

INEQUALITIES THROUGH 2020

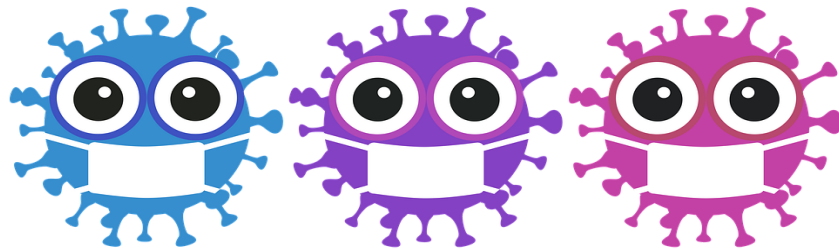
October 2020

ISSUES CAUSED BY THE COVID-19

Let's introduce you to COVID-19. I feel like you might already know a lot about the subject because you have heard enough of it for nearly two years. COVID-19 also called coronavirus is a virus which started in China in 2019 and then became a universal pandemic. COVID-19 touched millions of people, killed a lot of people, changed everyone's routine, it changed us.

What changes?

On the one hand, the applications had to make adaptations during the pandemic, for example : Zoom Video Communication which is used for teleconferencing, online classes, telecommunication, their turnover*(whenever you see an asterix, you can check the meaning of the word on page 5) has increased* by 36 % and they have never been used more than in 2020 ; moreover, Essex's future app is an app which will analyse people's cough to know if we have covid or not. Another example that we can give is the French app «Tous anti covid» which serves for covid information and now «the sanitary pass».



School changes

On the other hand* a major change happened to all the students, in fact all of the schools were closed : middle school, high school, universities, etc. However, students didn't stop studying, adaptations also had to be made. Like online classes, as we said before, with Zoom, Discord or any other teleconferencing website. They also created robots which follow teachers for more reality video work. Nevertheless, education at home was exhausting* for the parents because they weren't used to doing «school at home».

Other problems

Lockdown* which was supposed to be a solution became a problem, creating inequalities in the housing they were locked in. It also closed the restaurants, but delivery* applications were used, which saved some restaurants. Covid-19 has made a lot of changes all around the world, causing deaths, lockdowns and measures to change everyone's daily life. All of those changes made inequalities worse. For example, Amazon and Netflix earned* more money than ever while restaurants and mom and pop shops* were struggling to keep the incomes* up. The lockdowns weren't easy for everyone because of the different size of homes and disparity* of the population. Applications have been created like Zoom or Discord.

Nonetheless, people experienced other kinds of issues in the United States, causing deaths, disparities and anger against the government, slightly* like the pandemic in a way.

WAS GEORGE FLOYD THE ONLY VICTIM?

The BLM's origin

The Black Lives Matter is a movement against racism, it began in 2013 in the US, and it was created by three female Black organizers, Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, Opal Tometi.

Other victim?

Unfortunately, racist people are everywhere, even in the police. Some policemen abuse and kill black people because they are racist. For example, George Zimmerman was shot to death* in 2012, Michael Brown and Eric Floyd in 2014, and George Floyd in 2020, who stopped breathing because of a policeman who held him too tight. His death was filmed and published, now everyone knows about it.



#BLM

It was tweeted on Facebook, Instagram, everywhere we talked about it. The hashtag created by the organizers became famous, and now everybody knows about the terrible truth.

Protests in 2020 didn't only take place in the United States, but also in India for different reasons, both fighting for human rights and against unfair* acts.

« DON'T BITE THE HAND THAT FEEDS YOU »

This quote was taken from a sign photographed in New Delhi, India, in 2020 during the farmers' protest. In fact, in September 2020, the Indian Parliament reformed the law about agriculture and this new decision has not been approved by the majority of Indian farmers.

The purpose

This law is to modernize agriculture and boost* incomes, impacting the farmers' livelihood* to promote bigger corporations.* 25% of Indian farmers are living under the poverty line, which is set at a dollar a day. This law is about to make it worse, according to those who are opposed to it.

The beginning of the protest

That's why and how 50,000 of them left their home town and came to protest in and all around New Delhi to repeal* the law. They showed up* on the streets, holding slogans, signs or flags,

blocking the pathway* and camping on highways*. But it's not all. Farmers drove their tractors and buses into barriers as well, because their voices weren't heard by the government.

Authority's reaction

Unfortunately, the Indian authority got violent and didn't hesitate to use tear gas* and water cannons on the crowd of protesters. The police have also done mass arrests while some protesters got killed. Policemen also destroyed their camps, although their conditions were already harsh.

Americans' reactions

The situation is now known all over the World, and Western American farmers have raised their voices for Indian farmers. Americans share their anger and realize how unfair the Indian government is being and how aggressive the authorities are.



Here is another article, written by a different reporter, talking about Indian farmers' protests.

UNRESTING SITUATION FOR FARMERS IN INDIA

The Indian economy is in a precarious* situation. The Indian farmers are protesting in New Delhi, in the midst* of the pandemic. The Indian farmers reproach the Indian government for voting for new laws which threatened* their livelihood.

Farmers' perspectives

To begin, massive demonstrations have taken place in India. 50,000 demonstrators camping in New Delhi street with flags to show their dissatisfaction. They also sat in front of the parliament in order to pressurize the parliament to have the controversial laws suspended.

The government's perspective

Furthermore, the government did not agree with the farmers and demonstrators. The Indian prime minister said "The new laws are going to create new jobs and modernize the agriculture, moreover farmers are going to have a bigger season".

To conclude, farmers' demonstrations have a direct effect on the economy of the country because agriculture represents 15% of GDP*, so if the government wants to modernize agriculture they will have to give the possibility for farmers to have a role in the legislative body to protect their needs.

Reporters from Jean Monnet High School, La Queue lez Yvelines

Amélie Chamillard, Ludivine, Victoria Muller, Noam

VOCABULARY

to **boost** : to intensify

corporation : big business

delivery : distribution

disparity : difference

to **earn** : to obtain (money usually)

exhausting : tiring

GDP : Gross Domestic Product (PIB)

harsh : hard

a **highway** : main road

an **income** : a revenue

to **increase** : to get bigger

livelihood : subsistence

a **lockdown** : a confinement

midst : middle

a **mom and pop shop** : small and independent business

on the other hand : in the contrary

a **pathway** : a route

precarious : unsure

to **repeal** : to cancel

to **shot (someone) to death** : to kill someone with a gun

to **show up** : to expose

slightly : a bit

tear gas : lachrymator bomb

to **threat** : to menace

a **turnover** : chiffre d'affaires

unfair : unjust