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### Assignment

Write a report, of not more than two pages, on the corona virus pandemic and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians.

## **The Outbreak of Corona Virus in Nigeria and the Effect of the Lockdown and Restriction of Movement on Nigerians**

**By Fwa Lina Fenny**

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What is this corona Virus and how does it affect us?

As defined by Medscape Corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is defined as an illness caused by a new corona virus now called severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), which started from Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. It was originally reported to the WHO on December 31, 2019. On January 30, 2020, the WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global health emergency. On March 11, 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. (Cennimo, 2020)

The first confirmed case of the pandemic in Nigeria was reported on 27 February 2020, when an Italian citizen tested positive for the virus in Lagos, a second case was later announced in Ewekoro, Ogun State, which happened to be a Nigerian citizen who came in contact with the Italian man. There have been several other cases with more from Lagos, Ogun and the FCT. Find below a table showing the details of the cases.

CASE SUMMARY IN NIGERIA AS AT APRIL 19TH 2020 from NCDC

|                       |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| Total Samples Tested  | 7153 |
| Total Confirmed cases | 627  |
| Discharged            | 170  |
| Death                 | 21   |

(CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) HIGHLIGHTS, 2020)

According to oxford dictionary, effects are changes which are a result or consequence of an action or other cause. In my perspective an effect can bring out a good or a bad result. With this explained, the effect of the lockdown and restriction of movement in Nigeria has both good and bad result. It is said that health is wealth; one of the good effect of the lockdown is the fact that it reduces the spread of corona virus. It takes about two weeks before the symptoms and signs of corona virus start to show, therefore a person with the virus won't even know that he or she has it. This lockdown ensures that people are self-isolated and are only out to get necessary items.

However, to every pros there are cons; the negative effect of the lockdown is more on the poor people in Nigeria. As said by Anietie Ewang in a report from Human Rights Watch, Millions of Nigerians observing the lockdown simply cannot afford to stay home and this is because they lack the food and income needed to survive. The government needs to put in place public health measures in other to prevent the pandemic from destroying the lives and livelihoods of society's poorest and most vulnerable people. Majority of the people affected by this lockdown are people who fend from hands to mouth and have no savings due to the peanuts they make from hawking the streets and petty trading. (HumanRightsWatch, 2020)

Furthermore, due to the poor electricity supply, the lockdown to curb the spread of the virus has led to millions of generators working overtime to power houses, there by flagging pollution in residential areas. More so, the lockdown has brought about increased crime rates in places like Lagos, Yobe, Ogun and a few others. Cases of robbery have sprouted due to the lockdown, since most people are indoors. Residents of areas like Lagos have begun forming vigilante groups aiming to guard their properties from the increased cases of robberies. Residents from the areas facing the lock-down did bulk shopping and purchases; therefore, most homes are fully stocked. The areas have, thus become easy targets for robberies and killings.

The Federal government needs to be transparent with dealings in this crucial time. Although the government has said they have plans the citizens are worried due to the high level of corruption in the country. Even though individuals like Atiku, Dangote and the likes have donated billions to this demise the Federal government is still not giving account of these funds. So far only a quarter of the nation have gotten relieve items which might not even last a week. Secondly security majors need to be put in place to secure those at home.

In conclusion, the Government asked people to stay at home yet they cannot provide electricity, foodstuffs are spoiling because there is no means to preserve. The least the government can do is to provide the basic things people need to properly observe this lockdown.