



**Narrator:** Dawn “DJ” McNamee = DM

**Interviewer:** Amanda Larios = AL

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*[Transcribed by Amanda Larios, 4 June 2022]*

[DawnMcNamee\_OralHistoryAudio\_2022 begins, 00:00]

AL: This is Amanda Larios, interviewing DJ McNamee [Dawn “DJ” Mcnamee, born 1 January 2000, in Portland, Oregon] about her experience with COVID-19. We are recording at Hamersly Library at Western Oregon University in Monmouth, on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Let’s start with your life before COVID. What were you doing before you had ever heard of COVID?

DM: I was here on campus, living a normal life, dealing with annoying roommates [laughs]. And then I was working at Valsetz while on campus, and if I wasn’t in campus, I was working at McDonald’s in Canby, which is my hometown.

AL: Okay, and so you are from Canby and you came here to Western. When do you first recall hearing about COVID?

DM: I don’t remember much about when I first recalled about COVID. I just remember around spring break we got the notice that everything was shutting down around the world and that Monmouth would be basically doing the same thing. So they told us, if you want, you can stay on campus during spring term, or you can pack up all your stuff during the week of, by a certain date during spring break, and then go home and spend the rest of the term at home. And I decided to, whenever my job at Valsetz was basically no longer, I’m like, “Okay, I can’t stay down here, I’m moving back home.” So I decided to move back home.

AL: Okay. And how did, what was your thought process when you first heard about COVID-19? How did it make you feel at the time?

DM: I don’t remember much about how it made me feel. I’m just like, “Okay, so, basically the world is ending.” We had a lot of plans, a lot of plans got canceled. I’m now having basically to uproot everything back home where my sister, my brother-in-law, and my nephew are now living

in my room, to which I was living on a couch for most of summer. Actually, all of summer [chuckles softly].

AL: What was it like to move back with your family?

DM: Chaotic, I hated it so much and I still hate it so much [emphasizes “so” both times]. Partially because I didn’t have any of my own space like I did at school, so basically all my freedoms were taken. All my stuff from college was still in the back of my car, I didn’t have that with me at all. Most of my friends weren’t either living in the state, or were being quarantined because they were going to school in a different state, so they did that, they didn’t have time to come meet up. And then at the same time, we couldn’t go anywhere ‘cause everything was closed. Restaurants, movie theatres, the mall. So there was nothing really for any of us to do.

AL: Were there any spaces that you could go during COVID?

DM: The park, or, I was then working at Fred Meyer, because that’s the only job I really could get during, so that was pretty much it. But Fred Meyer was such a stressful workplace, that didn’t really feel comforting, so I really didn’t have any place to go during anything.

AL: What made Fred Meyer a stressful place to work during COVID?

DM: The management sucked [emphasizes “sucked”]. The management really wasn’t that great. They, we had just gotten a new Human Resources manager, he really didn’t know what the store was like. A bunch of transitioning was happening. My first job as, like, a cashier and not in the food industry, so it was kinda new. It was fun on some parts, like I had some nice coworkers up front with me, but some of the other ones, they were just not there, and I worked a few eleven-hour shifts, so there was days where it’s like, “I really don’t wanna be here anymore.”

And I was there for most of COVID. I was there for, like, the first year of it.

AL: Did the first year of COVID at Frey Meyer, or maybe the first six months, did your experience working there change as the pandemic progressed?

DM: I liked working there at first, for like the first few months, because it was not McDonald's, 'cause McDonald's also had the same issue of being a frustrating management team, and coworkers weren't doing the stuff that they were supposed to do, so it was very disorganized. But then halfway through I ended up getting anxiety and depression. I didn't know if that was being of doing strictly online school, mixed with a high, with a job where they were basically having me work forty hours a week, plus some, and being just a stressful place overall as well. I just, yeah. Not much [chuckles]. So it changed to where it was like, "Yeah I feel good about this job" to where "I hate this job, I want to leave and find something else."

AL: You said that you were doing online school during the pandemic. How was doing online school different from being at school in person before the pandemic?

DM: Before the pandemic, I did good, but not extremely well, 'cause in some subjects like math and science I'm not that good with, but when it got to certain things, I was like, "Okay I can do this." 'Cause I was taking Doellinger's Post-War German History, so I was doing all that, so the history classes weren't bad. But I had to drop my art class I was in, 'cause the instructor stuff through online was not helping at all, causing more stress. So I basically just stuck with doing three classes per term, and mainly it just being history. Also right before COVID, I transferred from being an Education major to a History major to help my course load and just understand things easier and get all that worked out.

