* **Decision to Move to Charlotte:**
  + I moved to Charlotte to escape the stigmatizing environment created by grotesquely exaggerated rumors about my mental health history.
* **Background of Stigmatization:**
  + I believe there was a deliberate campaign by certain individuals aimed at destroying my reputation through horrific rumors that felt unspeakable.
* **Experiences in the Mountains:**
  + Upon returning to work at a restaurant and frequenting a pool hall, I noticed the stigmatization against me gradually increasing.
  + The situation worsened when I began socializing in bars, especially when competing for attention from young women, accelerating the spread of rumors.
* **Impact of Socializing:**
  + It became obvious when someone had heard the rumors about me; their dismissive looks and disrespectful behavior made me feel isolated and treated as if I had a contagious disease.
* **Living in Banner and Boone, NC:**
  + In both Banner, where I lived, and Boone, where I attended college, the more people knew me, the more the rumors spread.
  + Almost everyone who recognized me seemed to have heard the negative rumors, and they appeared to feel a moral obligation to warn others about me.
* **Overall Effect:**
  + My attempt to start anew in Charlotte was deeply challenged by the pervasive stigmatization that followed me, demonstrating the complexity of escaping the stigma attached to my identity.