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**A Report On the Coronavirus Pandemic And The Effects Of The Lockdown And Restriction Of Movement On Nigerians.**

 The Coronavirus disease (covid-19) is an infectious disease caused by the Virus called “Corona”. People infected with Covid-19 virus experience respiratory illness, older people and those underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease and cancer are more likely not to survive the illness.

 The virus is very quick to transmit. The covid-19 spread primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneeze. The virus is marking an history, as the virus has spread round the world and affected so many countries and various activities all over the world. The fast transmission of the virus has made people to isolate themselves, the government to be restricting movement, to close down schools and churches etc. and enforce lockdown everywhere.

 In Nigeria, as at 16th April, it was recorded that the cases confirmed with the covid-19 virus was over four hundred, twelve deaths recorded and approximately one hundred and twentyeight have been recovered from the virus. This disease is all over the major states in Nigeria. This is why the government closed schools, churches and restricted gathering to be a maximum of fifty people to avoid further transmission.

 On the 30th of march, the president of the country, mr. Muhammadu Buhari, enforced a compulsory lockdown and restriction of movement in the commercial hub Lagos, its neighboring state Ogun and the nations capital Abuja.

 This lockdown has both positive side and negative side affecting Nigerians, some of the negatives include:

**Increase in criminal activities in the country**: some Nigerian citizens generate income on daily basis from blue collar jobs like moulding of blocks, selling of goods, carrying of passengers etc. During the cause of the lockdown there has been unavailability of jobs hence theses group of people without means od daily survival do not have what to eat. Even as the government claims that they would create a programme which the sole purpose is to provide for such citizens who cannot cater for themselves during the lockdown, these programmes In response to the laxity of the government are not effective enough therefore resulting to various crime such as theft, robbery and more negative vices to be able to survive. There have been a recorded steady increase of crime in Lagos and Ogun state recently.

**Poor effect on the economy:** as many people are unable to carry out their jobs and work effectively in the country, the economy is dropping as inflation is setting in and people are not more receiving salary because not everyone is working any longer, people are instructed to stay at home and keep safe. Some jobs and even individuals do not have the facilities or the good network to work effectively online this would therefore make payment of salary difficult and scare in the country. Some marketers have decided to use this opportunity to horde essential goods and this leads to inflation of the price of these items which is affecting the economy badly as business are not developing anymore.

**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 so they find it difficult to make purchases with the little that they have to sustain them.

Those who sell also use this opportunity to exploit others, 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.

**Increased violence:** due to the lockdown, there has been an increase in the numbers of security personnel’s 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 some states especially Warri, Delta State.

There has also been reported sightings of jungle justice since the lockdown. People who are caught stealing are being beaten mercilessly by fellow citizens. Although things are hard, this is the time to display love and affection towards one another, this is not the case.

 However, there is still a positive side to this lockdown,

**Reduction in the rate at which the disease spread:** the lockdown has brought about the reduction in the rate of transmission among people because everyone is expected to stay at home and only associate with people they live with rather than outsider. This has helped the spread of the virus to be minimized.

**Allow government agency eg NCDC( NIGERIAN CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL) to be able to handle the virus effectively:** The lockdown would allow the government to be focused on their strategy towards fighting the coronavirus In Nigeria. This is because everyone one would be staying safe, therefore the government can be able to tackle and handle the virus better. In addition, those affected with covid-19 already would get adequate and proper treatment which would would bring progress in fighting the disease out of Nigeria.

 Regardless, corona virus has caused a lot of things in Nigeria and changed a lot of things in our country. Though the federal ministry of health has been trying their best to ensure that the outbreak in Nigeria is controlled and stopped immediately. The NCDC has been activated in national emergency operation centre working in different states in Nigeria. Medical personnel are trying their best to give out ways to stop the pandemic. 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. We hope that the lockdown would have a great effect toward the issue of the coronavirus and at the end many lives would testify safe and happy with the government.