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ASSIGNMENT

The lack of personal protective equipment (PPE), grossly inadequate test kits and test centres across the country and the absolute lack of any form of insurance for the workforce are primordial issues begging for attention this time ....using your knowledge on ethnic conflict , ethnicity and primordialism, explain the statement above using the article. Treat NMA as a pseudo ethnic group.

The Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) is the professional association for registered Nigerian Doctors and Dentists. The Nigerian Medical Association membership spans all the six major specialties of Internal Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics, Gynaecology, paediatrics, public health and Laboratory Medicine/pathology. The Nigerian Medical Association was established in 1951 and is located in Abuja, Nigeria.

Using the Nigerian Medical Association as a pseudo ethnic group, it is clear to see that the spread of the Corona Virus Pandemic can result to major outbreak of conflict with other states considering the situation the assumed state is facing, which is:

Firstly, the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) vehemently rejects the invitation of the Chinese Doctors into the country in the guise of offering assistance in the response of COVID-19 pandemic in the country NIGERIA. The ethnic society is in fear of the pandemic spreading in the country even more than it is now leading to large numbers of death. The states concern currently is to ensure that there is minimal contact with the citizens and the virus.

Secondly, it is evident that the state currently lacks sufficient resources needed to combat the virus. It has been made public that the state is currently in the lack of the major personal protective gears (PPE) which are necessary to avoid contact and protect oneself from the virus, this resource is needed in generous quantities by the medical personnel’s and even the general public during these times in particular. In addition to, there are grossly inadequate test kits available in the state and tests centres across the country to help combat the virus. This is another major problem that the state is facing. The test kits are necessary for the evaluation and discovery of the antidote to the COVID-19 Virus and it is deemed necessary to train and nurture the medical personnel’s who are working and administering treatments to patients exhibiting symptoms of the virus. The test centres across the state are insufficient; however, the ones available are still experiencing insufficient facilities and equipments to carry out their tasks. This has also resulted to fear among some individuals who do not trust the tests the state has carried out on the suspected victims due to the state of the countries facilities.

Thirdly, it has been discovered that after the testing of some assumed cases of the victims of corona virus, some were tested negative and therefore released from confinement and quarantine to the public to go to their various homes. However, it has induced fear among the public that those individuals of suspected cases may still have the virus even though they tested negative and the public then to avoid those individuals causing stigmatization. This is all due to the fear of the general masses for their lives as the individuals of suspected cases could still have contacted the virus.

There has been a recent ethnic conflict in difference in opinion about the arrival of Chinese Doctors, from which the Corona Virus originated from in Wuhan China. These Chinese doctors have been assumed to arrive in Nigerian states to provide medical assistance to Nigerian medical personnel’s over the outbreak of the virus. However, there has been various controversies among states of different believes. The Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) ethnic society, is of the opinion that the Chinese doctors are not needed or necessary in the state, this is because currently the state is supposedly doing very well in combating the virus, thereby, avoiding the rapid spread of the virus as the medical personnel’s are working hard . The NMA also stated that “the presence of the Chinese doctors will dampen the moral of the frontline health workers”.

There is a controversy that there is no proof that the Chinese Medical Personnel’s themselves do not have the virus in their system and want to increase the spread of the virus in the state. They are concerned about the health and well-being of the public citizens of the state.

The ethnic group expressed their opinion concerning the sharing of information between the Chinese health workers and the Nigerian health workers, they stated “ all information could be shared digitally without them entering the country, that is, making use of the already provided technological services would make the sharing of information easier”. Some members of the ethnic community expressed their fear of the Chinese doctors administering treatments which the Nigerian Patients would not give consent of.

The ethnic group further expressed that government should endeavour to announce a state of emergency in the country. It is believed that if the Federal Government of Nigeria doesn’t take heed or caution toward the ongoing pandemic’s effect on the citizens and the economy at large it could lead to a breakout of conflict between the people and government and this should be avoided at all costs.