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**ASSIGNMENT**

 Write a report, of not more than two pages, on the corona virus pandemic and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians.

 Due to the pandemic currently ravaging across Nigeria and the entire globe at large, known as the Corona Virus or COVID-19, many percussions have been taken into place by various nations across the globe to curve the spread of the disease and protect its citizens from contracting the disease and spreading it to others.

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment.  Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by washing your hands or using an alcohol based rub frequently and not touching your face.

The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it’s important that you also practice respiratory etiquette (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow).

At this time, there are no specific vaccines or treatments for COVID-19. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments. WHO will continue to provide updated information as soon as clinical findings become available. Scientists around the globe are [racing to develop a vaccine](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/02/researchers-ramp-efforts-develop-coronavirus-vaccine-200206120657215.html) but have warned it is not likely one will be available for mass distribution before 2021.

Meanwhile, a growing number of countries have introduced a series of sweeping measures to slow the spread of the coronavirus, including nationwide lockdowns, bans on gatherings, closure of schools, restaurants, bars and sports clubs, as well as issuing mandatory work-from-home decrees.

International airlines [have cancelled flights](https://www.aljazeera.com/ajimpact/airlines-cut-china-flights-firms-halt-travel-virus-fears-200129011109306.html) the world over. Some countries have banned non-citizens from entering their territories, and several more have evacuated their citizens from abroad.

 Currently in Nigeria, there are over 600+ cases of COVID-19, with over 170 recovered patients and 21 deaths. The situation is getting quite critical due to the fact that some citizens refuse to obey and follow measures taken by the government, to help curb the spread of COVID-19. Some of the measures put in place are as follows: All schools, universities and tertiary institutions have been closed down, workplaces and offices have been closed till further notice, all market places and places of business are to be closed, only those selling essential products like: drugs, food and essential commodities are allowed to be open. Finally, there has been lockdown, whereby all citizens are expected to stay home and observe social distancing, the lockdown is expected to last for a period of two weeks. The COVID-19 is a feared disease around the globe ever since it caused a respiratory illness in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China which began in December 2019. Ever since then, the disease has spread far and wide to almost every country of the world, including Nigeria, which is the major reason for the lockdown in Nigeria and other countries. Nigerian President, Muhammadu Buhari has also announced a 14 day extension to the lockdown in Lagos, Abuja and Ogun states respectively, seeing as these states have the highest cases of active COVID-19 cases, whereas initially the 14 day lockdown in the three states began on March 30. “It is a matter of life and death”, Buhari said will responding to the nation. “The repercussions of any premature end to the lockdown action are imaginable”.

 The lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians has many serious effects. One of these effects is that the country faces going into recession, due to the fact that now all Nigerians are at home, companies and offices have been closed down even banks, so production of goods and services has been majorly affected, with over 200 million Nigerians, we are seen as the big brother of Africa, and now that we all have to stay at home, there will be serious economic hardship. Another effect is the fact many Nigerians are unemployed and financial unable to take care of themselves and their families, and now that they’re all at home, there will be no source of income and the family will definitely go hungry due to lack of money to get basic amenities needed to survive this period. Finally, healthcare experts have raised alarms over the impact of a coronavirus outbreak, warning that the country’s unprepared and underfunded healthcare system could quickly become overwhelmed, meaning the healthcare facilities are at risk of declining during this period.

 The government has pledged a 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. Meanwhile some suspects have been arrested amidst fears of increase in crime in Lagos and Ogun state. Buhari said compliance with these order and other restrictions will be for our own general good. In conclusion, the lockdown has affected citizens who are now living in fear and can’t leave their homes, but by the grace of God, this pandemic will soon be over and we can all go back to our normal lives.