

Global Anomie of Corona Virus Disease: A Social Science Perspective

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Abstract

This article titled Global Anomie of Corona Virus Disease: Social Sciences Perspective is an academic discuss aimed at indebt analysis of the word anomie as a state of social disorder, the condition in which society provides little moral guidance to individuals. The concept may evolve from conflict of belief systems and causes breakdown of social bonds between individual and the community. The main thrust in this discourse is the breaking down of social bond which anomie represents. In this regard, corona virus has breach the connection between man and his normal environment. It brought about disorientation and commotion which may include panic, sorrow, lots of deaths and economic setback in every corner of the globe. Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered corona virus affecting every facet of humanity today. The concept of Social Sciences is also captured as the discipline that centres its interest on the study of man; his inter relationship and the entire human environment. The understanding of the concept of Social Order was also explained for better understanding of this discourse. The article aims at using anomie, knowledge of Social Sciences and it's methodological approach to create awareness on the instability in lifestyle and the near collapse of the people's cultural pattern that the sudden emergence of this life threatening microbe is creating all over the world. The study recommended that everyone must take 100% responsibility of curbing the spread of corona virus, one should do COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS of every reason(s) to go out this time for your safety and life. Don't shake off the fear of the presence of Corona Virus as you move about, because the virus is still very much with us. Also even when you are careful, be mindful of those who are careless. This becomes particularly important if you have to be in such public places as hospitals, markets, parks, banks, ATM points etc.

Keywords: Global, Anomie, Corona virus Disease Social Sciences, Social order, Behavioural change.

Introduction

Corona Virus Disease otherwise known as Covid-19 has turned humanity into an unfathomable confusion that men from nearly all fields of human endeavour are finding it difficult to break free till this very moment. Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) without

warning reared its ugly head into this fun filled world in late 2019 and till date its ravaging impact is not only biting but has remained dreadful. To say the least, the entire world is under siege of this virus. This virus sprung from China in December 2019, and had a rapid spread to other countries of the world. At the start of this disease, people were suspected with strange pneumonia. Some patients that were reported were vendors and dealers in the Haunan Seafood market (Holshue et al, 2020). This new phenomenon cropped a massive public reactions, the situation was alarming, that on daily basis, media continuously reporting and disseminating the situation of the pandemic in different countries, continents and the world at large. In fact the situation was terrifying, the rate by which people were affected and caused massive date rate cannot be over emphasized. Everyone seems to be in dire need for help, advanced economies are collapsing, and developing societies are in utter confusion, leaving the underdeveloped world hopeless and helpless. The end of the tunnel still seems to be bleak and very far. COVID-19 indeed has turned the greatest enemy of man in the 21st century crumbling world economies, collapsing institutions of learning, frustrating social life and leaving man in utter confusion.

Sociologically speaking, Corona Virus Disease is today not only redefining humanity and his world but has successfully patterned life in a new order and new concepts are emerging daily that seems to interfere with man and his known way of life. COVID-19 pandemic is already giving its own designed pattern to the way man conducts his socio-political life, do business, worship God/gods and see inter personal relationship. Generally speaking, Religion, Interactions, Dressing, Education, Relationships, Economy, Medical Practice, Tourism has been redesigned by this 21st Century enemy of man. It is ironically believed that the worst from Corona Virus Disease has not been seen or heard. This virus dragged humanity into anomic state, where man has been alienated from his ethical and social order. Therefore, the social structure governing mankind all over the world has been affected and thwarted by this anomie (Bernburg, 2019). Corona virus as an anomie imposed a sinistral change on man's social order; it has disorganized and disrupted individual peace and serenity. Consequently, Covid-19 has confined man to himself with the policy of lock-down and social distancing, it pulled man out of his original way of life which is interactive to that of individualistic, so as to curtail the spread of the disease.

Man from creation has always been a social animal and all of this is forcefully taking a new turn as desired by COVID-19 pushing man to be individualistic as against man's communal nature. Aristotle asserted long ago that "man is by nature a social being" and that one who does not partake of society is "either a beast or a god." To Aristotle, socialization is an important component of human existence and experience. However, anomie as lack of normal social standard which corona virus pandemic has forced on the world of today, compelling mankind to change his way of life unwillingly. Aristotle strongly affirmed that socialization is an experience that continues even after a traumatic interruption of man and his socio-political environment and all of this is being betrayed by COVID-19 as man is being forced to stay at home in the name of "lockdown". These behavioural change imperatives transform the nature of social life and realities in Nigeria, even the whole globe. The new social normal adversely impacts livelihood and survival

chances, amidst grossly inadequate palliatives (Amzat et al, 2020). Be that as it may, man by nature remains a social animal living a communal life from birth till death, growing and surviving through a strong chain of social interaction and daily depending on trust which comes from a sense of common values and beliefs. Man seeks commonality, which is why man love and appreciates social networks. COVID-19 forcing humanity into a life of individualism is not only unafrikan but frustrating and depressing.

