

Coming Together While Staying Six Feet Apart

From the making of sourdough bread to the Black Lives Matter Movement, people have been finding ways to come together throughout the pandemic while remaining six feet apart. Ever since the moment the world came to a halt in March of 2020, individuals have been finding innovative ways to reconnect with their loved ones, build communities, and help make resources more accessible.

After I pushed past the initial anxieties regarding the unknown, I connected with others through various forms of media. Utilizing Zoom, TikTok, Instagram, and online petitions, I created and maintained relationships with individuals around the world, all while staying within the comfort of my own home. Although I am grateful that I was able to do this while maintaining my bubble, I understand that not everyone shared this experience and that this pandemic exposed many global social inequalities. While some fought for toilet paper, others fought for fundamental rights and the recognition of their lives as humans. Some secretly travelled to warm destinations in hopes of escaping the pandemic in their home country, while others struggled to pay for their rent and maintain a safe place to live. As an anti-masker protested for their “freedom,” a healthcare worker tirelessly worked to keep others and themselves safe and alive. Sports fans gathered for large in-home viewing parties regardless of restrictions while athletes took a knee during national anthems with sayings such as “SAY HER NAME,” “VOTE,” and “I CAN’T BREATHE” across their shoulders. During this historical period, privilege has been more prevalent than ever. This division has led to an increase in the importance of building and supporting communities, in an attempt to create a world that is more inclusive than the one we are currently living in. Here is a glimpse at thirty different people’s ways of coming together while staying six feet apart...

