

IF I COULD INVENT SOMETHING NEW- *An Essay written by Chinecherem Chijioke, a Jss3 student of Amazing Love International Schools.*

If I could invent something new, I would invent an equipment that would improve the health wellbeing of African societies and make cutting-edge healthcare services available to the ordinary man.

I live in Nigeria, in the south-east geo-political zone to be precise. In this region, you can't help but observe the amount of deprivation, suffering and loss the average man experiences due to ill health. Health services considered as common in developed climes are largely unaffordable and at most a dream, to the ordinary Nigerian citizen. These citizens die in their numbers because they can't afford the high cost of investigative treatment and medications.

It may surprise you to know that the average Nigerian child never consults with a doctor each year. The most frequent place for sick Nigerians to visit, is the chemist's shop. After witnessing all these terrible challenges of my people, I'm certain that if I could create or design something new, I would invent a machine in the likes of the everyday metal detector doors, that could carry out an instant, automated and comprehensive full body health check on anyone who passes through it, for free.

It would be like those doorway security scanners used in hotels and airports to check for guns, weapons and other security threats an individual may carry. Only this time, it won't be scanning for illegal materials but scanning to detect health problems and illnesses.

The invention would carry out a full body medical examination on anyone who walks through it. Vital checks like body temperature, blood pressure, pulse rate, respiration rate and other investigative checks would be taken as the person passes through. Furthermore, this device would go beyond the activities of physical medical wearable devices that just give reports on your heartbeat, pulse, blood pressure, etcetera, to also give a predictive report of any health threats or likely disease one might experience in the future using artificial intelligence algorithms.

This invention will also be cheaper to distribute to numerous health care centers for public use, as against physical wearable devices that cannot be practically shared to all the citizens.

This invention would be entirely government funded or in partnership with the private sector and deployed to all public hospitals and healthcare centers free of charge so that

the ordinary man can access health services easily with immediate access to the results of the scan.

Statistics from *BusinessDay.NG* reveal that about 253,000 people die annually as a result of insufficient access to healthcare services. This invention would help to reduce this rate of death, thereby providing my beloved country with a stronger and more productive labour force capable of making optimum use of the resources available to develop our dear nation.

This is what I believe I would invent, by the Grace of God, if I could ever invent something new.