

Overview:

A few weeks ago, the world saw a sudden surge of COVID cases in China after they relieved their citizens of Coronavirus restrictions. Recently, the COVID-19 cases in China spiked from 1,000 estimated daily cases to over 35,000. Many people in America with relatives and friends in China show signs of worry, while new global changes are taking place to stop the spread of COVID. A new law has passed by America and numerous other countries saying that people flying over from China will have to pass a PCR test, polymerase chain reaction test, for 48 hours before being officially allowed into the country. Xi Jin Ping, China's president, also just instituted this rule against foreign countries attempting to enter China.

People in America about relatives:

Back in America, friends and relatives that have connections to people in China show signs of worry. A teacher at Carlmont High School said "I am really worried about my relatives back in China". His relatives said that there is a shortage of drugs used for treating Coronavirus's symptoms such as fever. Not only that, he heard that if he tried to ship medicine back to China for his relatives, it would be confiscated at customs.

On top of everything going on, rumors concerning a black market for Covid alleviating drugs in China have shown up. These rumors claim that fake and real drugs are being sold in a black market for over 10,000 yuan, about 2,000 dollars.

Holiday Seasons in America:

Fear and uncertainty rises with Christmas, New Year, and numerous other holidays around the corner. Dr. Peter Chin-Hong, a specialist at the University of California, San Francisco said, "We have the tools for a normal life, we just have to use them."

Statistically, America didn't have a drastic increase in COVID cases during their Christmas holidays. Many Americans are lax about COVID security. They no longer wear masks in public and often attend social gatherings. Over New Years, COVID cases were still relatively similar. A student at San Mateo High said "Honestly I don't think COVID is that big of a deal in America anymore. Almost everyone is vaccinated, there are medicines to treat COVID everywhere, and most people already have antibodies from previously getting COVID." With Chinese Lunar New Year coming, we can gain insight on the opposite end of the spectrum.

Chinese Lunar New Year Celebrations:

A Chinese School teacher said "The upcoming holidays will be tense. We have many elderly at home and do not want to put them at risk." He is concerned that the holidays may put family members and others at risk. It is tradition to gather together and celebrate on Chinese New Year, but many seem hesitant to gather while COVID is still at large. With a population of over 1 billion people, it can be easily predicted that a festive gathering such as Chinese Lunar New Year would cause another spike in COVID cases.

Conclusions:

CDC Guidelines recommend people to be vaccinated, wear masks, and to celebrate in a way that won't spread COVID. Now the world can only wait and see what happens during these upcoming festive seasons.