**The Corona Virus Pandemic and The Effect of Lockdown and Restrictions on Nigerians**

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. It is a respiratory disease which can be transmitted through droplets from an infected person, via the eye, nose and mouth. Its a fast spreading disease and have caused over a hundred and sixty thousand deaths worldwide, since its first case in Wuhan, China on December, 2019. There exist presently no cure for the virus, but one can protect his or her self by putting on a face mask, observing social distancing sneezing and coughing in to a tissue and staying home if one is not feeling well. Among all of this, being well informed about the virus is the most important. This virus has not only taken the lives of most individuals in the world, has also halted the lives of many. In an effort by the government to control the disease, the have imposed lockdown as a strategy to control the disease in most countries worst hit by the virus and those which have just begun to have victims.

Nigeria is one if the countries which is least hit by the virus, with fewer cases being reported in Africa as a whole and fewer number of deaths as compared to other continents. In Nigeria presently, the number of cases are 627, while the number of recovered and dead patients are 170 and 21 respectively. In line with the guideline provided by the WHO, the Nigerian Government has imposed lockdown and restrictions on most states in the country. This measure though part of the means to stop the spread of the COVID-19, has had its effect on Nigerians, and many are starting to feel the impact of he virus. One of the effects which includes the halting of non- essential and local businesses. Nigeria as a country has no reached the level where the number of jobs as compared to the rising population is close, and as a result many Nigerians depend on what they get from their daily hassle, feeding and providing for their families. Due to the virus, many of this business have been forced to close by the government in an effort to control the virus.

Also, shortage of food supplies is another effect of this lockdown and restriction. Now that everybody have been told to sit at home till the virus is controlled, they have to eat constantly from the stock of food in reserve. This reserve might not be enough to satisfy everyone and it also has its limit, and once it is depleted, hunger sets in and a man can go to any lent to satisfy his hunger, which can lead to another issue. This might lead to stealing and robbery, which is another effect of this lockdown and restrictions on Nigerians. Many whom for one reason or the other, be it hunger have this opportunity to steal from others to satisfy their own needs. Since everybody is at home, they freely do as they please, taking from others with the excuse that things are hard or they are hungry causing problems for many Nigerians during this lockdown.

In the same vain, brutality from law enforcers such as the Nigerian police and army is not far from the effect. Though they have been given the order of making sure that people stay indoors, this does not give them the right to brutalize citizens. Many have suffered and are still nursing their wounds from such brutality all in the vain of trying to avoid the spread of the virus. Also, the lockdown and restriction comes with different false information and conspiracy theories which cause panic in different homes, and those worst hit are the illiterates and those who are uninformed about the virus. These are some of the effects of many Nigerians are facing during this lockdown and restriction on movement.

The lockdown and restrictions has its negative sides, but it is a strategy to stop the spread of the virus, as it is better to be indoors than dead. It has also made it possible for families to bond and rediscover themselves. If the government look into some of these issues and try to contain them, then these effects can be reduced.