

Nick Carlson

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I am currently a college student at the University of Wisconsin: Eau Claire. Here are some perspectives of people that I know.

Interview 1: Girlfriend Ingrid Erickson, 18 years old. Stay at home student.

What are some things you dislike about Covid-19?

I really hate the way it has made me live. I miss the old times where we could go bowling or to the movies. I also hate that it has made our country so divided. Half of the people think it is serious and try really hard to stop the spread and the other half does not care for it as much. I miss my friends. I never had a normal senior prom or summer. I wanted to go to school in the fall at a university but I knew it wouldn't be worth it now. It is also hard for me to find a job.

Now on the other hand, what do you like about Covid-19?

Well let me think... I am not sure. I guess it is nice to find other things to do. I have picked up painting more and I guess it has made me watch a ton of movies and shows. But for the most part I really hate it haha.

What about your experiences have been different from others?

I don't think I have had a ton of different experiences from other people. I think everyone is probably going through the same thing. I don't get to see you as much so... yeah I don't know.

What do you think should or needs to be done?

I think people need to stop thinking they are special. I see on social media of people my age still going out to parties and it is so annoying. I am always inside and trying to stop the spread and it is annoying that some people just don't care as much. It is probably going to be a long time before we have a normal life again.

Interview 2: Mother of girlfriend Sarah Erickson, 52 years old. Now stay at home mother.

What are some things you dislike about Covid-19?

Well I lost my job back in April, for one. For two, I am constantly worried about life for my kids. My son and his significant other had to move back into the house from Minneapolis to get away from everything and so our house is pretty busy and full. Just recently I got a job at Lunds and Byerley's but I had to quit because it just was not safe for me, mentally or physically. It has been hard on my husband who still works to keep up.

Now on the other hand, what do you like about Covid-19?

I suppose I get to spend more time with family now that we are all forced to be together, but even that gets to be too much sometimes. I can't really say a lot of positives though. It is hard to think of the positives these days.

What about your experiences have been different from others?

Like I said, I lost a job, got a new one, and then quit. So yeah, I would probably say that has been my weird experiences with it. As a mom and a grandma, I have had to worry for everyone that I love, which I guess isn't really rare nowadays but it is worth noting.

What do you think should or needs to be done?

I would like for our leaders to do more. I think it is necessary to enforce social distancing and masks. It feels our government is so nonchalant about things and it makes me angry. Other than that I just hope people start to realize how long this could all take.

Interview 3: Mother Juliane Carlson, 51 years old. Still working as a Microsoft saleswoman.

What are some things you dislike about Covid-19?

I really hate the stress it puts on my family, especially my husband. I hate that everything is closing down. I am a people person and it is hard to see people and want to hug but I can't hahaha. I hate that people are making a big fuss about it because it doesn't kill as many people as they think. Every news channel you watch nowadays is just spitting out false info just to scare people. Everything is in God's hands now, he has a plan. I also hate that it makes it hard to do my job. Selling software isn't the easiest thing if I can't persuade in person. I might try for a new job somewhere else. It might be time. I miss going out with my "foodie friends" and trying new foods.

Now on the other hand, what do you like about Covid-19?

It has made me look at my current job and think for myself what I really want. Like do I really want to keep working at this job even though I have missed so much of my kids' lives? Nothing else really.

What about your experiences have been different from others?

Well I just got it, Nick, obviously. It is not as bad as the media makes it out to be. Sure, I have headaches but that's it. It is just like a cold so... I am still working and I know a lot of people aren't, maybe put that in there. I still work, yeah.

What do you think should or needs to be done?

I think we just need to open up so we can get back to normal living. There are a lot of people without jobs that are suffering. I want to have a normal life and I want to go out to restaurants. Hopefully Biden doesn't mess stuff up. I guess we will see.