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I believe it wasn't until late February early March when I started to understand the full extent of this virus. It has been said that the virus has been in the U.S. since December and in early February my boyfriend and I went to Disneyland. I say this because soon after that trip I got sick. I was sure it was just a head cold, but my supervisor did not want to take any chance and I went to the urgent care. Thankfully it was just a cold! During that time everything was in the process to shut down for the first time and people were being told to stay in their homes. Throughout this pandemic not much has changed for me, in the sense that I still went to work on a regular basis. The military as well did implement protocols to reduce the spread of the virus within its people. We are restricted from traveling any further than the local areas, so no more than an hour car ride in either direction. There is no really time frame as to when that will be lifted, which is the only real impact it has had on me. Along with many other fellow Airman, experiencing this separation from family member has left most depressed. Since, I am original from Connecticut, being away in times like this has been hard. I worry for my mom every day because she is an elderly woman with medical conditions that leave her at a higher risk to catch the virus. Thankfully she is staying safe and no one in my family has been too badly affected.

Unfortunately, for my boyfriend he just got told that his brother tested positive for the virus back in August. Thankfully, he pulled through and is doing just fine at this moment. My boyfriend's family is from Imperial Valley CA, which was known as a red zone for the virus. It has been hard for him since he is also military and wasn't during that time allowed to leave to go down there. It's been hard on us both since there isn't anything either one of us could do with

this situation. Overall, I am hanging in there and just hope that things go back to normal, well as normal as it possibly can.