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## COVID-19 Journal | D.J. Foster

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Description: My name is D.J. Foster: I am from Dadeville, Alabama. I am currently a freshman at Jacksonville State University. While attending school there I major in the field of Sports Management. The things I discussed in this journal was me and my travel from school. THE face to face interactions and how important it was to have those things. I also feel that we do not need to take family and friends for granted. The time periods I covered were from March 30- April 28 and I was taking these journal entries mostly in my room or in my dad's work truck whenever I had free time.

March 30, 2020

Today is March 30 and these past few weeks have been a complete wreck and full of pandemonium. I left school around the 12th and haven't been back since. We just received email that we as a school are moving into online classes. I'm back home and I was looking for ways to make money and my dad said I can work with him so I've been with him.

This coronavirus is making people lose their minds inside of stores. Things like toilet paper, bread, and canned food are just flung off the shelves because people are panic buying. I hope this thing blows over because what I have seen from the people of America that we are not ready to take this pandemic as a country. This is chaos and I hope this will not last long but I am getting worried about how long it could last and affect my freshman year of college. God please don't let my freshman year end because of the coronavirus it was just getting started.

April 1, 2020

Today is April Fools day and I was at work with my dad and he just told me the lamest April fools joke. I need to go back to school. My family is killing me with work and I have to balance school out. I've been doing my math work lately and I honestly took it for granted being in a room with a teacher and understanding.

Being at home when you can eat and procrastinate whenever you feel is kinda easy. You are more comfortable and lack off way more. College is serious and being on campus made me feel as if I had a purpose and my mindset was focused on school. The college atmosphere just makes you feel differently about your goals but at home you become out of touch. The times that I have talked to my college friends about classes and studying session.

April 3, 2020

With today being a couple days after April fools I'm still on social media and seeing these memes about April fool pregnancy. I'm finished with my work. It's 12:38 right now and I'm playing Call of Duty Warfare with my highschool friends. I miss hanging out with them and just connecting with them. I know understand what older people are talking about when we need more face to face interactions with each other.

Me and friends used to have so many political, life, and sports debates in person. It's weird because now we just do them over the PlayStation party. Moving into this phase of the pandemic has been challenging but also more relaxed for me and I'm sorta getting into swing of this online work but I haven't done math so I don't know yet. I would not recommend taking online classes a whole semester is not a great time. I hope this situation goes over I'll need face to face interactions with my teachers.

April 5, 2020

It's 7:49 in the morning. I'm currently in my dad's work truck. We are just getting the day started and it's going to be a long day. I just want to go home and shower and finish my work for the week. Afterwards I might watch some Tiger King conspiracy theory on Carole Baskins. I'm still convinced that she's the killing behind her husband.

This coronavirus has affected my home town county and we have already had 40+ confirmed cases and one only death. I hope that's the only death that comes out of this county. This county is very small and family oriented so it will get passed around fast enough. It is surrounded by many older people who may or may not have pre existing medical conditions that could make it easier to carry. This is harder on low income communities as most have no health care and insurance. This will make America true colors show in times like this in rather we will rise or crumble.

April 7, 2020

The coronavirus has been picking up and we are close or coming up on the peak of it. While I was at work with my dad I heard on the radio President Trump giving optimism and telling us to stay safe and telling the American people to keep social distancing. In the meantime the stores have slowed down a little more but the fast food places and restaurants are ramping up with needs.

I believe we can fight this pandemic as a country. We have been through hard times as a country but this one will require most contributions as a whole from the country. This pandemic is one of the hardest and a once in a lifetime experience hopefully this is the last and we can move on and be safer. This will be hard to explain to children later on in life maybe some pick up on their surroundings or not but this is crazy how they will grow up.

April 10, 2020

It's the 9th day of April today and I've seen changes but not very many in my town. It's sad to say but I don't think many people here are taking it seriously enough. I think they only see it as a break out of school or break from work. Nobody was around their families until this point in time and it is making me sick to my stomach. I don't think people worry about anybody else's problems until it gets to them.

I was working with my dad today and the bread is starting to slow up. From what I can make it out to be people are over buying like it is an apocalypse coming. As a business it's frustrating because sometimes you order products or supplies a week in advance. You will never know how the next week will be now because people are over buying. Moving into all these stores I'm getting inside look at how restaurants are close to closing and moving their inventory in and out differently.

April 16, 2020

It's Easter Sunday but this Easter hasn't been like any other I have. By the way the News been talking this would be the day everything would go back to normal. I have been adjusting to everything by now and expecting the worst to happen. My nephew had his first birthday so we couldn't honestly celebrate it with a group because of the current laws. This is going to be hard to explain to him as he gets older.

Going into this week it is supposed to be lots of rain and storms so hopefully it's not crazier than the last two weeks. Everything was slowing down last week and backed up in stores. I'm convinced that the people that panic buy pre-quarantine are the same people who Black Friday shop like crazy. This is even harder because spring football is supposed to be going on now. The sports world is in turmoil right now because of this situation and being a big sports fan I need it throughout my day.

April 22, 2020

This is a day I do not know of being in quarantine and it is smoother but it still has its faults. Personally I can get used to this mostly because I'm introverted but I like being around friends and having fun. I finally realized and came to the thought that I don't need to take for granted the moments that I spend with family or friends because moments like this can end times we spend being happy together. On twitter I am seeing memes and news reports of the rising cases and I don't know either to laugh or be worried.

School and work have been keeping me occupied and keeps my mind off the thought of coronavirus. The more I try to forget it grows bigger and bigger in the back of my mind. While reading the news I have seen articles talking about stimulus checks and these checks will help those who are laid off or unemployed. This is a trending topic and people seem to be excited about it and love the possibilities and opportunities that come with it.

April 26, 2020

Today I went over to my friends house. We have not seen each other forever and we just needed to catch up on a jet ski and talk. As we were talking we were just noticing things we take for granted before this coronavirus pandemic was going on. Family is a key part of life and

we all need to take advantage to reach out and tell them how much we love them. Face to Face connections may seem pointless but at times I forget how my friends look.

I have been looking for other ways to make money lately and it has been tough but I'm still making money here and there. Just looking at how it could be in the fall is something I don't want to imagine right now. I would hate to start a fall semester strictly online where I would have to teach myself most of the work. In the meantime I will just be watching Netflix and eating till this pandemic is over.

April 28, 2020

Today is the final of my journal the days from the time I left school till the end of this month have been a roller coaster. School has been more difficult with the assignment and lessons being online at the time. When this pandemic came about, I had a feeling it would affect the country because of its rapid growing rate. As Americans who have been through times like this it is hard for them mostly because they as if they've had another Deja vu moment. This is my first pandemic and hopefully my last.

I have gotten closer to god in times like this so me and my family have been praying a lot. We have been waiting for May 1st to come around for Governor Kay Ivey to give us orders for stay-at-home orders. I'm hoping that as a country we still make smarter decisions and take cautions and realize that the virus is still very deadly.