AL: Okay. So you started taking less credits. How did that affect your work life?

DM: It didn't affect my work life as much. It was more my work life affecting my school work, because I had the demanding job of being there, 'cause we were technically [hesitantly] first responders? Not first responders, but like, we were there during the pandemic 'cause we were a grocery store. But it really didn't help in the factor of getting my schoolwork done, 'cause I had to be at work when it was due. But teachers were understanding when it came down to the whole factor of, "This is still brand new to everyone, what's going on in the world, people have to make a living, the stress of everything." So it was kind of accommodating, but it was more work life taking over school life than the other way around.

AL: And can you tell me a little bit more, exactly, what did you do in online school? How was the process different?

DM: The process was different because I didn't have my own space to do stuff like I did here on campus. Like here on campus I had my own room to go to to work on my papers, I had the library to go to when I was, like, dealing with roommate issues. But at my house I was with my dad, my mom, who were there, my sister, my brother-in-law, my nephew, who was one or two about the time of COVID. And he was curious. When he started walking, he would just barge into my room, or he would just want to play and hang out as much as possible, but he didn't understand I had to do homework, so it was like, the whole family issue of it was overpowering.

AL: At the time, do you feel like it affected your academic performance?

DM: It did because I had gotten to the point where I was almost gonna be academically suspended, because I didn't have the good grades for it. But, at one point, that's at least part of the time I was at home only. But then, when we were able to move back into some type of dormitory, I was here two, three days a week. So I had three days to myself on campus, in Arbor

Park, so I managed to get good grades all year long. So it helped a lot, having that own space, but when I was at home it did not help my grades at all.

AL: Did you move back to Arbor Park during the pandemic?

DM: Yeah, during last year. Last year was my last year on campus, and so I decided to room with my at-the-time friends, [Kaitlyn?] [Nick?] and [Naomi?]. [Naomi?] I still talk to on a regular, sometimes, when I remember to text them. [Kaitlyn?] and [Nick?] I kind of lost contact with, because they were just, those roommates were, I don't talk to them anymore, and we had a lot of disagreements. But it was still peace away, so I would lock myself in my room if I had homework, and if someone bothered me I'd just turn up music on something, and just worked on my schoolwork as much as possible.

AL: Okay. That sounds like a great jumping-off point for talking about transitioning back into the world, but let's first talk a little bit more about your work experience. You mentioned that you worked at McDonald's. Was that before or after Fred Meyer?

DM: That was before Fred Meyer. I had that job from my sophomore year of high school, like the last day of sophomore year of high school, all the way up to right before COVID. And the reason why I left it through text message, because I couldn't get ahold of my assistant manager either way, was because they weren't letting us college kids come back, 'cause there was only limited hours, 'cause the store was only open for so long 'cause of COVID. They basically said, "We can't bring you back, there's no hours, nothing. At most you would get, like, a day out of the week." And I'm like, "I can't do that. I have bills I have to pay. I can't do one day a week." So I quit, and then I started at Frey Meyer during the pandemic.

AL: What other changes did you notice at McDonald's, or when you were first starting to enter Fred Meyer, about how they were operating due to the pandemic?

DM: McDonald's I remember being a little more chaotic, and you outright hated the place most of the time. Some of the food was great, but it was one of those things were, like, they were so chaotic, 'cause there was not many staff members there or anything like that. 'Cause I was never actually in the building during COVID, 'cause I had just gotten off campus, so I was like, "Okay, I need to return to my job in Canby." Couldn't do it, so then I had to immediately look, I was out of work for, like, two weeks before I got Fred Meyer. But Fred Meyer, it was [small pause] it was okay. I knew it was gonna be a little bit stressful 'cause there was way more managers involved, or supervisors, or anything like that, longer shifts, but I knew at least I wasn't gonna have to work any overnight shifts like I did at McDonald's before COVID, so it was a little bit nicer. But then as you first, and they treated you really nice at the beginning, but then as you got further into the job, you kind of were like, "Eh, you're okay, I'm not gonna bother with you though." So, they kinda just slacked off with people and just didn't care anymore.

AL: Were there any health measures that you had to follow?