Bringing it to Nigeria dimension, the Federal government, on March 30, 2020 introduced various containment strategies such as closing of the national borders and airspace, schools, worship centres and other public places, canceling of mass gathering events and placing the Federal Capital Territory, Lagos and Ogun states on lock down for an initial period of fourteen days (Radio Nigeria, 2020). Covid-19 testing laboratories were set up in Lagos, Abuja and Irrua in Edo State while State governments opened isolation centres and imposed dawn to dusk curfews in their territories.

This paper is divided into three subsections; the first is an in-depth discourse of the concept of anomie, secondly, the concept of Social Sciences perspective, and lastly, the corona virus disease and man's redefined social order.

The Concept of Anomie

The concept of anomie is one of the most popular words in the field of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanity which is described by a French sociologist Émile Durkheim in Diken (1992) who defined the concept as the condition in which individuals become aliens to the normal social order or whereby the society offers little moral guidance to individuals. Anomie may evolve from conflict of belief systems and causes breakdown of social bonds between an individual and the community (both economic and primary socialization). Hornby (2010) defined anomie as lack of social or moral standards. According to Jike (2005), anomie as a concept was popularized by French sociologist Émile Durkheim (1897) in his influential book *Suicide*. However, Durkheim (1897) in Owo (1998) first introduced the concept of anomie in his 1893 work "The Division of Labour in Society", Durkheim described anomie as "derangement", and "an insatiable will". Durkheim used the term "the malady of the infinite" because desire without limit can never be fulfilled; it only becomes more intense (Owo, 1998). Summarily, the desire to control man and world economy by world super power nations has become without limit hence the present limit thereby proving right the postulations of Durkheim (1897) in Owo (1998). The idea of anomie largely means the lack of normal ethical or social standards which COVID-19 has currently forced on the world today. The emergence and the spread of corona virus has made the world vulnerable with serious devastating effect on and his environment, the reduction in world's population caused by Covid-19 cannot be overemphasized. This disease, otherwise regarded as pandemic has throw all the countries of the world into fear, anxiety and panic as it caused series of deaths around the world, thereby, causing social disconnection between man and society, disorder, chaos and confusion. Indeed no one is free from this ugly episode globally and as it stands today, it seems man will be forced to live with this global pandemic if all attempts for permanent solution fails as did in HIV/Aids outbreak.

Furthermore, the global infectious disease, Covid-19 forced man into lock-down and social distancing in many parts of the world, which is contributing largely to the low global economy, because of halting of production and services. This has led to a break in the global supply chains and thus, affected the global economy brutally (Ebrahim et al., 2020). Transport has been affected globally. Import of steel, iron, inorganic chemicals, etc. from China and other countries has been grossly affected. Transport business even at national levels has ceased due to lock-down in different countries. Most company employees are working from home, which has its financial disadvantages. Educational institutions have been shut down. The uncertainty and postponement of examinations is also a stressor for young minds. Regarding the above,

The Concept of Social Science

Social Science is a phrase that generally defines the study of man, his Socio Political cum Economic environment, their interrelationships and the resultant implications of this relationship and interactions on man and the environment, Iwegbu (2016). Stating further quipped, that the Social Science is a field of study that involve all the subject areas that study and analyze man in relation to the environment. Onyesom (2015) described the Social Science as an integrated field of study whose main thrust is the study of man and his immediate environment. Meziobi (1998) described the Social Science as an integrated field of study intended to promote civic competence, patriotism, national unity, socio economic development and self-reliance. Social science is the branch of studies according to Mordi (1996) devoted to the study of human societies and the relationships among individuals within those societies. The term was formerly used to refer to the field of sociology, the original "science of society", established in the 19th century. In addition to sociology, it now encompasses a wide array of academic disciplines, including anthropology, archaeology, economics, human geography, linguistics, management science, media studies, musicology, political science, psychology, welfare and nursing studies and social history. In social sciences, a social relation or social interaction is any relationship between two or more individuals which the sudden emergence of COVID-19 is distorting today. Social relations derived from individual agency form the basis of social structure and the basic object for analysis by social scientists.

Fundamental inquiries into the nature of social relations feature in the work of sociologists such as Max Weber in Jike (2005) in his Theory of Social Action. Social relationships are a special case of social relations that can exist without any communication taking place between the actors involved. Physical distancing is being advocated in this Covid-19 era to reduce the rate of disease transmission and stop an outbreak thereby distorting visibly the ethics of human nature from origin. Though considering the devastating impact of COVID-19 on human life, the idea of Physical cum social distancing is a welcome development if the war on Coronal Virus Disease must be won. Physical and Social distancing are sets of non - pharmaceutical interventions or measures taken to prevent the spread of a contagious disease by maintaining a physical distance between people and reducing the number of times people come into close contact with each other. It typically involves keeping a certain space from others (the distance specified may differ from time to time and country to country) and avoiding gathering together in large groups.

