Report on

**THE CORONA PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWM**

**AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS.**

By

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 The Corona Pandemic is caused by the corona virus which affects the respiratory system causing symptoms like cough and shortness of breath in the infected individuals. The virus is not new and has been around since as early as the 1960s. The first case of the recent outbreak was reported on the 31st of December 2019 in Wuhan in the Hubei province of China to the World Health Organization in China and since then more cases of the virus has been reported over the world. The virus first spread to places within China like Beijing and later to other parts of the world through unsuspecting carriers. On January 30th, 2020 the WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION labelled the virus a PHEIC and on March 11th, 2020 it was officially regarded as a pandemic by the WHO. With no vaccine and no vivid symptoms until fourteen days there are only preventive measures that have been put out like social distancing, regular washing of hands with soaps or alcohol-based hand sanitizers to reduce the spread of the virus. As a result of the pandemic countries have shut down their borders and have ordered a total lockdown in their countries one of which being Nigeria.

 The first case of corona virus was recorded on the 27th of February in Nigeria. The carrier was said to be an Italian man who had just returned from Milan, Italy on the 25th of February,2020. Just a week after that case another case was recorded in Ogun state the man was said to have been in contact with the Italian citizen who brought the virus to the country. As at 19th April 2020 there has been a total of 627 confirmed cases 107 recovered people and 21 deaths since the first case. As a way of preventing the spread the president announced a two week lockdown of major states affected by the Corona pandemic in the country from 11pm on Monday the 30th of march 2020 before that educational institutions had been ordered to shut down in order to reduce the spread to the virus.

 There is no doubt that the resent lockdown has affected many people in the country most especially the manual workers who feed from hand to mouth causing them to rely on the wages they receive on a daily basis to sustain themselves and their families. With the lockdown which was extended for another two weeks people are going hungry because they do not have the means to support themselves seeing as the price of food has gone up due to shortage of supply and an increase in demand. With businesses being shut down people who live from hand to mouth are at a very high risk of starvation because they so not have enough savings to get them through this time coupled with the lack of proper government support. This leaves them with no choice but to defile the lockdown by going on with their regular activities not only exposing themselves but also their families to this virus.

 Also, the resent lockdown has led to an increase in the inflation rate of the economy. Due to the high demand of food by household stock at home and lack of production the prices of commodities such has food have gone up. A lot of Nigerians have indulged in panic buying leading to scarcity of food items there by causing vendors to increase their prices. The increased prices can also be associated with the movement restrictions thereby increasing the cost of transporting these goods. Because of the shutdown of factories and businesses, economic activities have gone down drastically resulting in a reduction in productivity ultimately causing a decrease in the Nigerian economy.

 The recent lockdown has led to rise in crime rate especially in the outskirts of Lagos where there are more population of manual workers. The lock down has left a lot of people idle with nothing to occupy their time coupled with the financial instability people are facing some people have resulted to stealing and terrorizing their neighborhoods as a way of sustain themselves during these trying times. These recent happenings have led to a lot of insecurities in a lot of area making people go to bed with one eye open and the other closed seeing as the law enforcement agencies are not as readily available as they normally should.

 The lockdown has led to displacement of families due to the impromptu nature of the lockdown a lot of people are stock in different parts of the country and are unable to get to their loved ones causing them to live in constant worry and fear for their loved ones. It is common knowledge that the lockdown was announced just a day before its enforcement leaving people with no time to travel or go back to their house to stay with their family thereby displacing them and even leaving them with more bills to pay especially people lounging in hotels who had to increase their time there.

 The shutdown of schools which was ordered on March 19, 2020 by the federal government after the 11th case of the virus was reported to combat the spread of the virus. This has caused a set back in the academic calendar of school causing both internal and external exams to be postponed till further notice. The future of this year’s graduates may be severely affected by the COVID-19. They are experiencing a major se back in the final year of their education and even their assessment and most importantly they are likely to graduate at the start of a major global recession making it harder for them to secure jobs after bagging their degrees. Because of the interruption the students learning there might be a reduction in the performance of students this year because studies show that more training leads to better results.

 The Corona virus pandemic has caused a lot off mayhap in various parts of the world and it is predicted to cause more damage although the shut down has led to a lot setbacks like unemployment, unproductivity, increased crime rate and a significant decree in economic growth its importance cannot be downplayed seeing as it has helped reduces the spread of the pandemic because an increase in the cases will be very detrimental foe the country due to lack of proper facilities to taka care of the sick.