

What Weaknesses and Strengths About Our World Are Being Exposed by This Pandemic?



How would you answer this question in terms of how your own family and community have been affected? How would you answer it more broadly, in thinking about your city, your nation or the world?

Parents and students waiting to enter a school near Copenhagen on Wednesday. [Related Article](#) Credit...Olafur Steinar Gestsson/Ritzau Scanpix, via Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

- What problems have affected you or someone you know personally? That is, what do you see among your own family, friends, classmates and neighbors that points to an issue our society needs to fix? Perhaps someone you know has lost his or her job or health insurance — or is still working but has to do so without adequate personal protective equipment. Maybe there are items you need and can't buy, or classmates who can't go online to do their work right now.
- What evidence of our strengths — whether through personal, group or institutional generosity, resilience or creative thinking — have you experienced? For example, maybe your community has figured out ways to get food and supplies to elderly neighbors, or someone you know has set up a fund to help those in need, or your church or school has done something to reproduce in-person gatherings online in a way that has been comforting.
- The pandemic has made many global, national and local societal problems worse. Which of these problems worry you most? What underlying issues, if any, did this crisis make you see more clearly?
- In crises, there are often opportunities. What do you hope will come out of this that might begin to fix or address the issues in our society that worry you most?