## Nico Mitchell - Buffalo

Episodes of anxiety are increasing amongst the general population in the state. People are collectively coming together and addressing their issues, feelings, and emotions. These problems of anxiety are causing people to become more angry, depressed, and socially handicap in public. I've had many random encounters with people who are really going through mental anguish. Many of them have stated to me that they rather not to be in public, but to stay at home for their anxiety is that troubling. To isolate yourself from the outside world because of this is destroying lives and keeping people from enjoying the lives they have. I believe these issues stem from how our society has developed socially and our current situation with prices rising for necessities people need to live. It's becoming unbearable for the average New Yorker. Prices for a carton of eggs in New York City are close to \$10. And the prices in Upstate and Western New York aren't any better, taking into account the difference in wages earned.