DM: We had to wear the masks and we had to do the temp thing. I do remember, though, I was out of work for like two weeks. Not 'cause I got COVID though. I had some internal infection thing, and so there was, like, a lot of things I had to do before going back to work on that to make sure I didn't have COVID or anything like that. But they really only did do the temp and wearing masks. And then we knew some coworkers that would purposefully get overheated, to where they didn't have to wear, to where they didn't have to go to work. So I don't know much more about the health things that they had, but that's pretty much all I remember.

AL: Okay. And did your coworkers tend to follow these rules?

DM: They tended to follow the masks 'cause it was kind of mandatory, if you didn't have masks you weren't working, or they would just give you a box and be like, "Here, you have to grab a medical mask." The temp thing, for a while, no one really would do it, because if they were super busy that day and they needed you to hop on, they would just tell you, "Hop on." But then later, or towards the end of my work experience there, they had it to where you had to do your own temperature in the back, and then you would have to check off your name. And if it looked like you hadn't checked your name off, then they would tell you, "Hey, go check your temp." Or if you got up front they would double check, like, "Did you check your temp, and do all this?" And if you said no, then you would be sent back, and lose out time on work.

AL: Okay. And did these health measures stay consistent throughout the pandemic? Or did they change?

DM: I don't remember quite well if it did, 'cause I was only there for so long, I don't remember how much they actually did change, I just know I was there to work [AL softly hums in acknowledgement] and everything. But it went from just them taking your temp and making sure you wore a mask to, you have to do it yourself, so the managers weren't quite involved in the whole 'if you were feeling okay or not,' so that's basically it.

AL: Okay. And did you interact with customers very often?

DM: I did as a cashier because I was a cashier, but really it was just talking to customers a lot and making sure things were scanned. I didn't have the customer service experience, where at the Representative Desk, where they would have to do returns and stuff, or help people in the aisles, I didn't really have that. But I would have people come up to me and ask, "Hey, where is



this located? Where is this located?” That was pretty much it. And then other than that, if there was no customers around, we just stood there and did nothing, so.

AL: Are there any experiences that stand out to you when interacting with a customer that happened as you worked during the pandemic?

DM: There moods about things not being in stock was a big one, ‘cause we’d have people get mad about, like, toilet paper issues, anything paperized. People trying on clothes, ‘cause we didn’t have our dressing rooms open or fitting rooms open, so there was a lot of, like, “You guys have a lot of things that you guys should have open, but you don’t,” kind of issues. Or we’d hear a lot of complaints about why we weren’t getting stuff in from other companies, and it’s like, “it’s all because COVID,” and they’re like, “You guys are just using that as an excuse,” and were just mad that we didn’t have products we were supposed to have in.

AL: Can you tell me a little bit more about the shortages?

DM: The shortages I think, if I remember correctly, we more likely had, was paper towels, toilet paper for sure, I know we had some in, like, I think the meat department at one time. That was more towards the end ‘cause we were limiting, like, two. And then when the power outage, or winter storm hit, we hit a lot of the outages on, like, mac n’ cheese, and stuff like that, because people couldn’t really get into the freezers to get that kind of stuff. So there was a lot of – and they’re still having trouble in getting stuff in now, even if you go through the stores. Probably a lot of people noticed it, that there’s not much on the shelves in some Fred Meyers, ‘cause they having still issues in getting those products in. But I don’t know much more than that.

AL: And how did the customers react to you, or your coworkers, about these shortages?

DM: Sometimes we got really mad people, but sometimes we also got the really understanding. I most of the time got the mixed people, where they understand it, but they're just mad that [small pause] they're not being more assertive in saying, "[Angrily] Hey, why do you not have this in stock?" and "Can we get this in stock?" kind of thing, so. There's a lot of miscommunication. But they were pretty chill with me, and the only time I got upset customers is if the deal didn't come off and I didn't notice it in the first place.

AL: Okay. Is there anything else about your work experience that you want to tell me about?

DM: Not really. I just know that also, last June, so like right when everything was kinda getting back up and running, that's when I quit Fred Meyer and I went to retail in Woodburn. So now I work at Vans, so like, now I can tell the difference from there too. Like it's a little bit chaotic, but, and we have employees that don't wanna work, but it's not that bad to where, I would prefer staying at Vans than going to Fred Meyer if those were my last two options in the world [chuckles softly].

AL: Okay. You mentioned earlier that you had an internal infection? Can you tell me a little bit more about that?

