

## Part I

It is crazy to think that we always read about history, but never think of the fact that we are living through it right now. It is my job to document my story about these crazy current events to save history from being manipulated, bias, or incomplete. When I think about the year 2020, the first word that pops into my head is Covid-19. The deadly Sars-Covid virus that as of today -- January 21, 2021-- has taken the lives of over 406,000 Americans and 2 million people worldwide[2]. After just recently recovering from Covid-19, I have first-hand experience of how it has affected myself and the world. The virus affects the host's respiratory systems and holds people over 65 very susceptible. However, even as a healthy male that is under 20 my lungs have not fully recovered. The reason why Covid-19 was and still is such a struggle in the United States and the rest of the world is due to the mismanagement and lack of response from the Trump administration. But this did not start in 2020. On May of 2018 Trump and his team disbanded the White House pandemic response team that Obama had put into place after the Ebola outbreak. This would be the start of the devastating tragedy that is occurring today. However, this was not the only mishap that Trump and his administration made. Trump was advised in late January of 2020 that Covid would be a huge threat to national security, he ignored the warnings and downplayed the virus to millions of Americans. For months Trump would tell Americans at his press conferences "It's going away" (Trump, June 23, 2020), "Right now I think it's under control" (Trump, August 3, 2020), "This is nobody's fault but China" and "We have rounded the final turn" (Trump September 10, 2020)[1]. Keep in mind when these remarks were being made, the death toll and infected toll were constantly rising with over 200,000 deaths in the US alone in September of 2020. To this day deaths are still rising, schools and universities are online, restaurants in some cities are completely closed or take out only and there is no light at the end of the tunnel. Covid-19 has drastically affected my life and many billions of people worldwide. As I sit here in my dorm room writing this assignment for my online history class, I recall the many memories I and countless others have lost due to the mismanagement of covid. We have had no graduation, no prom, no summer of senior year, no social life, no freshman year of college, no music festivals, no birthday parties, no late night hangouts, no parties, no sports games, no hugs from grandma, no gatherings, and no normal life. The sad reality is many other countries are facing their 3rd or 4th nationwide lockdowns because the United States has not been able to keep the numbers at bay. This is my personal entry about how current events and circumstances have been a defining moment in my life and it is a part of the fabric of history.

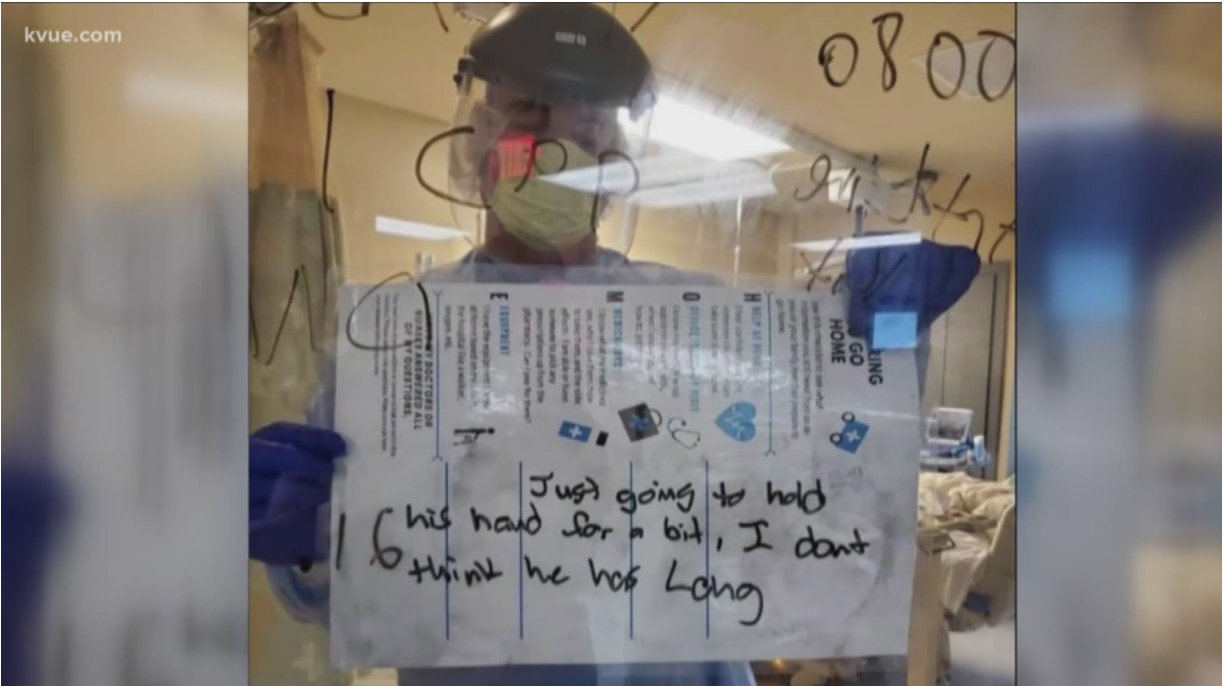
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Sources:

[1] <https://doggett.house.gov/media-center/blog-posts/timeline-trump-s-coronavirus-responses>

[2] <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>



Part II

“It was a pretty day in San Antonio,” my mother said, “And it is a day I will never forget.” I instantly hopped on the phone with my mother when I heard about this project and asked her what a defining moment in history was for her. Her response was quick and effortless. “9/11” she stated. Her tone of voice shifted when I had asked her to describe the day to me. She began calling it “any normal day.” She had woken up for work, almost 6 months pregnant with me. She made breakfast and hopped in the car and made her daily commute to work as a teacher. Getting to work at around 7:30, she began to set up for teaching and started her walk to the daily chapel meeting for all the students and teachers. Chapel started at 8:10 and she listened to the principal give his lectures. Everyone headed out to start the day at 8:50 and she walked her students to class. No more than 30 minutes after arriving to class, the phone’s PA system asked all teachers to report to the building where chapel had occurred. She told me, “I remember thinking something was very wrong, the teachers are never called out of class at such an odd time” but nevertheless she walked over. “As soon as I walked in, I knew something BIG had happened,” she recounted. “We all sat down in the bleachers and listened in horror as the principal told us the news.” This was something that had never happened anywhere, especially not on purpose. The rest of the day she had one eye on her computer and one eye on her kids as she was trying to stay updated with all the information. “Parents called the school and came to pick up their kids in the middle of the day, news channels were on every television, you could just look around and see the distress on everyone's faces.” From that day forward, everything changed. Security was everywhere, TSA checked every bag, you couldn’t pick up your loved ones at the airport gate. “Life has just been different” as she recounted the changes that have been put in place since the horrific attacks. This is my mother's fabric in history that I hope to share with everyone.

