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**POLITICS AND PROPAGANDA IN THE COVID-19 ERA: THE NIGERIAN SITUATION**

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***ABSTRACT***

*Coronavirus, popularly known as COVID-19, emerged as one of the Pandemic diseases that ravaged the world in recent times. Governments all over the world were compelled to employ drastic measures to stem the spread of the pandemic and control the mortality rate. The Federal Government of Nigeria declared a lockdown of most sectors of the nation, including closure of schools and adoption of preventive protocols to be implemented which included wearing of nose mask, social and physical distancing, avoidance of overcrowding, etc. Unfortunately, coincidentally the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) declared an indefinite strike to compel government to implement the 2009 agreement. Government later ease the lockdown in some sectors of the national life while public universities remained closed. The continued closure of universities generated a lot of concern and aroused suspicion in the public about government’s so-called avowed commitment to the safety of lives of Nigerians and the spread of coronavirus. It was obvious that government was engaged in politics and propaganda but using patriotism as a way to deceive the public that it was interested in saving the lives of Nigerian students. The study x-rayed the strategies employed in Government during the period and implications of government subterfuge on the nation.*

***KEYWORDS:*** *Covid-19, Nigerian Situation*