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A REPORT BY MADUKA CHIBUZOR, CONCERNING THE CORONA VIRIS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS. 17th OF APRIL 2020.

Corona virus disease also known as COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered corona virus which controversially, it is said to be a man-made virus made by the Chinese. The first case of the corona virus in Nigeria was on the 27th of February 2020 in Lagos state, by an Italian man who returned from Milan, Italy. Currently there are 422 cases with 152 amount of people recovered and 13 deaths.

Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus experienced mild to moderate respiratory illness and recovered without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are most likely to develop serious illness. The best way to prevent and slow down the transmission is to be well informed about the virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. It is protected by washing your hands or using an alcohol based sanitizer frequently and not touching your face. The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs and sneezes.

At this time, there is no specific vaccines or treatments for COVID-19. However, there are many potential treatments.

Since the corona virus pandemic had gotten too much, almost out of hand, countries of the world including Nigeria affected, have imposed laws on their citizens by given them curfews as they are not supposed to leave their homes and remain in lockdown from time to time in other to help reduce the snowballing spread of the virus. Although the law is really benefiting the citizens, it has also caused negative effects to the people. Which are:

* Poverty Increment: A high percentage of Nigeria live on the gains they obtain for each day and since the pandemic had caused lockdown for nearly three weeks now, a lot of Nigerians are living in abject poverty since they can’t leave their homes to fend for themselves.
* Idleness: As a result of the knockdown, schools such as primary, secondary and tertiary institutions, businesses, factories, churches, industries, etc. are closed down. This makes everyone at home and idle which is not healthy for the physical and mental well-being of the people.
* High crime rate: Another effect of the lockdown and restriction in the country is increase in crime rate. Since citizens are idle and poor and their private reserves have gotten short, they look for other means to get money to eat and go into burglary, stealing, arm robbery etc. Examples of those citizens are that of the ‘hundred million boys’ who have been ravaging some parts of Lagos such Iba, Egbeda etc.
* Recession: recession is a period in which the economic activity of a country is reduced. Goods in the market are already increasing which would make large money in circulation chasing fewer goods because of the suspension of production.

In my point of view, the solution that have occurred in Nigeria to reduce the effects were:

* Government and some wealthy people have provided money, food and gift items to the citizens especially those in poorer communities in other for them to sustain themselves and stay away from crimes.
* Also, the government agencies such as the police, Army etc. have dispersed around the country to help secure the citizens.

In conclusion, the corona virus pandemic has caused terror, panic and difficulties to the whole world, none that we have never seen in this life but with the hard efforts of our medical heroes and the government and also God, we hope that we would see the light at the end of the tunnel.