**REPORT ON THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECT OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS.**

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Coronavirus disease 2019 simply known as COVID-19 is an illness caused by a novel coronavirus now called serve acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus2 (SARS-CoV-2, formerly called 2019-nCoV), which was first identified amid an outbreak of respiratory illness cases in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. It was initially reported to the WHO on December 31, 2019. On the 30th of January, 2020, the WHO declared the COVID-19 a global health emergency, On the 11th of March,2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic, its first designation since H1N1 influenza a pandemic in 2009.

Coronavirus is a type of common virus that infects humans, typically leading to an **upper respiratory infection (URI**). The virus is spread through the air by coughing, sneezing, close personal contact, touching an object or surface contaminated with the virus and rarely, by faecal contamination. The illness caused by most coronaviruses usually lasts a short time and their symptoms are **runny nose, sore throat, feeling unwell, cough and fever.** People with COVID-19 generally develop signs and symptoms on an average of 5-6 days after infections (means incubation period 5-6days, range 1-14days), most patience with COVID-19 virus have mild disease and do recover. Presently in the **world** we have **2,447,920** confirmed cases, **643,245** recovered cases and **168,500** death cases and in **Nigeria** we have **376** confirmed cases, **97** recovered cases and **13** death. Nigeria recorded its first case of corona virus in the country on February 25, 2020.

**HOW TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

* Clean your hands often, Use soap and water, or an alcoholic based hand rub.
* Maintain a safe distance from anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
* Don’t touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
* Cover your nose and mouth with your bent elbow or a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
* Stay home if you feel unwell.
* If you have a fever, a cough, and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention. Call in advance.
* Follow medical direction strictly.

Due to the heavy spread of the COVID-19 virus the On the 31st of March, 2020, the government declared a general lockdown on their populated cities Lagos and Abuja, Nigeria's commercial and political capitals, as part of the effort to contain the coronavirus for the next 14days (2weeks) of the incubation period, although in the first few 2weeks more corona cases where established and an extra two weeks had to be added to the lockdown. During this period there were a lot of awareness programs, campaigns and donations from different companies, individual and government to help fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

On the path of Nigerians the lockdown has been of less or no blessings to them as individuals have to go on an unforeseen or unplanned break, which has affected some people’s means of income or survival. **EFFECT OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS.**

* **Economic Hardship:** Nigeria with 200million people is Africa's most populated nation. The lockdown is expected to add to the hardship of millions of Nigerians living hand-to-mouth, often on less than one dollar a day. Although the government has pledged series of support measures to ease the financial pain for the most vulnerable, but there have been widespread complaints that not enough is being done for those facing hunger.
* **Close down of schools and institutions:** As a result of this lockdown, Schools in Nigeria have all been closed down, as well as institution, this has affected the academic schedules of most schools, Some Primary and Secondary schools even had to close without writing exams or concluding for the academic terms, while Universities are now behind schedule. Although schools have been involved in online classes or means of learning but it can't still be as great as physical studies, Truly the students would be affected during exam period or whenever the school resumes.
* **Increase in crime rate:** The lockdown on Nigeria’s has increased in crime rate especially in the area of theft, Recently it has been brought to our notice on how these called "One million boys "are robbing houses, killing them all in the name of trying to make end meets as a means of survival for feeding in Lagos. There have also been report of neighbourhood stealing and other illegal activities, dressing up in military camouflage to be able to move around without any disturbance and even carry passengers, all these to make needs be met. Although the government are stopping any illegal meeting or activities and arresting all who violates the law in this period.
* **Mental and Physical Instability:** Nigeria is known for been a very active and busy country, with their citizens always moving around to look for greener pasture, but as a result of this lockdown Nigerians has been confirmed to the four walls of their houses. This alone was a really difficult task for most Nigerians at the initial stage of the lockdown, Restricting of their movement has caused a lot of people mental instability as people are tired of been indoor with nothing to do , People have lost proper thinking and working skills and are really eager for the lockdown to be over.
* **Economic Recession:** Due to unplanned circumstances and inappropriate planning for this pandemic, there have been a lot of increase in natural resources such as gas and fuel; there have also been a rise in the price of food stuff as well, because of high consumption rate.

**CONCLUSION**

The government has really tried to raise fund and provide for the poor and the unemployed in this period of this pandemic, there has been a lot of contributions from individuals, companies and even political parties. Awareness on this pandemic is high and millions of Nigerians are aware of the disease as well as the consequences and how to avoid it. Covid-19 has brought hygiene and brought about the true meaning of the adage which says “Health is Wealth ". We hope and pray that there would be recorded increase in the recovery cases and Nigerians would be able to go by their daily activities as normal and the lockdown would be all over.

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BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING.

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