**Transcript of Interview with Christian Sandoval by Vianne Beltran**

**Interviewee:**Christian Sandoval

**Interviewer:** Vianne Beltran

**Date:** 12/03/2021

**Location (Interviewee):**

**Location (Interviewer):**

**Transcriber:** Lily Crigler

**Abstract:** An interview with Christian Sandoval, a UTSA senior who graduated during the pandemic, on how the pandemic affected his graduation and career options.

**Vianne Beltran** 00:01

Hello, would you like to introduce yourself?

**Christian Sandoval** 00:03

My name is Christian Chase Sandoval.

**Vianne Beltran** 00:06

Where did you go to school, Christian Chase?

**Christian Sandoval** 00:08

I recently graduated from University of Texas at San Antonio.

**Vianne Beltran** 00:11

What year did you graduate? Do you remember?

**Christian Sandoval** 00:14

2020.

**Vianne Beltran** 00:16

Wow, you actually remember this time. We had this discussion before. Did you walk the stage at UTSA?

**Christian Sandoval** 00:24

I did not. I chose not to because I would have had to wait until fall.

**Vianne Beltran** 00:29

Of what year?

**Christian Sandoval** 00:30

 Of 2021.

**Vianne Beltran** 00:31

And were you disappointed?

**Christian Sandoval** 00:33

I personally was not. My family was

**Vianne Beltran** 00:36

Your family was? Who do you think was most disappointed in your family?

**Christian Sandoval** 00:40

My grandmother, Mary Ann.

**Vianne Beltran** 00:43

Why was she disappointed?

**Christian Sandoval** 00:44

 Because she had never seen any of her descendants walk the stage.

**Vianne Beltran** 00:49

And who do you think -oh, she saw- who did she see next?

**Christian Sandoval** 00:54

Cameron, my sister.

**Vianne Beltran** 00:55

Your sister. And how did she feel about that?

**Christian Sandoval** 01:00

She's very proud of her.

**Vianne Beltran** 01:01

She's very proud of her.

**Christian Sandoval** 01:01

She watched it live. Not in person, but she watched over the, the internet through a Skype call, I believe.

**Vianne Beltran** 01:10

Do you think she would prefer to see it in person?

**Christian Sandoval** 01:12

I'm sure, but she's was suffering from health issues at the time.

**Vianne Beltran** 01:19

Do you think you'll ever walk the stage?

**Christian Sandoval** 01:21

Hopefully I will after I graduate from the St. Mary's law program.

**Vianne Beltran** 01:26

Oh, you plan to attend the St. Mary's law program?

**Christian Sandoval** 01:29

I do.

**Vianne Beltran** 01:32

Have you taken the LSAT, Christian?

**Christian Sandoval** 01:33

I have. I scored a perfect score; in my regards.

**Vianne Beltran** 01:39

What did you score, Christian?

**Christian Sandoval** 01:40

I'm not sure yet. I have yet to receive my results.

**Vianne Beltran** 01:44

Oh, where did you take your LSAT?

**Christian Sandoval** 01:47

At a computer inside my loving wife's home.

**Vianne Beltran** 01:55

Were there, did they offer the LSAT in person?

**Christian Sandoval** 01:58

They did not due to the pandemic.

**Vianne Beltran** 02:00

 To the pandemic. Would you have preferred it in person?

**Christian Sandoval** 02:03

I would not. I do personally enjoy the privacy of my own home when I'm test taking.

**Vianne Beltran** 02:09

Do you, so your final senior year...

**Christian Sandoval** 02:13

My final senior year, yes.

**Vianne Beltran** 02:14

Your final... you know when I mean. The senior year of your UTSA career. Do you think it affected, you were supposed to take an internship, weren't you?

**Christian Sandoval** 02:24

I was, and it was canceled. And I was supposed to take a replacement course which ended up being criminal psychology.

**Vianne Beltran** 02:33

And you never did?

**Christian Sandoval** 02:34

I did.

