

It is the third test I have to take in a little over a month. But this one is different. If I don't take it I will be expelled from the program I've been waiting for months and will have to leave Prague.

I don't even know how I got in this line to wait for the test. The anger is blinding me. The email I just received is going over and over in my head. "Congratulations, I don't care if you are in quarantine. I don't care about what your doctor said. If you don't take this test you are expelled. Start packing."

The regret of even telling someone I had contact with a positive person couldn't be bigger. How crazy must you be to tell a sick person to stand in line in the rain for hours? The desire to control the disease has gotten bigger than the disease itself, people have become numbers and positive results. If I had had contact with a positive person for chickenpox this woman would have let me stay laying down sick in my bed. But the numbers are more important, right? I should have just stayed quiet and followed my doctor's orders.

It seems like every step that I take and every minute that I stand in this line makes my anger and frustration grow a little bit more. And then I reread the email in my mind "I'm sending an email to your home university right now to terminate your Erasmus" I don't even understand it. I try to make sense of it all and it doesn't. I have been in quarantine for the last 13 days, I'm only outside because I've been told so. It's like I'm just one more that got sick and needs to amount in the "positive for coronavirus pile".

The rain is pouring harder and looking forward I see so many more people in front of me. I wonder if they are all sick like me or if they are unnecessarily standing in this line. I wonder if all of us are really just numbers of tests that need to be performed throughout the day to amount to a statistic. We should have become people with more compassion to one another during this pandemic but it seems that it has dehumanized us a bit more. And while my mind goes off wondering my body is freezing in this 0 degree rain and fever but my brain is burning in anger at how mismanaged and inconsiderate this whole situation has been dealt with.