# Audio file

[Fayzul.mp3](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

# [Transcript](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[OK, thank you. So are you working for health care system in Alaska?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[No, I'm not.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[OK so. OK. Thank you very much for your time. As you know, we are working on vaccine hesitancy issues in some remote area all around the world and in the US we work on Alaska. So can you please tell me a little more about yourself? Occupation, educational background and how long have you lived in this city?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[OK so I am. My name is Faisal, you know, and my education. I have a PhD in environmental engineering from University of Alaska Fairbanks. I'm 34 years old. And I am hearing about the since 2019. I'm a state of Alaska employee working in state of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. As an environmental engineer, associate engineer, one positions and working in the West Water section.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[OK. Thank you. And I think now we want to know a little about how social media could impact vaccine hesitancy in Alaska. So what the social media platform do you usually use or people around you, especially if some? You know Alaskan friends or colleagues? What kind of social media they use more.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Regarding the social media, I I mainly use Facebook in, in, in general and in professional 1 I use LinkedIn, mostly LinkedIn and Facebook. Other than this I have account for on Twitter. But my very you know, occasionally use that if there is any specific reason otherwise not. And I think the use of social media is is dependent on the age. Kind of. So that is is group, I mean we are we are the people who started with failed also some media platform also some media journey with Facebook and we are continuing that but the people of this generation if you saw our generation means like. Our friend who are The Who are the grad student or who are who have done their PhD working in the academia. The others will still they're using Facebook is their main social media platform. But our students who are younger than us, like who are within the 20 to 30 age or or 15 to 25 years age they they have. I I even don't know the name of they have different social media platform they are using and even they many of them. And even they don't know that I don't have any account in the Facebook also. So yeah, it's a wide range of social media right now.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Hello.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[OK. And do you think they will somehow cross any kind of information from social media in some serious topics like vaccination or for example COVID?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Influence.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[I I I want to know how they trust the information from social media.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Ohh, it's it. It depends. So if the information is from any reliable source. So for example, during the COVID CDC or other global or well health or CDC who are the leader or in like protecting the public health from COVID or discovering vaccine. So people would like to get the information. From them, whether it is it is as a media coverage or or their social media campaign, people might trust those things even from different healthcare healthcare experts. The opinion from people that healthcare experts, people definitely try. For those, but if it is just the general the the if it is like a tumor. OK, this happened many times. We we know that. OK, that that kind of new diseases spreading all over the world. But there is no strong evidence or research background. So I think this time people are. You know, information is more open and people could verify any of the information easily. So and most of the people here definitely educated, not not below the education level. So definitely they they will not. They don't trust that information that is not true or that is. Buyers. So yeah, if it's from the reliable source, definitely people in trust and they're having impact them.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Yeah, and thank you very much. Have you heard anything from the social media during COVID that, for example, there were some crazy information like this vaccine the governments are testing this vaccine on us or, for example, they put? Very tiny chip in the. Vaccines and they want to enter to our bodies. Have you heard something like that or did you see people that believe this misinformation?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Yeah, there is a good question. Definitely it was a such kind of information and I I would say those are rumors. So those kind of information was very widely spread during COVID not only coveting any kind of catastrophic this. Digester or pandemic like that it is very common because there are some group of people whose who try to spread this kind of information and them they might have their own interest. Sometimes it is not so for Alaska. If I could say there is a you know there is large. Group who are reserved, we could say reserved group. And who are they? Are not up to date with the modern world that much. Their lives in their own village, very remote villages, and they have very few access to the the people of mainland. In the case they have their own belief. And then I would say, yeah, there was a lot of. Such concept, especially they have some religious thinking. So many of the people, many of dollars. Can I even? I know personally many of dollars can people they haven't taken bags and they don't want there so they says yeah is something they are pushing it might. Those their immunity system. It might have something else. They have some religious beliefs, so they don't willing to get the vaccine. Even you know, some of the institution they have even have. For example, in our university it was mandated to get the COVID vaccine in different stages, like stage 1, stage 2, stage 3. But at the same time. There was a provision that if someone have someone don't want to take the vaccine due to their religious belief or an instance, so they have to provide that inform. Question as well so that but they have to take specific precaution accordingly. So yeah definitely it is there and but I will say in the educated society because I am mostly here with the university community, either university student, researcher, Professor. So in our community. He is very few, almost there is no such concept, is very, very few people may might they might have such concept, but in general or mineral people or or or the people from working class. Yeah, they have such concept in their mind.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[MHM. And do you think it was? Did this concept, this belief was only about the COVID vaccine or people who were against COVID vaccine was were generally against all kind of vaccines too?