

Jacob Sanchez

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OpEd Essay

During the year 2020 when we had the beginning of this pandemic, delivery culture has changed with the pandemic and the proliferation of online services. Some buildings are hesitant to return to the old days. As if the virus never existed like the old days, but there are some people that are pretty chill with it and can cope with it. Services like DoorDash and Seamless are all outdoor delivery services which require some people to keep in close contact with another person. According to residents, most buildings revoked the service of delivering packages for safety precautions, but by today most of them are restored. Back then during the pre-pandemic days delivering was straight forward, someone comes outside, brings your package in, and the person waiting for the mail and that's that. Since 2020 it was a bit of a struggle for some people since they wouldn't want to get infected by any type of virus especially with the pandemic wave, because some buildings wouldn't even allow anyone inside due to restrictions, and plus some may or may not be sick already. With all the changes and challenges of delivering packages, in my opinion I seem to find it very different to the way how I used to see it because delivering packages wasn't really an issue until COVID-19 began, although some could say that one can just wear gloves or use alcohol to disinfect it, but some may not be able to cope with it even if they're cautious about it or not.

So in my point of view of delivering packages in 2020, I see that it can be a challenge because some people don't want random citizens to walk up on their property if they will feel a certain way. For example, spreading the virus, keeping in close contact (5 ft or below), or just

walking into their homes without being aware of the issue. What one might say is it's still straight forward similar to how we used to do it during pre-pandemic days, but the only difference is that they have some restrictions that some people should know about like wearing a mask etc etc. But most of the time it's straightforward for most people out there. Although most buildings have revoked the service altogether to limit outside visitors during this time, as the time went through most of them were restored to business. But I can see why some are quite hesitant about bringing back delivery services, one some people could just wander around the hall unattended, and two some people don't want random visitors to spread the virus out of nowhere. But to bring back to my point, delivering packages was a challenge because some residents felt cautious about it, and some buildings were quite strict about it too. However, some people will say that it wasn't a challenge since it was pretty much the same thing as how we had it before the pandemic.

Although some people might say they could catch the virus just by even getting the packages in their building, which can be an issue to some people waiting for deliveries. But there are some ways to handle these situations during a pandemic. According to the CDC, they recommend that and avoid close contact with people, this will prevent anyone from getting sick, but according to them it is possible to catch it by touching the surface by the object itself and then touching their mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes etc. Although they say this isn't the main way of spreading the virus, since it is spreadable through the air. You have to be extra cautious too, especially for those who are at a higher-risk and can possibly affect the outer package of your home, and you have to wash your hands after handling it. So it may seem like this change alone could change the way people deliver packages, but many people to this day are coping with this challenge, although today's society is a lot different since not many people are wearing

masks, making a big deal out of it, or having the city on full lockdown like they did back in 2020.

To sum all of this information up, I can say that during the pandemic when it began back in 2020, it has completely changed our lives in terms of delivering packages to other peoples homes. But however in 2023, it kind of has changed back to the way we've had for years before this whole pandemic has begun. But delivering services all had to cope with the shift of pandemic lockdowns and restrictions, since it would cause cases to rise up more than ever. According to most people, delivering packages while still in the pandemic can be a tough challenge because you don't know if the place you are headed to are quite strict in terms of outside visitors, social distancing issues, and more. But many of them have already started to cope with this situation over time as time has gone through, with many cases going up, more places slowly starting to open, and many of the restrictions going away. So delivering packages during the pandemic was a widely different experience to have since nothing like this has ever happened before, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic has changed our entire lives and how we do things. With these changes it also allowed more people to be hired for delivering services too, people not going out as much and places starting to not allow any indoor seating, it made them increase the number of people doing delivery service and bringing stuff to their house to prevent the consumer to step out of their homes to prevent them from catching the virus. It could be a wildly different experience but at the same time we just had to adapt to this situation, just go with the flow, and prevent anyone from getting sick or catching the COVID altogether.