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CORONA VIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.

Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

Due to the rapid spread of the virus, various countries including Nigeria has ordered its citizens to stay indoors. Although this is considered taking the right steps to fight that Nigeria is a third world country and majority of her citizens belong to the class division and the virus has affected the citizens in a lot of ways.

Some effects which have been and restriction of movement has caused in Nigeria are countless but some of them include:

High Cost of Living: Due to the lockdown there has been an increase in the cost of living, people are able to go to the market find it difficult to purchase what they need with the money they have in hand. Some people no longer work and hence do not earn money hence they find it difficult to make purchases with the little they have.

Those who sell also use this opportunity to exploit others, although it cannot be helped because these are difficult times for everybody. It is also because of the restriction of movement and it is their advantage because people have little or no choice on where to purchase their essential needs from.

High Criminal activities: Some Nigerian citizens generate income on daily basis from blue collar jobs like moulding of blocks, selling of goods, carrying of building blocks. During the course of the lockdown, there has been unavailability of jobs. The government on the other hand do not care for the needs of the people, hence those persons without jobs do not have what to eat. In response to the laxity of the government, they have resorted to crime there has been a steady increase of crime in Lagos and Ogun State particularly.

Increase in Violence: Due to the lockdown, there has been an increase in the number of security personnel found on the streets. Some of those officers abuse their power and beat up citizens. Citizens on the other hand take law into their own hand and retaliate. The rate of violence has risen to a great extent in Warri, Delta State.

There has also been reported fighting at jungle justice since the lockdown. People who are caught stealing or being beaten mercilessly by fellow citizens. Although things are hard, this is the time to display love and affection towards one another.

Therefore the COVID-19 pandemic is now growing exponentially.

Its economic impact is already more severe than SARS or MERS.

All citizens should adhere to the following precautions.

1) Keeping supply chains and logistics open so that drugs, vaccines and masks are available to deal with surging demand.

2) Providing a flow of trusted information to staff.

Firms should be as honest, transparent and as informed as possible.

3) Engagement in specific sectors of health and pharma in critical research. This includes diagnostic tests, research in public health and prevention, and the development of new drugs and vaccines, therapeutics and drugs for patients who have already contracted covid-19.