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[No, no, no. This kind of I think they don't have any specific issue with. Because COVID was one of the pandemic that we have seen in our lives, our lifetime and how we hope that God will not give such a pandemic in the in the world again. But yeah, definitely as it is during the COVID. So it was against COVID, but at the same time there were many people who don't want to take any other. Other vaccine as well. So the people who have the problem with COVID, they have the same concern because you know, you know that here we're taking the flu vaccine every. Yeah, and it is almost mandatory, especially for Alaska is almost mandatory. So people have to take flu vaccine every year. So the people who are who are against coffee, they are also don't want like they are not willing to take the flu vaccine itself. So is is it is is not against any specific disease or specific. And they make it's all against all the vaccinations program.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[As you know, in lots of countries around the world, COVID vaccine was obligatory and but in the US it was not obligatory as you mentioned to do you think as as you know people in Alaska like urban communities, some tribal communities. Do you think it would be a good strategy for them to to be obligatory?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Yeah. So The thing is if it could be obligatory, but still unless someone is a public employee, so it could not be done by the government because you know here in the people's public right is very strongly maintained and respected in the United States, so. I what I have seen that every institution. Like as a university we we have got the university center system e-mail. So they have made it mandatory in their system. If someone works in any store, they have made it mandatory for their store. So if someone wants to work there, they have to get it. So like this, if every institute can do it or can do it mentally. Because in that case, the people who are not willing to get the vaccine, they could work somewhere else. They have the provision that. But overall, making it mandatory by the OR by the government, maybe people will not follow that rule that strictly. So now what happened? The people that they say the group of people who are basically do their own business or own job or who don't care about the job doing job. The others, they might switch their job even if they don't want to get if. If someone something made mandatory for them. So yeah, it happened during COVID that the the, the, the government or any or. Migration cannot make it mandatory if they can, even if they can mandatory make it mandatory, they cannot knock every door or yeah, you come out and you have to give the vaccine. Not like that. So it is something I need to be change in people's mind and in my opinion, if it need to be mandatory then before that. The government or the authority must have to make sure. And must have to win the people's trust then that there is nothing wrong going. On. Because we cannot deny that there is definitely different side effect of vaccine, we cannot say it is 100% OK even you know for me for example I have taken 2 main doses, one dish booster doses, but it's still after getting there. I was affected by COVID 2 times. During the pandemic. So how could I even for me, how could I trust that after getting the vaccine I was in in the second time it was last year? I think it was last year sometime and it was so old that I couldn't get out of the bed for seven days. So even it was worse than the people who haven't taken pics. So how could I trust that? So, definitely they'll have controversy and their controversy have their basis. So even after getting the vaccine, if people are getting died, if people are affected, then how could I we totally rely so in that case definitely it is not possible for the the Dixon producer to ensure that it is 100% effective, but it's still. If they want to make it mandatory, then they must have to ensure that it is 100%. Protective. Then they can make it mandatory. So for example, like other other vaccines, if it is like MMR or any other vaccine, yeah, they have the. If someone get the MMR vaccine, they have their resistance for long time. That that that time period they allow if it is for five years then during this five years, if they test their blood they have the. Resistance for that but. Probably it is not. If it is there then or also there is different variant issue, different issues, so that's why maybe it it didn't work. Definitely there was issues but. Is it can be ensured that the vaccine is working 100% or not even even not 100 percent, 99 Percent, 95% then people could trust otherwise it's not. So I gave, just gave my example after getting 3 doses of vaccine, I affected by COVID 2 times. So my my my key, my baby he hasn't taken. Any of the vaccine and he wasn't affected anymore. So he was in the same home with us. So how could people trust them?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[I see. Thank you. Uh, did you see any NGOs or any kind of non governmental groups that work for vaccination or encouraging people to get vaccines?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[So yeah, during COVID it was actually I would. While COVID was there actually it was 234 years back, so definitely I yes, I cannot remember but I I have seen every every part, every part of the Alaska where possible people work for it. Like if it is a community group they have work or if it is like. In the religious group then, they have organized it in their religious group. If it is like they have different churches here, different society, society, cultural organization there. So everyone on their on their aspect, they have arranged the vaccination program and then. They encourage, they try to encourage the people they have opened a booth or where they could give the information and vaccine vaccination. So yeah, definitely. It was the combined impact of both the organization organization and the government body to make for for the better implementation of the excitation that time.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[OK. Thank you. And do you think people or or even yourself are you satisfied with the health care system totally?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[The healthcare system here. Yes, it is something related to COVID or overall.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[No, generally overall.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[General. Yeah. Generally the healthcare system for me is OK. The world healthcare system, the structure, it's OK. In some cases there have some. I have some as I'm not originally from this background, I have passed my half or over half time of my life from different backgrounds. So if I come there. Then I would say it's not that accessible easily accessible here. This is one problem. So for example, in many cases that if you would like to get access to any healthcare facility, it is not that accessible, you have to go through a specific procedure unless you have the insurance health insurance. Many of the healthcare facility doesn't want to take take you as their patient. Because they don't want to get someone who cannot pay, or who has a problem later. So there is some issues. Also the insurance is a big barrier here. So the in many cases the insurance company would like to be sure that they're not going to be any trouble. That means like they have organized their scheme in such a way that they want to make sure that the people who are getting service from their service, they will not be charging a lot of amount of money. So. Then my people will just continue to pay their premium, but unless something accident, accidental thing happened there, people are not going to get their service. They are. They have organized their scheme in such a way. So I will give you one example from my wife when. She arrived here. So she was she was pregnant of for five months at that time. She I was not informed