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CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECT OF LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTIONS OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS

SUMMARY:

Corona Virus also known as COVID-19 can be compared to a world war. Due to this global emergency, many countries economy has been affected as well as Nigeria. Many governors and presidents have declared a lockdown in their states and countries all over the world.

INTRODUCTION:

Corona Virus disease started out as an Epidemic in Wuhan, China in December, 2019. Now it is a pandemic affecting the whole world. It has thrown the whole world into a war like situation. Scores of death has been recorded cumulatively across the world. Hospitals all over the world are overwhelmed with the amount of sick patients they must attend to. Many of them are on ventilators and nursed in intensive care units. Global and local opportunities stand at their worst in decades; the world economy is now declared to be in recession by the World Bank, and could lead to the deepest depression since 1929.

BODY:

The first case of COVID-19 was confirmed on the 27th February 2020 in Lagos, Nigeria's commercial capital with a population of 21 million. The index case arrived from Milan, Italy, then the fourth country with high incidence (371 cases), and came to Nigeria via Lagos airport on the 25th of February 2020. He was later tested positive for COVID-19 at the Lafarge's medical center in Ewekoro. More cases were thereafter discovered and as at today the 20th

April, 2020. Nigeria records 627 cases, 170 people who have recovered and 21 deaths. Lagos as well being the center of the epidemic in Nigeria records 70 new cases of COVID-19 in 24 hours.

LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT

On the 25th of March 2020, a lockdown was declared in Lagos in order to prevent the spread of the deadly corona virus. Unfortunately, not many Nigerians can afford 3 square meals a day as many have to work in order to eat daily. Although the government and some other private and/or public organizations have been contributing food items and even toiletries to people in need as well as money in some states in the north, which may still not be enough to cater for some large families during the lockdown. Also some business and companies may experience loss as the economy of the country will be affected. As the government has now imposed a five day dusk to dawn curfew from 7pm to 6am in Lagos to also restrict the movement of people going to buy food, sell food or withdraw money.

CONCLUSION:

COVID-19 is a deadly virus which can easily be contacted and spread which is why the solution of restrictions on movement might prove effective in containing the spread but at the same time not all people and families can cope. At the very least everyone should maintain social distancing as well as wearing nose mask and hand gloves also washing of hands to try their best to help stop the spread.

RECOMMENDATION:

Lockdown must be with adequate food and essential household requirements for all in need. Also health workers like the medical doctors and nurses who still go to work to fight this deadly virus to save lives should not be forgotten. There should be mass testing of the virus in many communities to ascertain the prevalence and prompt containment of the disease and no privilege testing. Finally, safety measures must not be compromised.