It is generally believed that strictly adopting and enforcing physical and social distancing, the spread of contagious and highly infectious diseases can be curtailed thereby reducing the probability that a given uninfected person will come into physical contact with an infected person. Ultimately, the disease transmission can be suppressed, resulting in fewer deaths. These efforts are all intended to tame COVID-19 and its heartbreaking effects on the human race. Though these efforts are already taking a heavy toll on man by forcing man to limit most of his commercial and social activities such as gathering of Associations, Clubs, Conferences and Workshops, Teaching and Learning, Social Events and Programmes to online activities as this will help in the effective and efficient implementation of the new COVID-19 enforced policies on Social cum Physical distancing. If this policy must be productive, man must take advantage of the available online applications designed for such Social, Economic and Educational activities. Examples include Skype, Zoom, Goto Meeting, Whatsapp, Facebook Messenger and Conference Telephoning/Calls. COVID-19 has forced the human race into the worst pattern of life in recent history.

Corona Virus Disease and Mans' Redefined Social Order

The term social order can be used in two senses. In the first sense, it refers to a particular set or system of linked social structures, institutions, relations, customs, and enforce certain patterns of relating and behaving. Examples are the ancient, the feudal, and the capitalist social order. In the second sense, social order is contrasted to social chaos or disorder and refers to a stable state of society in which the existing social structure is accepted and maintained by its members. The problem of order or Hobbesian problem, which is central to sociology, political science and political philosophy, is the question of how and why and the central question whether social orders exist at all or not, (Iwegbu, 2016)

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?

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is not only biting but has remained dreadful. To say the least, the entire world is under siege of this virus (Iwegbu, 2020). Everyone seems to be in need of help, advanced economies are collapsing, and developing societies are in utter confusion, leaving the underdeveloped world hopeless. The end of the tunnel still seems to be very far but trust us; we have all turned to God, the ultimate hope of man. COVID-19 indeed has turned the greatest enemy of man in the 21st century.

Sociologically speaking according to Iwegbu (2020), Corona Virus Disease is today not only redefining humanity and his world but has successfully patterned life in a new order and new concepts are emerging daily that seems to interfere with man and his known way of life. COVID-19 pandemic is already giving its own designed pattern to the way men do business, worship God/gods. Generally speaking, Religion, Interactions, Dressing, Education, Relationships, Economy, Medical Practice, Tourism has been redesigned by this 21st Century enemy of man. It is ironically believed that the worst from Corona Virus Disease has not been seen or heard. The rush to pass the Nigerian Center for Disease Control (NCDC) bill at the National Assembly by our elected Representatives representing themselves and their interest is a discussion for another day.

Man from creation has always been a social animal and all of this is taking a new turn as desired by COVID-19. Aristotle asserted long ago that "man is by nature a social being" and that one who does not partake of society is "either a beast or a god." To Aristotle, Socialization is an important component of human existence and experience. Aristotle strongly affirmed that Socialization is an experience that continues even after a traumatic interruption of man and his socio-political environment and all of this is being betrayed to by COVID 19 as man is being forced to stay home otherwise called "lockdown". Be that as it may, man remains a social animal living a communal life from birth till death, growing and surviving through a strong chain of social interaction and daily depending on trust which comes from a sense of common values and beliefs. We seek commonality, which is why we love social networks. COVID-19 forcing humanity into a life of individualism is not only unafrican but frustrating and depressing.

Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic with its frustrating and conflicting concepts particularly 'Social Distancing and Physical Distancing' need much more committed effort from all and sundry while its dastardly and crippling effects must be curtailed or better still eradicated before humanity goes into extinction. To do this, the world needs much more than Social and Physical Distancing. As it is being advocated today, if the novel Corona Virus Disease ravaging the world today must be curtailed and contained as humans anticipate COVID-19 total eradication, social and physical distancing must be encouraged and ruthlessly enforced by individuals, communities and Government Agencies. Social distancing here means a sociological situation where there is a social disconnect in social relationships among people where person to person or inter group relationship is adversely affected. Social relations in this context are a blanket term for interactions between two or more people, groups, or organizations. Individual social relationships are composed of an immense number of social and verbal interactions that create a climate for the exchange of feelings and ideas. COVID-19 has brought in a situation where both inter and intra group relationships are adversely affected, Social interaction is deeply weakened to its marrow, meetings, clubbing, partying and generally, group life is

gradually eroded. Inter personal relationship is collapsing visibly with handshakes and general exchange of pleasantries gradually becoming history; hugging and kissing are fast becoming a great source of concern ; friendly and family visitations are already threatened while family cohesions and ties are dying gradually as a result of this 21st century common enemy of man.

