Corona Interview Report

For my corona interview project, I interviewed five of my family members using the qualitative study question sheet. I wanted to see how my family has been affected by the virus in a social setting, whether or not they feel more or less isolated since the beginning of quarantine as well as how their lifestyles have changed. I am from a family of eight and we all have very busy schedules, so there's never really a time for everyone to be together until now. I have remained at LSU since school was closed and I wanted to interview them to see if being together indoors has been taking a toll on them mentally. Additionally, I also wanted to see if anyone has begun to develop unhealthy lifestyles or, vice versa, have developed much healthier lifestyles due to having so much time suddenly on their hands. I believe that it depends on what age the person is and what stage of their life they are in. By comparing their lifestyles and the activities that they are doing during quarantine, we can make a connection between their connections and the way they are feeling.

The table does not need to be included in the body of the paper. However, this one is small and fitted into the text well. Tables or figures should be given a numbered label (e.g., Table 1).

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Themes	Major Categories
Connected vs Isolated	Working from home
Healthy vs Unhealthy lifestyle	Social interactions
	Activities

When trying to schedule my interviews I was unable to meet up with anyone in person, therefore I had to try to record them. For the first subject I set up a recording device on my laptop to listen to my phone call. Unfortunately, the audio for the subject is very quiet and hard to hear, meanwhile my voice is too loud. Discovering that this was not a good strategy, I decided

This interviewee information does not need to be included in this way, but it's a nice

addition.

to try and record the interviews with zoom. I recorded the remaining four subjects using this strategy and I was able to efficiently get good audio for all the rest.

Interview Code	Name	Age	Gender	Race	Occupation	Working status
[redacted]	Peter	81	Male	white	Deacon	Retired

Peter is my grandfather and currently lives alone in his condo. He lives in a gated community and is very close with his neighbors. He is retired and currently serves as a deacon of the Catholic church. This means that he would normally help out with church services, but that was before corona. Since he has been quarantined he has been by himself in his condo and has said that he feels somewhat lonely there. His main activities are having zoom meetings with his family and calling religious members of his community to check in on them during this difficult time. He never leaves the house because he has neighbors do all his shopping for him. They leave all the stuff on his doorstep, where he in return leaves a check or cash for them. He goes for occasional walks but for the most part remains indoors at all times for his own safety (as the virus is the deadliest to elderly people). Peter is a special case for most elderly people. He lives alone, like many do, but he is very active in his community. If it weren't for his church or his neighbors, he would likely be in trouble for this whole epidemic. Luckily, he has remained connected through zoom and phone calls which has allowed him to remain active and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Interview Code	Name	Age	Gender	Race	Occupation	Working status
[redacted]	Matthew	18	Male	white	Student	Inactive

Matthew is my younger brother and lives with my other three brothers, my one sister, and my two parents. They are a household of seven since I am away at college. Matthew worked as a cashier in a pizza store before corona. When corona hit, he decided that it was best for him to stop working because he did not want to get sick. He is unable to get unemployment benefits because he is a dependent of his parents. Since quarantine has started, he has been exercising everyday with his friend from the neighborhood and they do things such as riding their bikes or playing cricket. He just finished his online classes as this is his senior year in high school. He lets my mom do all the grocery shopping for the family so the only time he goes out is with his friends, which is still almost every day. He says that he does not wear a mask because he doesn't think it is useful for preventing the disease and it gets in the way of him exercising. Matthew has been socializing every day with his friends and family in person. For a student done with school and without the ability to do very much, he has a lot of free time on his hands to exercise and focus on himself. He has developed a healthy lifestyle focused on preparing his body and mind for college this upcoming fall.

Interview Code	Name	Age	Gender	Race	Occupation	Working status
[redacted]	Camille	23	Female	white	Paralegal	Active

Camille is my sister and lives in the household of seven with Matthew. She works at a law firm as a paralegal where most of her job is just filing or filling out paperwork. Since the quarantine has started, she has become a full online worker at her firm, clocking in hours whenever she is working on her laptop. She said her main problem with working all online is that communication is a big part of her job and when everything is online it is actually harder for her to work efficiently. Camille is very close with all of her coworkers and calls many of them her

close friends. She says that the quarantine has been very difficult for her socially and the first thing she is going to do when she gets out of quarantine is go out and hit the town. Camille's time in quarantine is not very relaxed, she is still working her full hours but getting none of the social benefits. She stays inside all day staring at her computer and by the time the weekend comes she is still spending it inside. She has developed a disconnected and unhealthy lifestyle by becoming "all work and no play."

