how busy it was at the time. This is not the way we should behave and act towards people who are risking their health to work and provide for their families who may be going through a tough time.

This isn't the time to be rude and mean to people who are doing the best they can do at work. It broke my heart to see that happening. The only reason that stopped me from saying anything to the man was that he didn't have a face mask and he was not following the six feet rule. I did not want to put my health in danger, especially because I live in a house with 8 other housemates. This is the time where we are supposed to be kind to others and appreciate that they are working and keeping stores open for us. Other countries are being kind and taking what they need and in the U.S. people are hoarding things and trying to resell them for double the price.

I have learned to appreciate things during this pandemic. I learned that I am a pretty good gardener and painter. I realized how sweet and caring my neighbors are. They come over when they see us outside to check up on us (they stay six feet away) and enjoy a little conversation before going back inside. This pandemic made me appreciate things that I took for granted. I appreciate going to the store without worrying about germs and not worrying about finding toilet paper. I appreciate going to the park with my friends and not caring about anything else.