



Covid-19 2020

**June 12, 2020:** Covid-19 has thrown us all in a spiral. Wearing a mask, social distance, staying home. All these new things are now starting to become normal in today's society. I have been working during the Covid-19 pandemic as a meat clerk in a grocery store. There have been many changes that we have all had to adapt to during this difficult time. My hours have increased by 10 hours and I have been working more than I ever have. We are all now required to get our temperature checked and we all must wear masks. Because of the outbreak there has also been a countrywide meat shortage and we are now only allowing the number of pounds per customer. They all seem to get mad at me and my co-workers for limiting the amount of food they can get but we did not set that limit. During this time, I have also not been able to see any of my family members. I used to visit my grandma every week sometime after work or school but now I was not able to do that. If I really wanted to see her, I would go to her house and visit her from her window, which was not open, so it made it impossible to communicate. At this time the statewide mask mandate was not in effect and people were walking around in the store without masks and they wondered because the positive cases are still rising. I love the work because I am now making more money than I did before, and we are getting little benefits like an increase in our store discount. The masks are very uncomfortable, but they are for the safety of

others around me. I find that during this time I find myself thinking about what it used to be like before Covid-19 because every day that I work and go see my grandma from outside her window just makes the unnatural seem normal, which is something I never wanted to happen. I see people all-around me trying to better the community and keep everyone safe and healthy, but I also see people act like they are not in a global pandemic and are actually hurting the overall health of the community and wellbeing of others. I think that there are very different responses when it comes to the pandemic, but I think the most responsible thing to do is wear a mask and social distance because you are doing it for others not always yourself.