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**A REPORT ON THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC: THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTIONS OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS.**

**INTRODUCTION:**

Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly found corona virus. The virus, which was first found in Wuhan, China has now spread to 210 countries around the world, bringing the total number of cases to 2.5 million. This disease has easily grown into a pandemic mostly because of its way of spreading, which is primarily through contact with an infected person, especially in crowded places. This is why most countries, including Nigeria, incorporated the idea of social distancing. The federal government of Nigeria has also employed stricter rules, enforcing an entire lockdown on most states in the country. This lockdown, although meant for the good, has caused a lot of issues in the country, especially because most citizens are low income earners.

**THE PANDEMIC IN NIGERIA AND THE INTRODUCTION OF THE LOCKDOWN:**

COVID-19 was first noticed on the 28th of February, 2020 in Lagos state, brought in by an Italian national. Since then, curbing and eventually stopping the spread has been the job of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) in collaboration with different state government. They have also supported states for improved coordination of outbreak preparedness and response.

Although the federal governments’ implementation of the lockdown is for good, many Nigerians have cried out about the negative effects of this on their lives, businesses and education. Others think it is a useful tool in stopping the spread of the virus, one that cannot be avoided.

**EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS**:

There are positive and negative effects of the lockdown on Nigeria. Some positive effects are:

* It has greatly subdued the spread of the virus.
* It has given time for workers to rest and relax (recreational wellness).
* It has allowed people to spend more time with God (spiritual wellness).
* This period has also made people to be more productive.

Some negative effects are:

* It has affected the small scale businesses. This will have a ripple effect on the economy, which was already shaky.
* Crimes like domestic violence will be on the rise.
* Thieves are thriving in this period especially in Lagos state and Ogun state.
* Death.
* People are struggling to survive as sales aren’t thriving and markets are on lockdown as well.
* Education is on halt right now. Most school activities have been postponed or cancelled.

**CONCLUSION:**

All Nigerians are hoping for this disease to pass by quickly so that things can go back to normal. As the federal government of Nigeria is trying their very best to stop this pandemic, citizens should also try to be law abiding. The sooner we adhere to instructions, the quicker COVID-19 passes. We should firmly follow instructions dished out by the NCDC like washing our hands, maintaining social distancing and avoiding gathering of large people. We should also try to be philanthropic in this season, helping those who are in dire need of food supplies, money and other basic amenities. Always remember to stay safe.

**REFERENCE:**

www.ncdc.ng.org

[www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

Channels television news