The Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, also commonly known as Covid-19, was initially discovered in China the year 2019. This virus was novel, resulting in no one knowing what they were dealing with. Many scientists and other medical professionals thought that this virus would be controlled and did not expect it to be a big deal. However, Covid-19 has proved many experienced professionals wrong, and it resulted in a worldwide pandemic that has made a huge impact. Since the end of 2019/beginning of 2020, it has been seen through social media how a virus so serious was taken so lightly, many people made memes and jokes. No one realized that this virus would cause countries to shut down completely, as well as many lives being changed drastically. The main topic of this study will be looking into how the media and the internet played a role in the minds of consumers and how seriously they took the virus. It is hypothesized that with numerous resources and websites right at our fingertips, along with people’s ability to include their own opinion on it, played a major role in people’s perception of the virus, with those that viewed it as fake versus those that took it seriously.

Abstract

The Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, also commonly known as Covid-19 first appeared in 2019, in China. Epidemiologists, scientists that study diseases, began working and doing investigations on it in China, they soon came to the conclusion that this virus likely originated from an animal sold at a market. This virus causes severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), some of the symptoms that are associated with it are fever, coughs, muscle aches and difficulty breathing (Baghchechi et al., 2020).

Introduction

The Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, also commonly known as Covid-19 first appeared in 2019, in China. Epidemiologists, scientists that study diseases, began working and doing investigations on it in China, they soon came to the conclusion that this virus likely originated from an animal sold at a market. This virus causes severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), some of the symptoms that are associated with it are fever, coughs, muscle aches and difficulty breathing (Baghchechi et al., 2020).

Method:

➢ Due to the many restrictions placed around Covid-19 and laboratory experiences and the virus being novel, all data mining was performed from the CDC website and peer-reviewed scientific articles.

Data:

➢ Figure 1: Positive and negatives in the public that have been noticed and studied during the Covid-19 pandemic.
➢ Figure 2: The total amount of time people spent on social media platforms seeking more information regarding the Covid-19 pandemic.
➢ Figure 3: The engagement and interactions each social media platform had with topics related to Covid-19.
➢ Figure 4: Rumors, stigma, and conspiracy theories associated with COVID-19 and time line of reports detected during a 2020 study.

Discussion:

➢ Covid first originated in China, and how the virus spread quickly and unknowingly throughout China, and Asia and other countries and soon to the United States
➢ Due to Covid becoming a global pandemic, many public places and institutions such as schools, libraries, offices, stores and small businesses were closed to the public, and many people soon had to work and go to school online.
➢ The huge financial impact the virus had on many people, since some did get laid off from their places of employment, or had to file for unemployment due to their offices being shut down.
➢ Due to many people now being online more often, there was a large number of people voicing their opinion against the virus, and how they did not believe the virus was real, and were doing so without credible research based sources to back up their words.
➢ The mental impact the virus had on many people. Large numbers of people got infected or died from the virus. Essential workers would be working for many hours throughout the day and were not able to see or spend time with their family as much as they used to.

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References:


The Global and Media Effects of Covid-19

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