DM: That was probably that worst moment, besides being diagnosed with anxiety and depression, because last spring is when it happened. I was out of school for like, two weeks, and it was to the point where – we think it was from my meds for anxiety and depression, where it was I couldn't walk, 'cause it felt like needles on my feet. I was shivering all the time, I had like, giant pains all through my body. And I ended up not going to work, 'cause my parents wanted to keep an eye on me, and they understood that, Fred Meyer, at least. And they were accommodating to it. While I went to work one day, and they could tell I like, wobbling, and it

was hurting. And no one knew what it was from. They were just like, “Okay, take these meds, see how it does.” Well one of the meds ended up making me way worse, to where I was passing out on my grandpa’s couch, and I could barely stay awake and I was barely eating. And then when I went off that, it got better, but it still took me like, another week. And the pain meds, the meds, were still making me pass out, so I fell behind in school work, to where at the beginning of this year I was on academic warning again, or academic probation, one of the two, so.

AL: Okay. Did you notice anything about the medical field that might be a little different pre-pandemic than it was in the pandemic when you experiencing these problems?

DM: Pre-pandemic it was more like, everything was kind of more accessible to you, and there wasn’t a lot of waiting or screening beforehand. During the pandemic, like during that, there was a lot of, “You gotta wait for this, you gotta wait for this.” There was a lot of waiting involved. And it was hard for them to examine you because of the COVID issues. And then there was also where – I’m trying to remember exactly ‘cause this was [softly chuckling] a year ago. Really how to test it and see what it was, because there was so many procedures now involved with the medical field, that they couldn’t really do much testing to see what it was. So they would just – I had one person who wasn’t my actual doctor, she was just the only one I was able to get in, and she just guessed what it was and then gave me pain medication. But when we were able to see my actual doctor, or call or text her about it, she was like, “No, it’s probably this, so have her go off those meds and do this instead.” And it worked better. So it’s a lot of miscommunication and not really being able to pinpoint certain issues that I noticed, where beforehand they were able to do it.

AL: Okay. So along that same vein, at the time, what did you think about these restrictions in the medical field?

DM: Not much, because even though I'm the medical mystery in my family, and various other things, I didn't really notice 'cause my mom was there, so she mainly had to deal with everything. She was just relaying me information from the doctors that I didn't understand. So I don't really know what was fully different. 'Cause she was dealing with my dad's cancer stuff beforehand too, and then she had me to deal with, so she knew a lot more stuff than I do, so she just helped explain it. And I'm like, "Dude, just tell me what I need to do and I'll do it, just. I don't care." So I just let her basically take the reins on a lot of stuff.

AL: Okay. Is there anything else about the middle of the pandemic that you want to add?

DM: I was going stir crazy in my house. I really hated being stuck with my family the whole entire time. That was like, the main thing I hated about COVID and my whole entire COVID experience, was that I was stuck with all them. I love them all dearly, but I hate being stuck with them 24/7.

AL: Can you tell me a little bit more about what it was like to not be able really to leave your house?

DM: It was like, stir crazy. We tried going to like, the rivers and stuff like that, but I was working so much and had so much school work that I was consistently in my house. And whenever we got out of the house, we ended up back at my work to go shopping. So it was kinda like, there was no escape, there was only certain things that we could do to just to get out of the house. Like I wish I had gone to go see movies or something, but I was stuck in my house doing all that, so.

AL: Okay. This is probably a good point to start to transition into when restrictions started being lifted, and such. Do you remember what you were doing when you first heard that the vaccines were being approved?

DM: Looking up concerts and which ones were being available, 'cause I remember purchasing concert tickets for Jonas Brothers in Ridgefield, and that was right about the time restrictions were being lifted, and they're like, "Okay, as long as you have your vaccines you're good, you just have to have them with you, the vaccine cards." So I just remember looking up things that we could actually start doing again. My family went to the state fair, I think, when it starting reopening again, the county fair. And we also went to like, an antique show, 'cause it moved into a bigger space, so we did that. So it was just finding a little bit more of what we can do. We had family members who were willing to like, do barbeques and stuff again, so we were doing that. We went to Vegas after traveling restrictions came up, 'cause my parents and them own like, a time share down there, so we went down there to just kind of have fun and explore, 'cause I turned twenty-one in the midst of COVID, so we went down there during spring break. Not much was accessible, but we also went at a bad time when they had like, a motorcycle thing going on, so there was a lot of people in town for it (emphasizes "a lot"). But we tried doing as much traveling as we could. We had my grandpa's to go to down in New – no, not Newport. I had Newport on my brain. [Laughingly] Down in Florence, Oregon. So we did a lot of traveling back and forth from there. And that was kind of out get-away too, 'cause then we could go down to the beach, and my dad owns four-wheelers, so we did that. So it was just a lot of looking up like, "Okay, we want to do this again, let's go do it if it's available." And we did all that.

