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**CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE MERITS AND DEMERITS OF LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT OF NIGERIANS**

**BEGINNING OF CORONA VIRUS**

Corona virus also known as the COVID19.It was emerged in Wuhan, China on December 31,2019.Corona virus belongs to the Coronaviridae family in the Nidovirales order.At the end of 2019,wuhan an emerging business hub of china experienced an outbreak of the disease corona virus that killed more than eighteen hundred and infected over seventy thousand individuals within the fifty days of epidemic.Anybody with this pandemicshows symptoms five days but it will range from two to fourteen days. The symptoms are, diarrhoea, cough, shortness of breath, fever and loss of smell. The virus can be easily spread when an infected person is in close contact with a non infected person. It begins when the infected person sneezes, when talking to a non-infected person, in the process,the virus can be contacted through the air especially when it is a crowded place.

Currently there is no vaccine but as our elders say “ prevention is better than cure” the preventive measures is by washing ones hands regularly for twenty seconds, maintaining physical distance from others, use of masks and so on.

Presently, the pandemic has been ravaging and put the whole world in health emergency.

**WHEN CORONA VIRUS CAME TO NIGERIA.**

Corona virus cases as been increasing drastically in the past few months since February27th , 2020. It has taken more than a hundred thousands of lives in other countries where some Nigerians too visited, and this make covid19 spread like wild fire, especially from foreign returnees and international travelers who are Nigerians. Government has made an effort through the Nigerian center for disease control(NCDC) to curb the spread of the virus. They create awareness on precautionary measures for people to imbibe, they provide medical facilities to test people. The president declared that some vulnerable states should be locked down. Some states observe them like Ogun, Osun, Ekitiand so on and so forth

**NCDC (NIGERIAN CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL):** It is the government agency with the mandate to coordinate the surveillance ,detection, and response to infectious disease control outbreak. Over the last three years, NCDC has deployed a new tool for disease surveillance. The surveillance, outbreak response management and analysis system(SORMAS) is a system jointly developed between NCDC and HZI(Helmholtz centre for infections) . so far so good, NCDC has supported states for improved coordination of outbreak preparedness and response. NCDC is located in Osun, Lagos, Oyo, Abuja, Sokoto, Kaduna, Kano, Ebonyi, Borno, Plateau, rivers.

**MERITS AND DEMERITS OF LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT OF NIGERIANS**

Lockdown is an emergency protocol that usually prevents people or information from leaving an area. The federal government has ordered an ultimate lockdown in Nigeria and this prevent the restriction of movement among the Nigerians. There are positive and negative effects of the lockdown in Nigeria.

**THE MERITS OF THE LOCKDOWN ARE:**

1. It allows family to bond together and do things together
2. It corrects a child mistakes and adjusts him/her
3. Spend more time with God
4. Relaxation to those who don’t have time for themselves before the lockdown
5. Reduce the virus from spreading more further from other countries to our country
6. It makes people reasons to think about how to do businesses online
7. People are now wiser to make their plans flexible knowing that there is nothing that can’t be cancelled

**THE DEMERITS OF THE LOCKDOWNN ARE:**

1. It introduces vices which includes stealing, prostitution, armed robbery and so on
2. It has a poor effect on the economy
3. It leads to the increase in the prices of limited goods in the market.
4. The poor becomes poorer
5. People struggle to survive
6. School students can’t go to school like primary, secondary and tertiary students, which cause idleness.
7. The school academic calendar is extended. Students will graduate as an when due. Their time is extended.

To conclude this report, corona virus has caused many issues and realizations in Nigeria and changed the norm in our country, Nigeria.

The federal government of Nigeria though the federal ministry of health are currently trying their best to ensure that the outbreak in Nigeria is been controlled and immediately. The NCDC has been activated in national emergency operation center working in different states in Nigeria. Medical personnel are trying their best to give out ways to stop the corona virus pandemic As the outbreak is still in our country and the lockdown is still going on. Nigerians should endeavour to listen and act according to the preventive measures that have been given so as to keep safe during this pandemic. The federal government are putting measures in place to make sure Nigerians are safe and so cooperation is needed