Interview Code	Name	Age	Gender	Race	Occupation	Working status
[redacted]	Subject four	53	Male	white	Lawyer	Active

Subject four is a business partner at a law firm. They travel somewhat frequently to meet with their other branches in other states. The subject has always had the ability to work online but because they are in charge of other people it has always made more sense to have a physical presence at the office. Since quarantine has started they work full time at home and all of their travel plans have been cancelled. The only difficulty they expressed is that communication is harder because normally they have people able to help them in the office but now they constantly are on the phone or skype calls trying to solve problems by themselves. The subject also lives in the household of seven and so they see their family every day and for every meal. The subject isn't really affected by being disconnected from their coworkers because they see the people they truly care about every day. They don't really exercise and they haven't left the house since the beginning of quarantine. This leads me to believe that they feel connected but they live an unhealthy lifestyle. They don't really have friends at the office that they miss and they enjoy the

large amount of family time they are getting from being home. However, all their time at home is either working on their computer, being on business calls, or eating/sleeping.

Interview Code	Name	Age	Gender	Race	Occupation	Working status
[redacted]	Jo Anne	53	Female	white	Homemaker	Active

Jo Anne is my mother, she has six kids and is married. She is a stay at home mom with a part time job at a non-profit preschool. She is very happy to have all of her family, minus her son at college, under one roof for such a long period of time. In our interview she expressed how she loved it at first but as time has passed, tensions have risen and people have gotten sick of each other. The preschool has been closed but she and another teacher have been zooming with the kids or have been recording themselves reading stories to the children and then emailing the videos to their parents. Jo Anne typically exercises at a yoga studio that has since closed because of corona, so any exercise she does is at home and she doesn't like it very much. She wears a mask every time she goes outside and she is the only one in the household to go grocery shopping to minimize risk of exposure. She says she misses her girlfriends and tries to keep in touch over zoom and Facebook. Jo Anne spends this time trying to organize the household, but claims that the days and weeks merge together at times. It has been especially difficult for her to cook for every single meal and let alone for seven people. I believe that she has developed a healthy lifestyle but feels disconnected. She is able to do her business as usual and go outside, but she truly misses seeing people at the preschool, yoga studio, and even her girlfriends for something as simple as dinner. She has her family but as tensions have begun to get high she has begun to feel more isolated.

The results section (paragraphs 3 to 8), The researcher is organizing their writing by focusing on each interviewee separately. This can be an okay way to approach it, however means more writing will need to be used to synthesize the findings later in the paper.

All five of my subjects have produced different types of isolation and lifestyles. Some found solitude in being left with all this time on their hands and others found it to be more stressful. It seems to depend on what you did in your daily life before corona. For example, subject four has a career and needs to make a living so the quarantine is an obstacle that keeps from them accomplishing their work as efficiently as they would like. However, for someone like Matthew, he would've been sitting all day in a classroom waiting for the moment to have nothing on their schedule so that they can go out and play. Additionally, it felt like he never had time on his hands to focus on himself and now he has been given that time. To me it seems like it matters what age you are as well as what stage in your life you are in. For Camille, Jo Anne, and subject four, they all had busy and important tasks to accomplish each and every day. So, for them it feels like the quarantine is preventing them from doing these tasks in a regular fashion and are having to develop unhealthy or disconnected lives to try and make up for being inside all day. Meanwhile, Matthew and Peter already spent a lot of their time inside or trying to find time to relax. Matthew is a student who does his best to juggle school, work, and play. Peter is retired and serves as a deacon who tries to spend a lot of his time visiting hospitals or dedicating his time to the church. These are tasks that they chose to do because they enjoy these activities and now because of quarantine they have more time to focus on these things. I believe that whether or not people develop connected and healthy lifestyles during quarantines depends on not only their age but on what stage of life they are in, which helps to determine what their priorities are.

The final paragraph serves more as a discussion section than a conclusion. Since the interviewees were all written about separately, this paragraph presents the synthesis of their findings. It has a good amount of detail. The final sentence would also be excellent as part of a conclusion; it suggests their findings relate to wider society. For a conclusion, the researcher could have also have expanded on their ideas, note some limitations of the study, or areas for future work.

Overall, this is a good paper, bordering on excellent. The lack of a proper conclusion is its biggest weakness. Had a proper conclusion been included, this paper would have received an A+.

Interview A

- Permission to record? Yes
- Permission to interview for class project? Yes
- Permission for Dr. Weil to use interview? Yes
- Okay to identify by name? Yes
 - o Record name: [redacted]

Interview B

- Permission to record? Yes
- Permission to interview for class project? Yes
- Permission for Dr. Weil to use interview? No
- Okay to identify by name? Yes
 - o Record name: [redacted]

Interview C

- Permission to record? Yes
- Permission to interview for class project? Yes
- Permission for Dr. Weil to use interview? Yes
- Okay to identify by name? Yes
 - o Record name: [redacted]

Interview D

- Permission to record? Yes
- Permission to interview for class project? Yes
- Permission for Dr. Weil to use interview? No
- Okay to identify by name? No
 - o Record name: [redacted]

<u>Interview E</u>

- Permission to record? Yes
- Permission to interview for class project? Yes
- Permission for Dr. Weil to use interview? Yes
- Okay to identify by name? Yes
 - o Record name: [redacted]