NAME: Oluwaseyi Musa

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Social media and proliferation of fake news, dodgy health advice and fake cures of covid-19**.**

It is well known to everyone that fake news is easily spread whenever something major or minor happens and it is very essential to be able to identify the fake news or we would be led astray by those spread such news. Everyone is fully aware of the new virus that is taking the world down,shutting down institution, bringing business down, crashing the global market. It has become a global pandemic. Doctors all over the world are trying to find a cure to this pandemic situation, countries are closing up their borders indefinitely, government has advised and enforced laws that everyone should practice social distancing. Now that we have acknowledge the disease, lets move on to the topic at handle which involves **social media and proliferation of fake news, dodgy health advice and fake cures of COVID-19.**

Since the pandemic started im sure we have heard different types of stories of how to prevent it or how to cure it, some of which true and some of which are clearly false and each day it just increases because when it comes to social media there’s little or no restriction in the information that people pass across because there’s no one to restrict what they want to post. social media sites shoulder the huge responsibility of stemming the spread of counterproductive rumors. Facing pressure from the WHO, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube confirmed that they have taken measures to counter disinformation about the corona-virus.

Social media tends to lead a lot of people astray and we have heard things like the virus cant survive in warmer springtime temperature and it turned out to be false as countries in Africa began to get the virus.

Some of us must have heard that it can be transmitted via mosquito bites although it’s always appropriate to keep a safe distance from the insect that spreads a pluralism and dengue fever, respiratory virus don’t seem, at this stage, to be transmitted by mosquito bites, but by droplets of saliva or nasal secretions expelled by an infected person when coughing or sneezing.

Another rumor was that antibiotics would help against the virus which is false because antibiotics work against bacteria not viruses taking it to treat the virus could prove harmful by reducing a person’s vigilance. It was also said vaccines against pneumonia can serve as a protection against the virus and lastly the potential efficacy of chloroquine is being studied but so far it doesn't look very promising

A common misconception is that people believe that it can be transmitted through parcels from china although their lifespan varies depending on the environment and temperature, pathogenic germs can only survive on objects such as parcels for only a few hours, the virus doesn't just affect the elderly it can equally affect the young, some conspiracy theory have being brought out like one of the theory is that pharmaceutical giants that have made a fortune f drugs are hiding simple, effective corona-virus treatments so that they can profit from the sale of a future vaccine.

This wasn’t so widespread but another conspiracy theory was formed stating that the disease is a bio-weapon engineered by the Chinese government, the US government or Bill Gate’s foundation and that it was either deliberately or Accidental released, One of the most recent one was the 5G, Saying that 5G is the source of the virus which originated from china.

Social media made all these information very easy to spread and creates unnecessary panic for citizens who don’t have proper knowledge on the virus. Which is why the government needs to take time out to educate their citizens and prevent the spread of fake news because if the citizen know they won’t believe the fake things they see on social media information that are false would be disregarded.