In social sciences, a social relation or social interaction is any relationship between two or more individuals. Social relations derived from individual agency form the basis of social structure and the basic object for analysis by social scientists. Fundamental inquiries into the nature of social relations feature in the work of sociologists such as Max Weber in his Theory of Social Action. Social relationships are a special case of social relations that can exist without any communication taking place between the actors involved. Physical distancing is being advocated in this Covid-19 era to reduce the rate of disease transmission and stop an outbreak. It is also a set of non - pharmaceutical interventions or measures taken to prevent the spread of a contagious disease by maintaining a physical distance between people and reducing the number of times people come into close contact with each other. It typically involves keeping a certain space from others (the distance specified may differ from time to time and country to country) and avoiding gathering together in large groups. It is generally believed that strictly adopting and enforcing physical and social distancing, the spread of contagious and highly infectious diseases can be curtailed thereby reducing the probability that a given uninfected person will come into physical contact with an infected person.

Ultimately, the disease transmission can be suppressed, resulting in fewer deaths. These efforts are all intended to tame COVID-19 and its heartbreaking effects on the human race. Though these efforts are already taking a heavy toll on man by forcing man to limit most of his commercial and social activities such as gathering of Associations, Clubs, Conferences and Workshops, Teaching and Learning, Social Events and Programmes to online activities as this will help in the effective and efficient implementation of the new COVID-19 enforced policies on Social cum Physical distancing. If this policy must be productive, man must take advantage of the available online applications designed for such Social, Economic and Educational activities. Examples include Skype, Zoom, Goto Meeting, Whatsapp, Facebook Messenger and Conference Telephoning/Calls. COVID-19 has forced the human race into the worst pattern of life in recent history.

Conclusion and Recommendations

There is no better way to conclude this work than to say that we all must be involved in this all necessary fight to save humanity. The war against Corona Virus is far from being over. New cases are being confirmed in a large number each day in Nigeria, yet, free movement and resumption of work/businesses will start on Monday, May 2020, in most parts of the country as announced by the Nigerian President. The emergence and the spread of corona virus has made the world vulnerable with serious devastating effect on and his environment, the reduction in world's population caused by Covid-19 cannot be overemphasized. It is generally believed that strictly adopting and enforcing physical and social distancing, the spread of contagious and highly infectious diseases can be curtailed thereby reducing the probability that a given uninfected person will come into physical

contact with an infected person. Ultimately, the disease transmission can be suppressed, resulting in fewer deaths. Be that as it may, man remains a social animal living a communal life from birth till death, growing and surviving through a strong chain of social interaction and daily depending on trust which comes from a sense of common values and beliefs. We seek commonality, which is why we love social networks. COVID-19 forcing humanity into a life of individualism is not only unafrican but frustrating and depressing. With the knowledge, experience and information, great awareness will be firmly established in how to manage and contain the ravaging pandemic while maintaining the norms, values, morals and the behaviour of the people. These efforts are all intended to tame COVID-19 and its heartbreaking effects on the human race.

The following recommendations will be of help in curtailing the spread of the dreadful pandemic: Everyone must take 100% responsibility of curbing the spread of corona virus, one should do COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS of every of your reason(s) to go out this time for your safety and life. If you must move about, do limit your movement to only safe places/essential activities with the social distancing and other precautionary measures in full force. Don't shake off the fear of the presence of Corona Virus as you move about, because the virus is still very much with us and in quantity sufficient to go round. Also even when you are careful, be mindful of those who are careless. This becomes particularly important if you have to be in such public places as hospitals, markets, parks, banks, ATM points etc. Endeavour to have a minimum of three face masks and a bottle of hand sanitizer with you anywhere and everywhere you go and be mindful of shared services and crowded areas. Having these is also not a reason to be carefree. It is very important to pay special attention to currency notes (money) as a very possible cause of transmission. The use of sanitizers each time you give and receive money is not out of place. More than ever before, invest in your nutritional status, particularly to boost your immune system so as to be in a 'battle ready' status ahead of any eventuality. Eating varied/diverse food across different food groups including good portions of fruits and vegetables is one way to achieve this. One should pay attention to his body system and be quick to notice any symptom similar to those of corona virus in order to take appropriate steps and in good time. Find yourself reliable sources of genuine information and updates on corona virus in Nigeria and particularly in your state of residence. This will enable you to know among other things, places with history of the virus and latest precautionary measures and instructions on how to stay safe and save your life. If the recommendations of this work are followed, corona virus will be minimally inimical to mankind and the society at large.

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