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## COVID-19 Personal Reflection

Sudy T. Graham

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Hi, Abby - hopefully this is not too late (sorry I didn't get back to you sooner, but I'm in lock-down - LOL!).

We live in Steamboat Springs, Colorado - a very rural farming, ranching community - oh, yes, and ski resort. I believe that our county commissioners have way over-stepped their power concerning this Covid-19! Not only have they complied with Colorado's dictate, they have gone beyond by threatening us with a fine of \$5000 or 18 months in jail if we don't comply with any of their mandates. Driving through town looks like a ghost town from an old west movie - especially since many are wearing bandanas as facemasks (gotta love Steamboat)!! Drive-thru restaurants remain open along City Market, Safeway, Natural Groceries and Walmart (note that we officially have the smallest Walmart in the country!) - think you all know how empty the shelves are. Of course the 6' distancing - no gatherings - store aisles are marked in one direction - those over 60 are asked to remain at home (but not required). Let me say this, because I think it fits in the equation for what I'm beginning to see happening here. Steamboat is a very active community (of all ages). At first, I could easily separate people into two groups: those who continued to smile and nod a greeting to the total grumps (like stay out of my space!). Now a cloud of discouragement and depression hangs over the most cheerful and optimistic people. The smiles and greetings are disappearing - although some of us refuse to give up. Will the shops and restaurants open again? Some - probably not all. Will things return to normal? I don't know - I think that is what everyone is wondering.

Abby - you may scratch this part for it is my personal opinion. For me - more concerning than the virus itself has been watching how quickly fear set in - and, how quickly most people just accepted what they were being told and doing it without question. For me, that's been the most alarming part and eye-opener.

Pray all is well and yours! Stay safe, optimistic and smiling!  
Hugs, Sudy