

**Joanna Knox**  
**Monologue**

Can you be considerate for once? The rules are not open to interpretation, stay home means stay home.

In the United Kingdom, there are hundreds of people dying every day, people from all walks of life are sacrificing their safety to save others and ensuring those less fortunate are well cared for and have all their requirements met. Frontline workers, namely those NHS nurses taking care of our loved ones in ICU and hospital wards, are unable to see their own children, their family, their friends.

You see, for some of us, this is a lovely little break. A time to relax and simply breathe for a moment, catch up on all those little things we put off for another day, learn a new hobby. Yet you're loudly complaining about not being able to see anyone, that you're inconvenienced because you can't pop to the park to meet your mate.

'Thank you, NHS.' That colourful rainbow poster you have on the other side of your window? That's an affront, just like when you stand at your door and clap for carers at eight o'clock every Thursday evening. It's the new trend, right? Oh, I'll look bad if I'm not there... Guess what? You already look bad, terrible, in fact.

I see you meeting up with your mates every day on your Snapchat story, your Facebook feed. I see you laughing and joking and ignoring the rules, putting people's lives in danger. It's people like you that make people like my mum nervous and me absolutely furious. She works with vulnerable and shielding people, follows the rules to the letter and tries to be as safe as she possibly can. But, she doesn't know if the man standing a little too close and ignoring the two metre rule behind her in the supermarket queue is a carrier. Imagine carrying that virus to someone who can't fight it? Imagine having someone's death on your hands because you encountered someone who simply didn't think the rules applied to them?

I don't mean to get personal, but I haven't seen anyone in almost two months, and you know what? That's okay, because it won't be forever, I have my phone, I have my webcam and I am safe in the knowledge I'm not jeopardising anyone's life. It's a small sacrifice to make considering...

"It's alright, we're family, I don't need to social distance." If you don't live in the same house - YES, you do!

Coronavirus is not about YOU, it's about US, but hey... hope you enjoyed your barbecue with all your friends. How bad are you going to feel when one of them gets sick?