

Hello,

My name is River Travis. I am local to Gahanna and have been trying to help in this situation to the best of my ability. We wanted to confirm that someone was looking at world news and effective measures taken by other countries to successfully stop the spread of the virus. A lot of very simple actions that have been mandated and were taken by others could be taken by our community as well to decrease the rate at which the virus is spreading. I know it may be difficult to obtain PPE at the moment but we can at least inform others of the facts. People are being misinformed and lied to and we think someone should be telling the truth rather than sugarcoating it. The situation is serious. There is a lack of supplies available. People are making poor decisions. There are problems occurring. Everything is not okay, but it will be. PPE does save lives and although many people need it in hospitals, garbage men, delivery drivers, mailmen, grocers, all essential businesses interacting with public outside of themselves should be wearing PPE in order to prevent the spread. This is proven in other countries. China, Italy, Russia. There are African countries on lock down for three weeks. People do not believe what's going on in the world because their governing body is not informing them. Americans have faith in their elected officials and we need some elected officials to boldly state whats happening. Also the social distancing is not being taken seriously. I witnessed people interacting with one another throughout downtown in many areas. People should be avoiding people and staying on their property as much as possible. Other countries are not letting their citizens leave and are issuing heavy consequences.

I am afraid that in order to keep this situation contained we may be pushed to result to such measures before it is too late. This city has a very large population of elderly individuals and at the rate many individuals are interacting many could become infected. Columbus is a very populated place in general. I would like to know about what the city is prepared for, how short on supplies we might be, protocols we might have in place for handling various situations that may arise, and if we have enough test kits. I understand this may be a lot but there are situations arising around the country let alone the world that have devastated their communities and I would like to know that we are aware of the severity, making the public aware of the severity, and staying ahead of the situation. An uninformed public is just as likely to spread chaos as a misinformed or improperly informed public. The facts may scare people but at least they will know what they should be doing.

The virus can survive on a surface for up to a few days. So social distancing only works if no one has the virus and no one comes into contact with someone that has the virus. If someone like the Kroger's employee, or the other 180 confirmed cases, touched an object and left the virus anywhere unwittingly then anyone practicing social distancing but touching that object within three days would be exposed and unprotected against it. There are many survivor stories, many suggest that people should avoid getting this virus at all costs. There are also many cases where the victim dies and we want to avoid as many deaths as possible.

There are many factors to consider in addition to the initial effects of covid, the supply chains, the increase in the dead bodies, schools and preparing students for their future, lack of coffins (let alone medical supplies), those getting sick not related to covid, etc etc. I think it would be useful to inform everyone of how we as a community are able to handle everything and I know I for one would feel more relieved knowing more of the community was on the same page.



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