

## Diary from Quarantine – 30 – *Generation Covid-19*

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This morning I was confident to be able to enter the supermarket quickly, as I woke up very early to be there before everybody: I was completely wrong, in fact it took me 45 minutes in line even though I arrived there at 8,00 a.m.

Standing in line outside, I had time to think about two things. First, what happens to these people waiting in line when it rains?

The second one is deeper, I promise.

I was thinking that all of us experienced some watershed event in our lives. Some events that become turning point, landmarks, and create a Before and an After. It can be the birth of a child, a divorce, the decision to move abroad. It can be anything, but these are all individual existential watershed events.

What is much less frequent is experiencing collective existential watershed events, and the pandemic is definitely one of them.

People of different ages who are alive now – especially if they are not too young like little children or babies - will be studied on history books as the Generation Covid-19. We will be described and looked at through a new prism, that of the pandemic.

When collective watershed events happen, they create a generation who experience them united, and a new identity, in which all of us will always recognize ourselves and our fellows.

To conclude on a note of optimism, I think that every time this happens, ideas can be born.

After a war, after the independence of a country, after discovering a natural resource in a new region, humans have always delivered Ideas: collective watershed events create breeding grounds for thought and innovation. None of us should miss this opportunity.