

Part 1:

As for most college students, the pandemic completely uprooted my life. In February, before everything got serious, I received a job offer to teach preschool here in San Antonio. I was so excited and loved every minute that I had with the children. Then after only one month of working there, UTSA sent out the email that the dorms were being shut down. My family lives four hours away in west Texas and I had no choice but to move back home with them. The next day after I received that email, I called my boss at the montessori and had to tell her that I would not be coming back. Moving back home after starting my life here in San Antonio was very difficult for me. I not only was out of a job, but I still had to worry about completing online school. While I am very fortunate to have a family that can support me financially and was not affected too much in that aspect, it was still a very difficult transition with everything else going on in the country. My family and I have very different political views and so it was frustrating trying to voice my opinion to them about the social injustice currently happening in the United States. I try not to talk about politics too much with them, as it only causes arguments, but it was very difficult not to because that was all that was on the news at the time. With this all being said, I know that I am very privileged to have a family that I can go home to trust to support me when I need them. The image I have attached shows what our dorm looked like as we were preparing to move out.



Part 2:

I decided to ask my boyfriend if he knew a story about his family that he wanted to share with me for this part of the assignment. His family is from Pakistan and I know that his grandfather, Abu, loves to tell stories about his time there before he moved to the US. One story that Abu always tells is how he almost died while being a security detail for a Pakistani politician named Muhammed Ali Jinnah. While on the job there were many riots against these politicians, as there are today in America. One day, one of the rioters got too close and ended up stabbing Abu seven times! Fortunately, he was okay and it miraculously did not leave a lasting injury. After he was stabbed, his boss in the military asked him what he would want to do besides the military, and Abu told him that he always wanted to be an engineer. So, his boss paid for him to go to engineering school and follow his dream. He ended up working at a Jeep manufacturing plant where they made prototype cars for the military. His son, who is my boyfriend's father, actually took one of the Jeeps out on the dunes one time without permission and almost got arrested! This story can definitely be connected to the world today with all of the political unrest in the country. So many people have been senselessly hurt because someone does not agree with what they stand for. I hope that we can look back and realize that like Abu, we are more than just our politics and we have so much more to live for.