**Vianne Beltran** 02:34

Oh, you did?

**Christian Sandoval** 02:35

 It's how I graduated.

**Vianne Beltran** 02:36

Oh. Do you, do you think that you missed out not taking an internship? Do you think that affected you...

**Christian Sandoval** 02:43

I personally don't think so...

**Vianne Beltran** 02:45

Stop...

**Christian Sandoval** 02:46

...due to the fact that I have a very stable and strong career where I am a leader in my field. And I am still planning to attend school to get more career experience and educational experience.

**Vianne Beltran** 03:06

Do you think that the pandemic has affected your career choices?

**Christian Sandoval** 03:11

Personally, I don't think so. I think in the pandemic, my field that I initially wanted to go to before law is thriving.

**Vianne Beltran** 03:20

Really, you don't think it's...

**Christian Sandoval** 03:25

I don't think it's what?

**Vianne Beltran** 03:26

You, you don't, you don't think, do you think it's like... what's your field? Did you say your field?

**Christian Sandoval** 03:31

My field would be security and civil protection.

**Vianne Beltran** 03:37

Would you say it's increased?

**Christian Sandoval** 03:40

I would say it's increased during the pandemic due to the changing needs. It needs a lot of innovation, and they're looking for young people with new ideas, definitely.

**Vianne Beltran** 03:52

If we went back to lockdown, do you think that because you work at-

**Christian Sandoval** 03:57

My field would not- I, my current job would not change due to the fact that there would still be employees that need to be monitored, and I hold somewhat of a management position.

**Vianne Beltran** 04:08

Well, what if there was...

**Christian Sandoval** 04:11

No employees?

**Vianne Beltran** 04:12

No. What if like, well you work at like a shopping center like, what if like, we switched back to like more online shopping?

**Christian Sandoval** 04:19

Then I would still have to monitor employee theft and...

**Vianne Beltran** 04:22

I guess that's true.

**Christian Sandoval** 04:24

Stuff like that. Internal fraud. I do a lot of fraud, credit card fraud, overtures and going through finances to see if there's any errors or missing money. Let me ask you some questions now though. Being a current student at the end of the pandemic, how do you think it's affected you, your social life, your schooling, all that?

**Vianne Beltran** 04:57

Well, you see, I've never had a social life, so everything's the same. As for schooling, it's really helped made me focus on schooling because there's nothing else to do but just stay home.

**Christian Sandoval** 05:17

Would you say that you prefer an online education more so than having to go into the class or do you prefer going, meeting face to face with your fellow students and teachers?

**Vianne Beltran** 05:31

I feel like I like, I like online classes, but I also like going and being forced to get up and get dressed.

**Christian Sandoval** 05:42

So would you say that like going to class in person gives you a goal every day to wake up to more so like, than a online class where you can basically do it out of bed? I think what you're trying to say is that, like, there's a certain drive behind it that gives you a motivation to wake up in the morning and be productive more so than just flicking on your class and participating online through either a screen or a camera, etc.

**Vianne Beltran** 06:10

Yeah, I think like with a class online, you just like, I feel like I can slack off more, with like in person, I actually have to pay attention because there's an actual teacher like who can see me.

**Christian Sandoval** 06:23

What do you think of the quality of the education you receive, though between online and in person? Would you say that it's more detailed in person or online due to like, the availability of the resources from the online more so than in person where you're not necessarily giving, getting, getting expl- explicit handouts compared to being in person where it might be more of a general lecture?

**Vianne Beltran** 06:51

You're too good at this. You should go back to school.

**Christian Sandoval** 06:57

I am going back to school.

**Vianne Beltran** 06:58

Well, St. Mary's should accept you right away.

**Christian Sandoval** 07:01

I hope, I hope they do.

**Vianne Beltran** 07:03

St. Mary's if you're listening to this...

**Christian Sandoval** 07:05

St. Mary herself.