that what kind of insurance and health insurance I could take. So I was I was, you know, looking for health insurance from different organization because at at the hospital was not taking her as a patient unless she had insurance. And I was not informed. And were informed that what kind of health insurance she could take. Each of them in health insurance company I was calling. They were not willing to accept. They says no, she could not. Maybe our patient because she has four months of pregnancy. That means after five months there is a like chance of getting a big, big amount of bill from them. So. That means what, like we are even just pay that their system is designed in such a way. Just pay when you are not in the risk. And just pay us and when you are in the risk then we are not with you so and they want they have arranged in such a way that OK you have to pay a certain amount of time like if it is you are paying for one year or some time then if something happened to you OK then we are with us we are with you so I I don't like this system. The healthcare system, from my opinion, it should be more accessible to the people more easily and also the cost. So unless someone get the. Instantly from their work employer getting the healthcare access or or getting the health insurance. It's really, really too expensive for the people. So they have different, you know, definitely they have different premiums. So some of those people have to pay if they want to get like the standard. Over is what we call 8020 or some. Thing like this, they have to they pay very high for each person they have to pay 607 hundred or $800 per month, which is really, really tough for a general people to pay. So unless someone work within your organization then they might give share some some part of it, then it is accessible. So I know many people here who have who worked and their work. Their employer policies design such a way they don't offer health insurance to the people. Then what happened? The people, although they they, their income is pretty standard like they they make 80,000 or $90,000 a year but even they cannot afford the health. You see, if they have two or three three person in their family, then you know it might cost $1500 a month or even $2000 a month to pay their health insurance. Then how good people support their how good. So it is just the health insurance premium in in addition to that, it is not something it is not covering everything. So they have to. They pay the rest of the they have to pay the deductible. They have to pay the rest of the fee, so the whole healthcare or health, you know, the payment for the health system is really, really very high. So in that sense, people says, OK, then let me skip. Wait. And then maybe I could, you know, say $10,000 for the whole year. And if something not happen with me. Then it's fine. But if something happened to me, then maybe I could see a doctor and I could ask for for like, and if they have any scheme to reduce the fee or something like just people think like that. Even I know many, many people for many silly like minor minor issues in healthcare health issues. They even don't want to go to the doctor. I didn't say if I go to the doctor and then they will charge it different necessary thing they will test. Even though I I could I have experienced many like even I know that it is not something serious but they have their protocol according to their protocol. They have prescribed a lot of test and you know the test is expensive. It cost 5 thousand, $6000 and even after paying the insurance, but the client has to pay $1000 two $1000, so it's it's everything is really really chilling. So I if you say in summary, I don't like the healthcare system here, I need I think it need a major revision overall and so that the people. Based on their income level, they might contribute amount, but it should be accessible to every people.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[I see. I understand. Thank you. And uh, yeah. Is there anything else you want to add about your experience in during COVID or about vaccination in Alaska?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[I think I have mentioned most of the things overall. Overall this is the thing. So I would say vaccination definitely it's required and if it is needed to be mandatory for the people before that. That just, you know, I would say don't make the people Guinea pig make confirm the like firstly be confirm and be firm on the on the research that it is, it is effective while people get the vaccine at least they have a chance 80 percent, 90% people they they will not have been. Been affected. But by this then then spread it and it then the government can make it mandatory or they can even I say that there are a lot of incentive here. So if someone get the vaccination they will get amount of money or something. They have arranged something like this but still they were not capable to like get the attention of. People from like mass scale. So yes, in that case the main thing is getting the trust of the people. With the product and then people, people might definitely be interested. Everyone wants their health to be safe. Even I would say I definitely respect the people who are against vaccination because they were also willing to safeguard their health, their thought. That this vaccine might affect their health. That's why they. So definitely we should have to respect them because there was no strong evidence that there is no or total no side effect of the vaccine. Definitely there was side effect and if Even so if the people are getting COVID after getting the vaccine at the same time they are getting some side effect then why should people take the vaccine? It's. Very simple question, right? So and people are saying that after getting the vaccines that relatives are getting relatives are died, their relatives are getting or their friends are getting COVID again and again. So why should people trust? Yeah. So definitely, I would, I I would say so. Definitely COVID was a pandemic which was unexpected and there was no issue way in my opinion there was no way definitely it was the researcher they have to, you know, even before going to the final trial, they have to go for the production. And so if it is something like that. Then you know it could be just what happened. Like it couldn't make it OK or it is on paper switch. This is the side effect. This is the positive side. If you want, you can take it if you don't want then it's fine. So it. Could be like that but. When it is firm or when it is confirmed that yeah, it has that positive impact, it could prevent Italy or it is 90 to 99 Percent, 95%, then government can make it mandatory.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Thank you so much for your time and I'm not sure if I have your phone number. Can I have your phone number? Because I have to share with our financial part for the payment.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Yeah, OK, 90790788888.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Right.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[5653.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[5653 thank. You so much.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Can you repeat it? I could just confirm.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[907-888-5653. OK. Thank you so much and have a good day.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Yes, right. You too. Thank you.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)

[Bye.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkA)