

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my voice today.

My name is Logan and I am 14 and a freshman from Georgia. Over the last 19 and a half months I, along with other teens, have had my life suspended and turned upside down. I went to remote learning, which was not really learning but *more of a place holder. My friendships were paused and many lost. Relatives died, and many I know had depression, anxiety and even tried to hurt themselves. My grades dropped, class trips cancelled. Others lost graduations and more. Recently I lost 4 days of instruction due to being a close contact at school. I wore my mask, social distanced and was punished for it. The vaccinated student who was also exposed and could still be a carrier and spreader stayed in class, this is not equal access to education! My test was negative, but I shouldn't have even had to take it as I had no symptoms and was healthy.*

I wear a mask starting at 6:30 am and continue until 3:30pm 5 days a week. That's 9 hours! I'm only awake for an additional 7 hours each day. Over half of my day is spent wearing a devise used as a medical intervention without my consent, nor proof that it is even doing anything. My teachers have always taught me to be a critical thinker and that facts only come after a theory is tested and repeated by others. These masks have not been proven to help us and not hurt us. It is distracting, uncomfortable, causes rashes, and frequent headaches. I ride a bus 40 minutes 2 times each day wearing the mask, the windows must be kept open the entire ride including the interstate! I urge each one of you to drive home today with your mask on and all of your windows open, heat off (as the bus heat cannot compensate) so that you might understand what our youth are going through.

I also urge you to be the voice for myself and all of the other kids in Vermont who cannot vote yet. We ask you to stop all medical mandates. Masks and vaccines should be a choice between our parents and ourselves!

Thank you for your time.

Logan Grimm
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