**Vianne Beltran** 07:07

St. Mary. Is that, is that, is that the Virgin Mary? I don't know. St. Mary, if you're listening, hire this man. Christian.

**Christian Sandoval** 07:21

Yes?

**Vianne Beltran** 07:22

So I'm taking back this interview because you're kind of showing me up. Let's, let's talk about the best thing to happen during the pandemic for you.

**Christian Sandoval** 07:36

I think it was genuinely meeting you. As I'm not sure if the person listening to this will be aware, but we are in a multi-year relationship at this point. And I've spent every moment of the pandemic by your side. And I feel like it has tested us as people and our relationship to a certain extent that I think we could figure out by now if it was going to work or not.

**Vianne Beltran** 07:43

We didn't meet during the pandemic, though.

**Christian Sandoval** 08:00

We met right before.

**Vianne Beltran** 08:01

Did we?

**Christian Sandoval** 08:02

Months before. Two months- three months before.

**Vianne Beltran** 08:05

Well...

**Christian Sandoval** 08:06

Yep.

**Vianne Beltran** 08:06

We're old news.

**Christian Sandoval** 08:07

We are old news.

**Vianne Beltran** 08:09

And now we have two beautiful dogs, and a hermit crab

**Christian Sandoval** 08:18

And a hermit crab.

**Vianne Beltran** 08:20

And a dead hermit crab.

**Christian Sandoval** 08:22

And a dead hermit crab.

**Vianne Beltran** 08:25

And a cat, manifesting a cat.

**Christian Sandoval** 08:29

Manifesting a bird. Ask me a question. Finish out this interview strong.

**Vianne Beltran** 08:36

Finish, okay. Um, so if you get into St. Mary's, do you think you could do-

**Christian Sandoval** 08:43

When I get into St. Mary's.

**Vianne Beltran** 08:44

-when you get, manifesting St. Mary's. What, do you think you could do law school online, completely online?

**Christian Sandoval** 08:51

I you know, I think I would prefer it.

**Vianne Beltran** 08:52

You think you'd prefer it?

**Christian Sandoval** 08:53

I would prefer it. I wouldn't mind going to be, I genuinely receive information better when I can go over it multiple times. And I think that having a prerecorded lecture or paperwork that I can read, really helps people like me who struggle from ADHD where they might be thinking about something else while they're listening, and they're hyper focused on another part of the topic.

**Vianne Beltran** 09:16

Because, so your senior year, I assume there wasn't that much work to do?

**Christian Sandoval** 09:21

I actually assumed there was more work than any of my other years because I had to close out strong, and it was, everyone was new to online learning. So we were being given experimental courses, and it might have been more coursework than someone who showed up to the class every day was given.

**Vianne Beltran** 09:41

So do you think it, do you think some online learning was detrimental?

**Christian Sandoval** 09:48

Detrimental? I think they'd had the opposite effect on me, but I could see how it could definitely be detrimental to people who prefer an in person experience. I think it was more... I definitely learned more because I was able to review information more so than in an in-person class.

**Vianne Beltran** 10:06

So, if school switched completely to online, you think you would thrive?

**Christian Sandoval** 10:12

I would prefer it. I think I would thrive. I do well in an unorganized environment personally.

**Vianne Beltran** 10:17

You said unorganized?

**Christian Sandoval** 10:18

Unorganized environment, yeah.

**Vianne Beltran** 10:20

So you'd hope that your teacher be completely just caught off guard by the switch.

**Christian Sandoval** 10:25

Yeah.

**Vianne Beltran** 10:28

Well, here's hoping that we switch.

**Christian Sandoval** 10:31

She's hoping for that new variant. I'm just kidding. That was an absolute joke, please.

**Vianne Beltran** 10:37

He's hoping... Well, thank you for your wonderful time.

**Christian Sandoval** 10:42

Thanks for interviewing me. You were great. You were eloquent. Well spoken. I'm glad we had this opportunity.

**Vianne Beltran** 10:47

Thank you for just being such a wonderful participant. I love you goodbye.