

## Oral History Transcript

Francisco: My name is Francisco Vazquez. Today's date is March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Today we will discuss the experiences of people during the covid 19 pandemic. Today we are in San Antonio, Texas and I am interviewing....

Valerie: Valerie Vazquez

Francisco Vazquez: Alright... When were you born?

Valerie: September 5<sup>th</sup> 2002

Francisco: Ok.... Where are from?

Valerie: San Antonio, Texas

Francisco: And you've been here you whole life?

Valerie: Yes

Francisco: Ok.... What is or was your occupation? For example your job or whatever you were doing during the pa-pandemic. Working?

Valerie: No working. I was at home during... and as well as doing school.

Francisco: Do you have any jobs?

Valerie: No.... I work at Burlington.

Francisco: Ok that's an occupation I can count on that. Alright when and how did you first hear about the virus? Can you explain your experiences?

Valerie: I heard it in the news. Ummm we had to stay quarantined. It was really tough cause there wasn't much to do but, I had to cope with it cause I'm an outdoor person. It was hard.

Francisco: Alright.... Can you explain how has the corona virus affected you and your family or friends? What has changed?

Valerie: Well, I really changed by thinking how the world works and by changing myself and.... and trying to see how the world works and why this pandemic occurred.

Francisco: I see.... Can you explain how covid 19 affected your daily or weekly routine? Like shopping for groceries and spending time with family.

Valerie: Well, I couldn't spend time with family or friends because of the pandemic and how we couldn't spread germs and how drastic the pandemic changed as well as shopping and going out for groceries. That was really hard cause we didn't know if in the store.... in stores was it contaminated and how it was contaminated and how they cleaned their stores after.

Francisco: I see that must've been really tough.

Valerie: Yes it was.

Francisco: Due to the pandemic are you able to work from home why or why not?

Valerie: I'm currently working in stores cause I work in Burlington. But we're trying to maintain our social distancing and our regulations and protocols of the covid 19. We're wearing double face mask, we have gloves, we wash our hands constantly, we make sure that we take care of our customers and make sure that they're are practicing social distance. Cause of precautions of coughing, sneezing, and all of those things.

Francisco: I see so it's really affected you and your uhhh work environment, especially like since you do not know who has the covid.

Valerie: Yes.

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

Valerie: A couple of my friends, but I couldn't hang out with them cause of what they were going through.... ummm my aunt my aunt had covid 19, she's she was struggling. But other than that no, don't have I don't know anyone else that had it.

Francisco: Ok. When were you hit with February's winter storm? Did you think about the virus? Why or why not?

Valerie: I didn't think about the virus I just thought about how the storm impacted people. How they struggled with no water, no light, and how cold it was, and I'd wondered why and how were they staying warm. And with the covid hopefully it left cause it was a good week that we had the winter storm and we didn't hear much about covid.

Francisco: I see so what day were you hit with the winter storm?

Valerie: February the 14<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Francisco: I see so that was Valentine's day?

Valerie: Yep

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

Valerie: That making sure that they that they wash their hands constantly, that they that they keep themselves sanitized, wearing gloves s- keeping distance within people who had covid so they wont get impacted by that.

Francisco: I see, besides like uhhhh the covid how would you feel on telling somebody like from your experience; like how would you tell them like how it affected you?

Valerie: It didn't really didn't much affect me badly it just affect me by not being able to be outdoors the way I used to cause there's not much that we can do cause of the pandemic like closing stores, like closing parks, and by being like quarantine.

Francisco: I see... but then....

Valerie: I would let them know that to learning new things, try different things, making food at home, doing puzzle, working out, build....them.... building themselves like and have a strong self-esteem.

Francisco: Hmm I see well I thank you for your time for doing this interview with me

Valerie: Your welcome.

Francisco: Thank you