

Nalunkuma Violah

How has life changed with Covid-19?

Covid 19 is a global pandemic which is characterized by flu, dry cough, high temperatures and headache. Covid 19 started in Wuhan market in China in december 2019 and its the reason as to why its called Covid-19(corona virus disease 2019) and from there it spread globally in the whole world until later when it spread in Uganda. As per now no cure has ever been discovered but we pray and we are having hope of discovering the cure by scientists in different countries. There are very many ways of stopping the spread of covid 19 by wearing face masks, washing our hands with sanitizers regularly, social distancing among others.

To a greater extent Covid-19 has greatly affected many women and girl child in Uganda. Not only far away but also in my own family, neighbors and many others in the way that we are facing a problem of domestic violence characterized by fighting, quarreling and many others. For instance in my very home if it was not god I wouldn't be in my family as per now because fighting became the order of the day because of being home with husband most time and he could not work, all that was due to Covid-19.

Covid-19 also brought a big negative impact on the agricultural sector as the setting of Mpigi most of us are farmers we grow crops and rear animals so when the government stopped public transport from operating there was no way we could transport our products to the market. Like for example when I harvested my peas I liked transport to take them to the market but I ended up eating them which caused a financial constraint to my family, all that happened due to Covid-19.

During the Covid-19 period markets where closed because there is no social distancing in the markets. So we had no where to sell our products, we ended up storing them yet they are easily destroyed by pests and insects, hence Covid-19 affecting us negatively.

The costs of our products dropped. Like before the outbreak of Covid-19 we would sell our bunches of banana at a cost of 20 000 and 30 000 respectively, but after the outbreak they costed 5000 and 7000 which affected us financially leaving us spiting Covid-19.

During Covid-19 women and girl child in our community are having unwanted pregnancies just because women are having too much time with their husbands and young girl are engaging themselves in sexual activities just because they are lousy and not at school. For example I was shocked a week ago when I was told that my cousin got pregnant but she was in senior two. But all that happened because she was not at school due to the lockdown brought by Covid-19.

We have lacked food in our families due to Covid -19 because of a ban on movement and public transport, I too would some times move and sell my necklaces I make from beads but now moving is prohibited so I can't work to provide the family with food and expenditures so leaving the family in food shortage due to Covid 19.

Many women in our communities and countries at large are left widows, we have lost our loved ones due to Covid 19. Men are committing suicide, for example my brother. Before committing suicide he wrote a letter to the wife that for him he couldn't take it so he decided to do so, but it's not happening to our family but Uganda at large if you make research you see but all that is due to Covid 19. With deep sorrow on my heart we have lost our dear ones, our fellow mothers, our sisters.



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Interview
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