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**REPORT ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN ON NIGERIA**

What is Coronavirus? According to WHO, Coronavirus is a type of virus that causes the coronavirus disease which is also known as COVID-19 and most infected will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and can recover without any special treatments. Older people and those with underlying medical conditions like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease and cancer are more likely to develop serious illnesses. The virus also has a 2% lethality rate.

According to CNN, the virus was believed to have originated from an illegal seafood market in the city of Wuhan in Eastern China with a population of over 11 million people. What started as an epidemic mainly limited to China has now spread like wildfire to become a truly global pandemic. Globally there has now been over 2,435,876 confirmed cases, 639,239 recoveries and 167,369 deaths according to the John Hopkins University's COVID-19 dashboard, which collates information from national and international authorities, the disease has been detected in more than 200 countries and territories, with Italy, the united states, the united kingdom and Spain experienced the most widespread outbreak outside of china, in the UK, there have been 120,067 confirmed cases and 16,060 hospital deaths as of April 18. The virus is believed to have been caused by some school of thoughts as a result of eating or coming in contact with some species of animals such as bats and snakes.

The coronavirus is spread through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes or speaks. People can also be infected by touching a contaminated surface and then their eyes, nose or mouth. According to WHO, to protect yourself from the virus, make sure you wash your hands frequently and thoroughly and avoid touching your face and also clean surfaces with disinfectant regularly and avoid crowded places.

The common symptoms of the coronavirus disease include dry cough, tiredness and fever. Then it may also be accompanied by aches and pains,

nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat and diarrhoea. It takes an average of 5-6 days for an infected person to notice the symptoms.

Since the coronavirus has reached Nigeria, there has been a total of 627 cases, 170 recoveries and 21 deaths as of April 20. The government has therefore imposed a lockdown in the country in which people are to stay at home in order to ease with the social distancing. But the lockdown and restriction of movements has had some effects on the citizens of the country which include;

1. As we are aware, the virus spreads rapidly as a result of contact with infected persons therefore the lockdown has helped to drastically curb the spread of the disease.
2. It has also impacted on our economic activities causing it to be slow which makes it impossible for some people to make ends meet or to earn a living.
3. The lockdown has also escalated the prices of foodstuffs in the market as the market is only allowed to open on selected days a week for about 5 hours each day.
4. The lockdown has also caused a possible reduction in salary for daily works in private organisations e.g. drivers and cleaners.
5. It has also indirectly made family bonds tighter and stronger as the whole family will be at home together and spend time with each other.

In conclusion, the lock down has impacted both positively and negatively on the country as a whole but it has impacted more because it has helped to reduce the spreading of the coronavirus.