

RISING FROM THE ASHES

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The world is grappling with a deadly virus, a life-threatening hazard that stumbles from

one crisis to another. Entire continents have been under government-imposed curfews, economies

have come to a screeching halt, and healthcare systems are under immense pressure. Social

distancing and stay-at-home orders have imprisoned us behind the walls of our very own homes.

This is the reality of 2020- The Year of the Coronavirus. This pandemic has created a sense of

anxiety and fear for everyone and it will have a lasting influence on the future of humanity. So,

what will our world look like after this pandemic? All aspects of society will change, from the

environment to eating habits. But the areas that I will be focusing on are Medicine and Healthcare,

Economy, and
Education.

The coronavirus has tested the limits of our current healthcare system and after this

pandemic, we can expect drastic changes. According to the article, *A Real Digital Infrastructure*

at Last, after experiencing a huge shortage of ventilators and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

in such a life-threatening crisis, specialists in big data analytics will start modeling networks of

distribution chains for life-critical medical equipment and develop real-time tracking to better

inform policy decisions. Also, Artificial Intelligence enabled computer modeling will allow us to

test drugs and find vaccines that would otherwise take us years of painstaking lab work. Telehealth

services will also become a norm in the medical field as it allows doctors to treat patients wherever

they are, prevents the spread of disease, and enables us to conserve important resources at the

hospitals. Furthermore, this virus does not discriminate in any way. So, we need a healthcare

system that favors all classes of wealth, not just the rich. COVID-19 might have caused a global

crisis, but it has also allowed the field of medicine to drive new changes that will bring better

health care to all, once this ordeal finally ends.

In due course, this pandemic will end but it will leave an undeniable dent in our economy.

Our economy which was doing better than ever before has come to a halt. Restaurants are

shuttered, airlines have canceled flights, stock markets have crashed, and gas prices have hit rock

bottom. Twenty-two million Americans have filed for unemployment benefits in the past four

weeks. Now, it has become clear that unemployment benefits are a must, and not effectively

providing them to everyone will doom the economy for all. Also, retailers with physical stores will

take an all-time hit as everyone is quarantined and are shopping online. All over the world,

businesses have suffered greatly. Therefore, the importance of insurance and risk management

planning will rise exponentially. It will take a long time to recover, but we are consumers. Pent-

up demand to get out after quarantine will slowly bring our economy back.

The coronavirus has impacted 124,000 schools across the country. These school closures

have upended the lives of millions of students in countless districts who have made the rapid switch

to online learning. Closures have caused multiple short-term problems like the disruption of

essential meal programs and inconsistent internet access for the needy. But the article *Online*

Education That Fits Each Child states that uncertainty about when we will return to school could

force a re-evaluation of our current school system. Teachers have always known that each child

learns at his or her own pace and gaps in their learning can form if they are all herded at the same

speed. But online learning enables kids to learn at their pace. If we could practice this form of

mastery learning when we get back to the classroom, children will be able to grasp the content

better. Online education will become a core priority at every institution and will be a part of each

school's plan for academic progression during a crisis. But the most important benefit we will gain

from virtual instruction during this time will come when we are back in the classroom. Professors

and students will finally understand the value of precious face-to-face instruction and discussion.

In conclusion, our world will never be the same after this crisis. COVID-19 will be a

defining moment in our generation. We will be the survivors of this global disaster in textbooks,

kids will read decades from now. This is not the first nor the last pandemic we will face. But no

matter what the challenges, there will be a light at the end of the tunnel, and lessons to be learned

from. The world will rise from the ashes. We will soon be in a new era, where innovation and

creativity will reach new heights. As Chuck Palahniuk once said, "Only after disaster can we be

resurrected

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