Fear, Terrible Fear

By Cindy Le

What started off as careless negligence and an issue that people deemed only relevant to one country, soon turned into a global pandemic followed by poor choices and questionable actions. Who knew something so small could do so much harm? One thing led to another, people were going crazy. What started off as a small spark soon turned into a raging inferno.

Things were getting out of hand, shortages in toilet paper, racist acts all across the globe and a hundred other things before the year had even hit half way. For some, it was bearable, comfortable even. For everyone else, it was pure torture. Everyone all across the globe were forced to stay at home, with many small businesses having to close, thousands lost their jobs and medics at the frontline were exposed and at risk everyday. Schools were closed and teachers taught online, everyone in the comfort and safety of their own homes. Everyday was a struggle, everyone facing different problems of their own whilst still in constant fear for not only themselves but their loved ones as well.

COVID-19 had everyone walking on eggshells, everyone was frantic, fear really has an impact on people. What most have realised, were the privileges that we didn't know we had till it was taken away from us. The freedom of at least having the choice of being able to go outside will no longer be a luxury that will be taken for granted. Lifestyles took a complete 180 turn, with people desperately clinging onto familiarity and things that they know. Basic hygiene was enforced heavily and masks and hand sanitizers were more valuable and were harder to find than the golden tickets in Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. Most people tried their very best to protect themselves and their loved ones from the coronavirus, but as it mostly only causes mild illness, there were a few people who didn't seem to think that they needed to follow any of the guidelines set in place for everyone's safety. There were also people who were out and about attending protests which were counterproductive to what they were protesting.

The whole ordeal was a mess, but the bigger issue was that it was only one out of many in 2020 alone. Everybody's life was impacted in more ways than one. There were many negativities because of COVID-19, but it bore many fruits as well that we may have forgotten about or dismissed. More people were able to spend more time with their families or finally had found the time to do the things that they love. The procedures that were issued because of coronavirus, allowed people to have more time to reflect and gave them a new sense of appreciation, lost time were made up for and weak bonds were strengthened. People really don't realise what they have till it is no longer there. Appreciate what you have; your friends, your family, your freedom, all of it, for there may just come a day when you'll regret that you didn't.