**NAME: HENA GIDEON SAMBU**

**COURSE: GST122**

**MATRIC NO: 19/LAW01/109**

**DEPARTMENT: LAW**

**The Global threat, COVID-19 and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement in Nigeria.**

**As we all know, there is a world threat on human health known as the Corona Virus or Covid-19 scientifically. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are known to cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The systematic investigation has shown that the first outbreak of the virus was in Wuhan in China in December 2019. On 28 February 2020, The Federal Ministry of Health in Nigeria confirmed its first case following the lockdown of Ogun state in Nigeria. Health Organisations have made efforts in curtailing the spread on this disease by enlightening the public and masses about the preventives measures to take in order to stay safe or prevent one from being infected with the virus. Also the World Health organisations have shown statistics showing the extent to which the virus has spread and the dangers it has caused on lives. Globally, we have about 2,153,620 confirmed cases, 542,143 recovered and 143,844 deaths. In Nigeria, we have about 442 confirmed cases, 152 recovered and 13 deaths. According to WHO, the virus can be contacted through handshakes, body contact, breathing in polluted air containing the virus, contact with infected surfaces and sharing of infected objects. The virus can be prevented by washing of hands frequently with soap and running water, social distancing, avoiding of overcrowded areas, using of hand sanitizer and isolating oneself. According to research, the virus can’t withstand heat. As a result of the spread in Nigeria, The Federal Government imposed a law that the country should observe total lockdown which has affected the citizens and the country as a whole in many ways.**

**Firstly, schools, offices, Religious gatherings and other social gatherings have been suspended till further notice. While schools are shut down, it will slow down the educational system causing the slow movement of academic activities which may lead to a change in the academic calendar of schools and various learning institutions. Also, there are citizens whose businesses serve as their daily means of feeding. Due to the lockdown, they find it hard to feed themselves or their family they live with hunger and frustration because they are not able to meet their daily needs. The lockdown serves as an opportunity for fraud stars to device new ways to steal from people not only fraud starts but people generally are idle and wrong ideas run through their minds to carry out evil activities such as armed robbery.**

**Secondly the economy of the country has been affected. Prices of goods and services have increased making it hard for citizens to purchase adequate food stuffs to feed their families and other necessities before the lockdown is over. The borders have been shut down which prevents imports and exports of goods from one country to another affecting the economy of our country. Farmers in the country and no longer transport their produce between states because some states observing the lockdown have shut down their borders and some of these farmers are peasant farmers who can’t afford machines to preserve their products . These products may spoil due to the absence of buyers. The lockdown according to some economist predicted that the country may go into inflation and recession in the economy due to low productivity that will icrease output and income if the lockdown is not over soon.**

**If the lockdown prolongs, there may tendencies in the breakdown of law and order leading to social vices which the government may not be able to control, Although the lockdown has reduced the spread of the disease, people still need to go out and fend for themselves to survive and make a leaving because not all citizens are able to live comfortably during the period of lockdown the country is experiencing. The government should try and come up with ways in which the lockdown will not affect the poor or low class in the society. But then, if the government should allow the citizens move freely, It is possible that the various ways of contacting this disease in the public can get people infected and continue the spread. Therefore, the Covid-19 pandemic has caused more effects on the nation Nigeria and the world at large leading to a pause on daily activities and also killing some lives calling the attention of citizens and government to come together to fight this virus by giving our cooperation and ideas.**