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MATRIC NO: 19/MHS11/015

PHARMACY

QUESTION: Write a report of not more than two pages on the corona virus pandemic and the effects of

**CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECTS OF LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTIONS OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS**

 Corona Virus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered virus called corona virus. Most people infected with the COVID-19 will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people and those with underlying medical problems like diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, cancer, are more likely to develop serious illness. The virus began at China at the beginning of December 2019, it broke out in Wuhan, Hubei province. Currently there is no cure for corona virus.

 The spread of this corona corona virus has lead to the lock down of major countries which contributes to business world wide. Countries like China, Italy, America, United Kingdom has been greatly affected with this disease. Over 3869 people died in China, Over 23,660 deaths in Italy, Over 41,114 deaths in America and Over 165,257 deaths in the United Kingdom.

 Major sports all over the world were suspended so as to avoid the spread of the disease, as people were advised to ensure social distancing. Different concerts, events, shows were suspened. The spread of the corona virus disease has affected a lot business, i.e airline business, entertainment industries, sports, even importing and exporting business.

 Nigeria reported the first confirmed case of the virus in sub-saharan Africa, Nigerian officials said the case involved an Italian citizen who entered the country on 24 February on a Turkish Airlines flight from Milan via Insatbul. The virus then continued to spread and the government began to take drastic measures. They created an organization to control the spread of the virus called NCDC. The federal government then suspended all school activities to check the spread of this virus.

 The federal government announced the announced the lockdown for three states Lagos, Abuja, Ogun on 29th March 2020.The president said that the lockdown would be for 14 days and it would commence on the 30th March 2020. Since the beginning of this lockdown, many videos have been trending online with Nigerians ranting on how they are coping during this lockdown, which I think is a good way for the government to be able to reach out to them.

 Most Nigerians have been complaining about hunger, because most of them make daily income now that there is lockdown they can’t make money anymore. The business that thrives the most in Nigeria is sole proprietorship i.e bike drivers, car drivers, kiosk owners etc. These set of people can’t make money to feed their family again, some of them can’t even stock up for the period which leads to hunger. The social media has been their solace with many celebrities doing giveaways with the hope of reaching out to the needy. An example is the video of a very old woman who was ranting about how she is suffering and would start having sex with people to make money. This video went viral and a musician reached out to her by giving her money to buy foodstuffs for her family. Many Non governmental orgainzations are also trying their best to reach out to the needy.

 Illiteracy is really a big disease, as some Nigerians refuse to believe that the corona virus is real and its killing people. Many videos have been trending online with illiterate people pronouncing the virus in the wrong way, some of them don’t even know how to prevent this disease, while some think it’s a plot by the government to make money. Even with the lock down, some people still go outside especially in Lagos.

 The restrictions of movement in Nigeria, has caused thugs and hooligans which are always busy in parks and car garages as conductors or other jobs owners to become dangerous. An idle hand they say is a devil workshop, robbery has become a very rampant case in Lagos. A group of hooligans formed a group and called themselves 100 millions boys, they have been disturbing the peace of residents in Lagos especially in the slum areas. These boys are not even scared of authorities as they send prior notice to homes they want to attack. They have made it know to the public that their reason of robbing is because they are poor and don’t have money to feed during this lockdown.

 In the name of ensuring the lockdown, Police forces and Soldiers also have been sent out. They were supposed to ensure this lock down in the proper way but most of them have result to tormenting the citizens. Video have been trending online on how police officers extort money from citizens, they seize their properties also. A video of soldiers beating a young man to death has also been trending online, the people living in that area also retaliated by killing a soldier leading to two deaths.
 Currently in Nigeria there are 627 confirmed cases, the federal government also just recently extended the lockdown for another 14 days. In advanced countries their citizens are still on lockdown which means this virus is still spreading and no cure has been confirmed. Obviously the lockdown in Nigeria won’t be called off soon, I think the government should look for ways to be able to reach for all those in needs. The Non governmental oragnizations should also not rely on their efforts in helping people. The law enforcement agencies should ensure the lockdown in a proper way. Nigerians should try to stay at home and avoid going out at all csssssost to prevent the spread of this disease. Together we can see the end to this disease.