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**A REPORT ON CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF THE MOVEMENT OF NIGERIANS**

**INTRODUCTION**

The coronavirus pandemic is the defining global health crisis of our time and the greatest challenge we have faced since World War Two. Since its emergence in Asia late last year, the virus has spread to every continent except Antarctica. Cases are rising daily in Africa the Americas, and Europe. Countries are racing to slow the spread of the virus by testing and treating patients, carrying out contact tracing, limiting travel, quarantining citizens, and cancelling large gatherings such as sporting events, concerts, and schools.But COVID-19 is much more than a health crisis. By stressing every one of the countries it touches, it has the potential to create devastating social, economic and political crises that will leave deep scars.We are in uncharted territory. Many of our communities are now unrecognizable. Dozens of the world’s greatest cities are deserted as people stay indoors, either by choice or by government order. Across the world, shops, theatres, restaurants and bars are closing. Corona virus also known as the COVID19. It was emerged in Wuhan, China on December 31,2019.Corona virus belongs to the Coronaviridae family in the Nidovirales order.At the end of 2019,wuhan an emerging business hub of china experienced an outbreak of the disease corona virus that killed more than eighteen hundred and infected over seventy thousand individuals within the fifty days of epidemic. Anybody with this pandemic shows symptoms five days but it will range from two to fourteen days. The symptoms are, diarrhoea, cough, shortness of breath, fever and loss of smell. The virus can be easily spread when an infected person is in close contact with a non infected person. It begins when the infected person sneezes, when talking to a non-infected person, in the process, the virus can be contacted through the air especially when it is a crowded place.Currently there is no vaccine but as our elders say “ prevention is better than cure” the preventive measures is by washing ones hands regularly for twenty seconds, maintaining physical distance from others, use of masks and so on.Presently, the pandemic has been ravaging and put the whole world in health emergency. Corona virus cases as been increasing drastically in the past few months since February 27th , 2020. It has taken more than a hundred thousands of lives in other countries where some Nigerians too visited, and this make covid19 spread like wild fire, especially from foreign returnees and international travelers who are Nigerians. Government has made an effort through the Nigerian center for disease control(NCDC) to curb the spread of the virus. They create awareness on precautionary measures for people to imbibe, they provide medical facilities to test people. The president declared that some vulnerable states should be locked down. Some states observe them like Ogun, Osun, Ekiti and so on and so forth.In Nigeria , a developing country which has been able to be win a battle against a disease before ( Ebola) . The hope would be to overcome this virus just in time . But the main issue is the economy and citizens of the country how would they cope with everything going on. The lockdown is the only right thing to do but in a country where poverty rigs everywhere how would the citizens survive Is the main question here . In a country where most of the citizens need to go out before they can feed their families or where most citizens eat from hand to mouth how will the lockdown work. As at February the GDP of the country went from 2.5% to 2% which show a huge drop and also the country’s debt system has been a source of concern for development. This lockdown or coronavirus pandemic will only increase the poverty rate in the country and also the crime rate

EFFECTS OF LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT IN NIGERIA

Lockdown is an emergency protocol that usually prevents people or information from leaving an area. The federal government has ordered an ultimate lockdown in Nigeria and this prevent the restriction of movement among the Nigerians. There are positive and negative effects of the lockdown in Nigeria. The positive effects of the lockdown in Nigeria are

* It allows family to bond together and do things together
* It corrects a child mistakes and adjusts him/her
* Spend more time with God
* Relaxation to those who don’t have time for themselves before the lockdown
* Reduce the virus from spreading more further from other countries to our country
* It makes people reasons to think about how to do businesses online
* People are now wiser to make their plans flexible knowing that there is nothing that can’t be cancelled

The negative effects of the lockdown includes:

* It introduces vices which includes stealing, prostitution, armed robbery and so on
* It has a poor effect on the economy
* It leads to the increase in the prices of limited goods in the market.
* The poor becomes poorer
* People struggle to survive
* School students can’t go to school like primary, secondary and tertiary students, which cause idleness.
* The school academic calendar is extended. Students will graduate as an when due. Their time is extended.
* 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 cause of the lockdown there has been unavailability of jobs. The government on the other hand do not care for the needs of these people, hence these persons without jobs do not have what to eat. In response to the laxity of the government they have resulted to crime. There has been a steady increase of crime in Lagos and Ogun state particularly.
* High cost of living: due to the lockdown there has been an increase in the cost of living. People who 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 that 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 to their advantage because people have little or no choice on where to purchase their essential needs from.
* Some decide to use this opportunity to horde essential goods and this leads to inflation of the price of these items.
* Increased violence: due to the lockdown, there has been an increase in the numbers of security personals found on the streets. Some of these officers abuse their power and beat up citizens. Citizens on the other hand often take laws into their own hands and retaliate. The rate of violence has risen to a great extent in Warri, Delta State.

CONCLUSION :

In conclusion, corona virus has caused a lot of things in Nigeria and changed a lot of things in our country, Nigeria. The federal government of Nigeria though the federal ministry of health have been trying their best to ensure that the outbreak in Nigeria is been controlled and stopped immediately. The NCDC has been activated in national emergency operation center working in different states in Nigeria. Medical personnel are trying their best to give out ways to stop the pandemic called corona virus. As the outbreak is still in our country and the lockdown is still going on, we should listen and act to the preventive measure that can keep us safe in this pandemic. The federal government are really trying their best to make sure Nigeria is safe and we need to listen to the preventive measures and put it to act