AL: What was it like to travel during COVID?

DM: My dad I think is the one who hated it the most, but because of his past health issues with pancreatic cancer and everything, he kinda got a leeway on a lot of stuff. So like he got, he was able to be close to the bathrooms on airplanes, he got to jump in line. So it wasn't all that bad. Plus we kind of were the snarky family and we decided to like, take our masks off a little bit for under our nose. 'Cause my sister does have asthma, so we kind of just all said that we have asthma and that it's a hereditary thing. We kind of, yeah [laughs]. We didn't like, so we followed everything we were supposed to if we were traveling or anything like that. But the main thing was getting out of the house and having some more family time, but to where we all had like, fresh air as much as possible, so we tried looking up more of the fresh air things that we could do than being stuck in around spots.

AL: Okay. And at the time, what did you think of these restrictions on travel and activities?

DM: A lot of us hated it. I was one of them, because we were like, "Okay, we love to travel, that's one of our main family things." But my dad also liked it 'cause the freeways were open a lot of the time going down to Florence, 'cause him or my mom would be driving. Sometimes I would be driving, depending on the vehicle. But like, just knowing that we had that place to travel to, to where my dad could still go do stuff and have an outlet was nice, and just knowing that that's at least one place we could travel, I think that helped everyone's sanity as much as possible, so.

AL: Did you see a lot of other people traveling during this time?

DM: I didn't pay attention much enough, I just know I have other family members that like traveling out of the country a lot. Well they kind of do it, so I kind of notice that. But for us, I don't really pay attention to much stuff, so. During that time I didn't really pay attention as

much. I just know I wanted to get out and travel, 'cause a few years beforehand, we had just gone to Disneyland, I went to Costa Rica, we did all this traveling, and I'm like, "I need to get on an airplane again." [Laughingly] I still need to get on an airplane again. I like going on an airplane at least once a year, so it was kind of like, odd to where I couldn't really travel as much as I wanted to, but. And then I got annoyed at Florence for a while 'cause we had been there so much.

AL: Okay. You mentioned earlier that you had to have a vaccine card to travel places. Can you first tell me a little bit about – first, did you get a vaccine?

DM: Yeah, I got 'em both here on campus, partially because of the coupons for the store. I ended up losing half of them before I could use them all. But also it was the more like, accessible one to me, with my schedules and stuff, so I just chose to do it here.

AL: Okay, can you tell me a little bit more about that experience?

DM: The first shot wasn't that bad. I don't remember how soon I [small pause] I think I got it right after I got my internal infection, after I was like, healed from it and everything and I was back on campus, 'cause I couldn't drive while I had that. So I remember getting it like, right during finals week [laughs] which is not a good idea, 'cause my second dose kind of wiped me out to where at one point I was driving and I was kind of out of it, and I ended up hitting a giant traffic cone and just left an orange streak on my car. [Laughs, shuffles] It wasn't that bad, it's just I know that like. I had an okay experience compared to my mom, to where she was wiped out, so it wasn't as bad for me [laughingly] as I would say.

AL: What kind of symptoms did you experience from the vaccine?

DM: I was tired a lot, but that was only after the second shot. So then when the boosters came out, I'm like, "[Laughingly] I'll wait to do the boosters and see how everyone else does with them." 'Cause I got Pfizer, so I heard it was the more tiring and the more annoying one to get, but that's the one my mom had gotten too, so I'm like "I'm gonna let you be the test subject 'cause you have the more health problems where you need to get it, where me on the other hand, I'll get it if schools requires it." 'Cause I was gunning for the whole back into person, that's the main reason why I got the shot because I'm like, "I'm not gonna get COVID." Still haven't gotten COVID, but. Also with not knowing what the internal infection was, we were like, "Might as well get the shot just to make sure, too." So.

AL: What did you hear on the media about the vaccines?

