**STUDENT’S NAME: ODIASE STEPHEN JUSTICE EHI. MATRICULATION NUMBER: 19/LAW01/168. COLLEGE: LAW. LEVEL: ONE HUNDRED. COURSE TITLE: COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH II. COURSE CODE: GST 122. LECTURERS’ NAMES: MRS IFE AJEPE AND DR SOLOMON A. EDEBOR. ASSIGNMENT: FORMS OF WRITING: WRITE A REPORT OF NOT MORE THAN TWO PAGES, ON THE GLOBAL CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT OF NIGERIANS.**

According to Wikipedia the definition of the present pandemic ravaging the whole world as a novel virus. Being a viral infectious disease, it has claimed tens of thousands of lives. This particular Coronavirus, otherwise known as COVID-19, is a viral infectious disease that is spread very easily, by uninfected persons coming in contact with infected persons’ droplets. As the saying goes, “the virus does not spread until people move”. A novel strain of coronavirus was first detected in December 2019 in Wuhan, a city in China’s Hubei province with a population of 11 million, after an outbreak of pneumonia without an obvious cause afterwards, spreading to many other asian countries. The virus has now spread to over 227 countries and territories across the globe, and was characterised as a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 11 March 2020.

As of on 21 May 2020, there were 4,893,186 laboratory-confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) infection globally, with 323,256 reported deaths. The number of cases and deaths outside of China overtook those within the country on 16 March 2020In other words, there is no gainsaying the fact that, the virus cannot be contracted by people, until people move from one place to another. Therefore, it was not surprising that the heads of a lot of countries had to impose several lockdown restrictions in order to curtail the spread of the disease.

The Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (New Ninth Edition) defines the term “lockdown” as an official order to control the movement of people or vehicles because of a dangerous situation. Itt can also be siad to be a state of isolation or restricted access instituted as a security measure. By this definition, it is clear that, a lockdown is usually not a measure welcome by people generally. For example, in Lagos amongst other salient places, most people are used to the hustle and bustle of the city, in order to make ends meet and with there being this king restriction of movements and confinement to a persons due place of living people will be affected greatly in an advertisement manner. Therefore, this measure is usually not what people want. However, in the face of Coronavirus, it was, and is still expedient that this measure is put in place. The expediency of different countries imposing lockdowns cannot be overemphasised but shouId rather be comprehended and accepted by people being the only reasonable and convincing method to curving the virus from spreading more seriously than it has already been. I will however discuss the effects of the lockdown in Nigeria on Nigerians living in Nigeria, in the following paragraphs:

First, the lockdown has becoming an adverse effect on Nigerians living in Nigeria health-wise, psychologically, mentally, economically and otherwise . The novel Coronavirus is a viral infection that is spread when uninfected people come in contact with droplets from infected people and people who have the disease themselves through physical body contact. In humans, coronaviruses cause respiratory tract infections that range from mild to lethal. As of this very moment, there are yet to be vaccines or antiviral drugs to prevent or treat human coronavirus infections. Verifiable statistics from John Hopkins University hold that globally, there has been two million, four hundred and sixteen thousand, one hundred and thirty-five cases. Of these two million, four hundred and sixteen thousand, one hundred and thirty-five cases, there have been one hundred and sixty-five thousand, nine hundred and thirty-nine deaths. The epicentre of the virus is the state of New York City in the United States of America, with seven hundred and fifty-nine thousand, seven hundred and eighty-six cases and fourty thousand, six hundred and eighty-three deaths. In Nigeria, the epicentre of the virus is Lagos, with three hundred and seventy-six cases, as can be verified with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). Of these three hundred and seventy-six cases, there have been thirteen deaths, ninety-seven recoveries, and two hundred and sixty-six active cases. The virus which began as an endemic in the city of Wuhan in China, has claimed tens of thousands of lives, worldwide. Presently, hospitals and health centres are really overstretched. They are grappling with the paucity of essentials needed to give the virus a good fight. This has brought about the overpopulation of mortuaries. In many countries, bodies of the deceased are littered on roads. Indeed, it is that bad!

Second, the lockdown has adversely affected Nigerians living in Nigeria economically. Nigeria, being a third-world country has millions of people that are daily earners, that is, they earn daily wages. Therefore, it can be seen that, due to the lockdown, millions of Nigerians that were already impoverished due to several different reasons, have sunk deeper into the well of poverty. Yes, most Nigerians are industrious: but, if the truth is to be told, these once industrious Nigerians can no longer put up with the harsh effects of the lockdown. People are going hungry daily, as they can no longer go about their legitimate businesses in order to keep the wolf from the door! Governments at different levels have promised to provide palliatives, but in reality, these palliatives have reached just a few people – there are still millions of people that are barely surviving!

Thirdly, this virus has caused families separation and for loved ones to be ureachable, some people who were staying in other places far from home have been forced to stay there because of the bank placed on people from moving from place to place which includes states.

Fourthly and lastly, the lockdown has adversely affected Nigerians living in Nigeria psychologically. In life, balance is needed. Due to the ravaging pandemic people have become more traumatized than ever and it has people so anxious about their loved ones and their lives as the day goes on. People are also scared of losing their loved ones to these pandemic and are taking so much care to see that they follow all the measures that have been out downstairs much say that anything that have been rumors to being the cure will become their next beacon of hope to getting off the grip of the virus. people, especially Lagosians have taken out time to rest from the ever-stressful city. But, they are now “tired” of resting. Due to the harsh effects of the lockdown, a lot of Nigerians have found it difficult to cope, mentally. The very fact of losing a loved one to Coronavirus is disheartening. Some people now see drug abuse and suicide as a means of “escape” from the harsh realities of life. Another angle to the psychological effects of the lockdown restriction is the fact that, a lot of people are now experiencing abuse in different areas of their lives: domestic, physical, psychological, sexual, verbal, to mention but a few. Indeed, the stay-at-home order enforced in different parts of the country is breeding violence in different ramifications. This violence is meted out by males to females and vice-versa. Incidences of violent crimes are increasing

Finally, in order for us not to contact the virus we have to obey the social distancing rule, wash our hands after touching any external surface from outside our home, report any case of symtoms Protect yourself and others around you by knowing the facts and taking appropriate precautions. Follow advice provided by your local public health agency. And we should all learn to put up an acceptable habit and good behavior as we go through this difficult times.