

Covid Fatigue and Family Conflict: Stories of Struggle and Hope

Call for contributions

With your extraordinary cooperation and contributions, we published the first “pandemic book.” We believed it would be a one-off publication. It seemed likely that the pandemic would be controlled given extraordinary advances in medical knowledge, techniques and treatments.

And, then 2021 began — the pandemic raging more viciously. Even the availability of vaccines has not halted the spread of misery and death. So, we worked together to produce a second “pandemic book.”

With the sudden and accelerating spread of omicron ensures that the heartache for families who have struggled for nearly two years is unending. Grief, anxiety, and loss continue. Pandemic fatigue washes over us. We are exhausted and frustrated. Students uncertain whether and when they will return to school. Friendships continue to be interrupted, family gatherings are postponed again (or risked with unsurprising consequences), economic uncertainty continues.

We thought we were finished with a second book, and then... Perhaps it's time for a third book.



Peter and I think that this book will contain both advice and stories. How do families manage the fatigue? How do we cope with the losses—not only for family members and friends who have died. We have lost opportunities to be with friends and family. Students have missed being with their friends and learning in a more “regular” environment. We are weary of being vigilant. Confidence that the pandemic will soon end is low.

What do you advise families who are experiencing fatigue and grief? How do they cope with an uncertain future and mourn their losses? What is the long-term impact on children who have their frustrating experiences distance learning, limited if any time with friends, their families unsettled and anxious.

As with the first two pandemic books, we will publish through Amazon, initially in digital format, and shortly after a print version. The purchase price will be set at the lowest price permitted by Amazon.

Proceeds from the books' sale will be donated to international charitable organizations offering support and services to children and families.

Some guidelines to help with your contribution.

- Contributions may be written in English or the author's first language. If writing in a language other than English, it would be helpful - but not necessary - to provide an English translation. We will gladly publish stories written in any language.
- Length – between 250 and 600 words.
- In addition to your story, please submit a bio of 75 words.
- Please provide a two line overview that we may use as inspiration to create an illustration.

Please send your contribution to mediatorlang@verizon.net before April 1st, 2022

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