NAME: JIBRIL HAFSAT OJONUGWA

MATRIC NUMBER: 19/LAW01/133

COURSE: COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH

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A REPORT ON CORONA VIRUS AND THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTIONS OF MOVEMENTS ON NIGERIANS

Corona virus (The Pandemic Of The 21st Century)

Corona virus disease also known as covid-19 is an infectious disease caused by a new discovered corona virus. It is a virus which originated from Wuhan in China in December 2019 and from then to the present day has spread drastically globally and has affected the world social, political, economic and religious life, it will forever be remembered as a virus that brought the whole world to a pause, a virus that doesn’t only affect the poor, the ugly, the old but everyone in general. Corona viruses are a large family of viruses that are known to cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe disease, such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). Most people infected with covid-19, will experience mild to mild moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Although it affects everyone, but older people and those with underlying medical problems like; cardio disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness. The covid-19 spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose, when an infected person coughs or sneeze, so it is important that we practice respiratory etiquette, currently there is no cure or specific vaccine for covid-19, but various medical practitioners and health organization such as the World Health Organization (WHO), are working on it. In other to prevent the spread of the pandemic within and out the country, various states have imposed a total lock down policy and restrictions have been placed on their movements to ensure the safety of everyone. However, this policy has it effect on the people and looking at a society like Nigeria, were we are highly over populated and one needs to actually go out to earn his or her daily income, definite its effect on a society like this would be numerous.

First of all, since the lockdown policy was made all social activities that involved physical contact was automatically banned, meaning that events such as weddings, birthdays, parties or any form of social gathering has become highly prohibited.

Furthermore, in a country with numerous religious institution like Nigeria, for the main time people are not allowed to visit those institutions such as the Mosque and Churches at least list till the pandemic is over. Most people might say it has not affected the religious aspect, but from another angle we could clearly see that, normal religious actives like the Friday prayers and the Sunday services no longer hold, the Muslim pilgrimage for this year would no longer happen, though it did not completely affect the religious life, but it has set it limitations to it.

Also in the aspect of education, various educational institutions such as; universities, secondary schools and so on, have to close down to ensure the safety of the students, but it effects is that those who are supposed to write their exams during this period can no longer write till further notice, final year students and WAEC candidate who are supposed to write examination this year can no longer write. However, apart from that the federal government has ensured that institution can start an online class to ensure that the students keep on learning.

Apart from all the above mentioned, the most affected sector is the economic sector. Due to the pandemic, various businesses no longer take place; people have lost their jobs and can’t even provide for their family at this point in time, making them to stave and this can be seen as a virus on its own known as the “HUNGER VIRUS”. Since the citizens can no longer make proper ends need and the government has shown no interest what so ever in trying to eradicate the hunger virus, it is quite clear that people might lose their lives without even the covid-19 attacking them.

In conclusion, the corona virus pandemic (covid-19) and the lock down policy placed on the movement of the Nigerian citizens with its restrictions has great effect on all various aspect of the individuals, such as; the social, political, religious, economic and educational institutions. However, in other to ensure that everything goes back to normal as soon as possible, we must ensure to follow all rules and regulations imposed in stopping the spread of the pandemic and strictly adhering to the health guide from the World Health Organization. As they say prevention is better than cure and as we know no cure has been found yet, so help me to help you stop the spread of the pandemic.

(WHO, 2020)