

# My Story

How current events have been a defining moment in my life. I have been living and working in Cairo, Egypt, with my beautiful wife for the past 3 years. Before the pandemic, we both were playing softball and had at least 2 or 3 games a week. When we were not at the softball field, we would be out and about with our friends touring Egypt, we would also go out to the clubs and bars just to hang out with our friends, dancing, and enjoy our time out. We also would be traveling to see other countries for our vacations. My wife is from Kyrgyzstan, so we used to fly to her country in the winter to do some horseback riding and hiking in the mountains in the snow. It is awesome.

Since the pandemic, everything has changed. We had to learn to adapt to our new surroundings. Now I go straight to work and back home. We do not go out anymore and just hang out in the house. We do sometimes have a small BBQ with 2 or 3 friends max, but we keep our social distancing, still wearing masks indoors. So, we all just hang out outside on the porch. There is no more softball, it was canceled because of the pandemic also my company has suspended all our vacation and leave, so it has been a little over a year since I have been back home to San Antonio.

We have had to make a lot of changes in the way we live to protect ourselves from the pandemic. As we were adapting to this new way of life, I was surprised by all the little things that we do without knowing it. Like how much you touch your face, also how we greet people, I still catch myself always trying to shake hands or give a hug to close friends and family. It is a hard habit to break.

This year has been a big defining moment in my life but in a way, it has helped open my eyes to a lot of things I was taking advantage of. So, now when I get a chance to do some of those things, I have much more appreciation for it.

