

COVID-19 INTERVIEW

Hannah Gallucci

Hannah: My name is Hannah Gallucci, today's date is March 10th 2021, today we will be discussing the experiences of people during the COVID-19 pandemic. Today we are in Barnhart, Missouri and I am interviewing RJ Gallucci my older brother. When were you born ?

RJ: February 24th 1988

Hannah: Where are you originally from ?

RJ: Um well grew up in a military family but I was born in Dover Delaware, but spent time in a lot of places.

Hannah: What is or what was your occupation?

RJ: Currently I work for spectrum.

Hannah: When and how did you first hear about the virus? Can you explain your experience?

RJ: Um id probably say my first experience with it was, forgot what exact day it was, it was sometime March 2020 and I had actually come home from going to the gym and felt kinda eh very I wouldn't say that I had aches and pains but I could definitely tell I had a little bit of a fever um but I was actually sitting down at the dinner table and all the discussions were happening about the virus and what they were going to do around here and is it in the United States and it was the same night that the president was actually talking about it so mentally I was kinda freaking out in my head thinking oh goodness what do I have here, so I ended up going to the emergency room and got tested but I didn't have uh COVID-19, I ended up having FLU B, um but that was sorta when everything started to shut down so that was one of my first experiences of really thinking about it.

Hannah: Can you explain how has the coronavirus affected you and your family or friends what has changed ?

RJ: Um a lot has actually changed with that um, I have a daughter who has Cystic Fibrosis so she is in the high risk category whenever it comes to it with her lung condition so we sorta have to take extra precautions with things so we haven't gotten to get out and do a whole lot its been over a year since we actually sat down in a restaurant just because you know don't wanna take that type of risk um before that we used to go to restaurants pretty regularly before the pandemic so definitely something that's new.

Hannah: Can you explain how COVID-19 affected your daily or weekly routine?

RJ: It affected it a lot, I work from home now so does my wife so we don't travel to work everyday and we don't go I used to go to the gym 2-3 times a week with some guys from work don't do that anymore just cause the gyms were either shut down or its just not a risk that I can take.

Hannah: Do you know anyone that has been infected with the virus?

RJ: I know a couple of people that have, I actually have a friend of mines father passed away from it so um I definitely know a couple people that do.

Hannah: How has adapting to the virus affected your work, school or responsibilities ?

RJ: Uh I would say it has affected my work in the way that I have actually taken on a little more responsibilities there has been a lot especially when the pandemic first hit there was a lot of orders that would come in that would be high priority because of the pandemic certain areas were getting testing sites up and running and stuff like that to be able to help out the communities so we had to try to get the orders put in pretty quickly for them um as far as school work, im not in school but I definitely see the activity that my daughter has to go through um and I have a new found respect for teachers everyday because you know while the kiddos been homeschooled for it im trying to work full time and be a teacher at the exact time is very stressful and keeping a child entertained and trying do help them still learn and grow at seven years old.

Hannah: What would you like to tell future generations about the pandemic?

RJ: Um not sure that's kind of a complicated question um id say that hopefully people sorta learn from it that you know hopefully people start being more together about it and working together to try to take care of each other um and I guess taking everything for granted um even such small things about being able to go out to a restaurant or drive down to see family and not worry about it cause its definitely hard now to even think about going to see grandparents or anything like that whenever you worry about well crap last night when I was at the grocery store or a week ago when I was at the grocery store or at you know somewhere else did I catch something and now im unknowingly giving it to someone that is high risk so definitely think about those things and not taking those times for granted.

Hannah: Alright, awesome thank you!