

Note: Person 1 is a Walmart employee who is 18, who just graduated high school. Person 2 is a 70-year-old grandmother who does not work but has been in her home since the first cases have arrived in the United States. Person 3 is a father who recently became unemployed. Person 4 is the son of the unemployed Father who started 5th grade this year.

#1

Interviewer: So, what do you do for work?

Person 1: I work at Walmart. I am a box boy I stock shelves.

Interviewer: Were you considered an essential worker have you kept your job through the pandemic?

Person 1: Yes, because I work at Walmart it stayed open though it did let some people go but I do not think the pandemic was the cause of that.

Interviewer: Ok and since you stayed open did you experience the toilet paper rush when this all started? Did you notice any other highly sought-after items that were being bought in bulk?

Person 1: I only saw toilet paper but it made our job a nightmare at times because we would stock the item and then a couple seconds later it would all be gone and people would get upset with the store because they could not get any. So then we had to work even harder to try and keep the shelves stocked but it was nearly impossible to keep up. At the rate we could get it on the shelves they would be gone in less time. It got to a point where we would just put out a pallet and they would just take from there. I was in shock to see how much toilet paper was being bought by a single person. It got to a point where people would pull it out of each other's carts and there would be verbal fighting all around. They would not allow us out while the massive crowds were there because it would be dangerous for us. I saw one lady with a cart so full she had to pull it behind her rather than push it because she could not see past the stack of toilet paper she had in the cart.

Interviewer: Oh, wow so it was as bad as the news was saying that's crazy to think about. So, you said there was nothing else going in such a quantity?

Person 1: Nothing really started going in quantity until the CDC released the items we needed to have on hand to help protect our selves and then it was just basic cleaning supplies and other things but they never went off the shelves like the toilet paper. It quite literally flew off the shelves.

#2

Interviewer: Hello how are you doing? Quite weird to be talking to you through a window but I understand that you are staying safe at times like this. Are you at high risk or just being safe?

Person 2: Hi I am well. I am flattered you asked though I do not think I aged that well. Yes, I am at high risk because of my age and some medical problems I have with my lungs.

Interviewer: Oh, ok so why did you decide to self-isolate was it mandatory or did you decide to do it on your own?

Person 2: I have been in this under doctor recommendation. I have not been around friends and family in the longest time. They come and bring me groceries and other such gifts, but I only ever get to see and talk to them through my window like we are now or through the phone.

Interviewer: Are most people your age doing the same?

Person 2: Most people my age and older are in isolation I'm not sure quite where the age cuts off where it doesn't affect you as badly but I know that there are many people my age and my condition that have to in order to avoid catching this nasty virus. Unlike you we have even less of a chance of surviving this thing. No one is safe at this point but there are some of us with even less of a chance than some others.

#3

Interviewer: So, when did you get let go from your job and why?

Person 3: It was not long after the mass quarantine was announced right before summer. It came sudden they let most of us go they only kept a few to keep things running. A skeleton crew if you know what that is.

Interviewer: Yes. As for your family how are they handling the lack of income?

Person 3: They are handling it well. The kids enjoy having dad around all the time. We have not completely lost a source of income my wife is a nurse. So, you can imagine what that is like. It is probably for the best because someone needs to stay and watch the kids. Its also allowed me to get a lot of the chores around the house done.

Interviewer: I can only imagine how much extra time you have now. Are you worried about the virus at all for yourself or for your children?

Person 3: Of course, everyone should be concerned as a father I am worried about my kids. I am worried about myself because I just recently quit smoking and my lungs are not the best and this virus seems to be the worst for those of us with any preexisting problems with their health. So, I am at risk. My wife makes sure to take her scrubs off and get right in the shower when she gets home, and we make sure to avoid her until then so as to avoid giving anything to each other as much as we can.

Interviewer: How are your Kids dealing with the online schooling and pandemic in general?

Person 3: The kids are trying their best to focus on school with all the distractions they have at home. They are also very upset they do not to get outside or play with their friends as much. But

they also enjoy having their family around more and not having to wake up so early to make it into school on time.

#4

Interviewer: Do you enjoy online school?

Person 4: Yeah, I like it a lot because we don't have to get up in the morning to ride the bus.

Interviewer: Yeah how about class, is watching your teacher through the computer fun?

Person 4: My teacher is lots of fun she always has us do a fun game in the morning that she says we can show our family so we can play it with them.

Interviewer: Very nice. How about your friends do you miss playing with them?

Person 4: I have been playing Xbox with them. We also sometimes get to go over to each other's houses when our parents let us. I haven't seen my one friend in a while because he has asthma, and his mom says its to dangerous for him to be going to other people's houses. We have been talking about how much fun we are going to have this summer when the sickness is gone.

Interviewer: Gone? What do you mean gone?

Person 4: I heard my mom and dad talking about how the doctors are making a cure that will get rid of the disease and its supposed to be made soon.