DM: I don't remember much about the media stuff. I just remember more the election stuff and how chaotic that time was for everybody in the world, so I think that's the reason partly why I don't remember much about the COVID. I think I remember more about the election 'cause it was right in the midst of COVID, so you don't really hear much about it.

AL: Okay. And you mentioned earlier that there was a winter storm, and now you just mentioned about the elections. At the time, during quarantine, how did the culmination of all these events – what were you thinking at the time? How did it make you feel?

DM: The winter storm made me more like, mad, 'cause we were in the midst of renovating our house to taking out the fireplace. My dad decided to light the fireplace which had never been cleaned, but we had kept it on just to get some type of heat. But the majority of the time we all stayed in separate vehicles, 'cause my parents' vehicles have WiFi included with them, so we would just all do that, and I would just be sitting there doing my homework. That's pretty much



all. And then we were more worried about my nephew, ‘cause he was still so tiny, and trying to bundle him up and everything, so it was kind of just one of those instances where, “Okay, [laughingly] how is this gonna affect me for school?” ‘Cause that was my top priority. And then Fred Meyer was a little bit more commandeering on it, ‘cause they like, “Okay, if you can’t make it to work, don’t make it to work.” ‘Cause half our generators were down, so they only had one, enough for power and enough for registers to work. Other than that nonessential stuff got shut off. And so I just remember it being super chaotic. And then all of us trying to figure out, “Okay, where are we gonna find food? [Laughingly] We need food involved here.” So we had heard – I told my parents, I’m like, “Hey, Monmouth has some power. I have food down there. Let’s go to Monmouth.” They all decided to go to Clackamas instead, which has no power and it’s just like, [laughs] blackout. So I’m like, “You guys are [...?] to Monmouth.” So it’s that whole entire realization that like, we could have just headed out to Florence where there was nothing happening really. And then we could have gone to Monmouth, where there was heat, there was power, people could still get things done, none of you guys are working, I could get my schoolwork done easier down there. We have a couch, whatever. If you guys needed to stay, we could stay. But they all decided to stay home to weather it out. It took us like, three days in Canby to get power back, so.

AL: Did the pandemic affect your response to this event?

DM: No, ‘cause we mainly stayed inside our vehicles. So all we were trying to do was sleep if we could, work on homework, watch TV on our phones as much as possible with the WiFi, kind of go about somewhat of our daily lives but restricted to the inside of a vehicle. That was pretty much it.

AL: Okay. So now that we're transitioning out of the pandemic, you said that you moved back into Arbor Park, correct? Do you remember when you did that?

DM: I did that at the beginning of last year. So last year was my last, as I said before, was my last year living on campus. 'Cause not knowing – it's when things started somewhat opening back up to where we still had online classes only, but we could live in the dorms if we wanted to, and we could have that accessibility. Restaurants were opening up again, for mainly take-out, but they were still open. Some of the things in Salem were open, 'cause I had gotten one of my tattoos during that time. So a lot of things were still opening back up, so I'm like, "Okay, I can go have freedom and a little bit more peace." But it was getting too spendy to where – 'cause I don't have a job down there, I could only live there like, three days out of the week. But it was nice having that three days of freedom from my family, 'cause I had a vehicle at the time to do that. But after living there last week and everything happening, I was like, "Okay, I'm just gonna live in Canby." [Chuckles] So my parents renovated it to where I have my own room again. I share it with my nephew, but it's not that bad, 'cause I can kick him out if I need the space to do my homework. So I still have that room to myself like I did in Arbor, so it's not that bad.

AL: Okay. Before I ask you this last question, is there anything else that you would like to add, or anything I didn't ask that I should've asked?

DM: Not really. Um, yeah, not really.

AL: Okay. Then I'll give you one more question. What has this COVID experience meant for you?

DM: How much I appreciate my freedom away from my parents, pretty much. Because since that was the more struggling time of COVID, it's one of those things where it's like, I

appreciated the [laughingly] living on campus way more. Dealing with the roommates shouldn't have been that bad when I had the arguing different relationships with my household. So it was more like, COVID taught me to appreciate my freedom a little bit more, to where after I graduate from Western, I'm gonna work for a little bit while looking for a new job from Vans that's more towards my degree, but saving up to where I can get that place of my own for a while and then [laughingly] continue on with life away from my parents. But not too far to where I can see like, go see them if I need to and all that.

AL: Alright, thank you DJ.

DM: [Laughingly] You're welcome.

[Interview Ends]