

POLITICAL CORRUPTION AND ITS CONSEQUENCES IN SOCIETY

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to illustrate, from a scientific aspect, what political corruption is; and to define the political corruption phenomena and its consequences in society. Political corruption as a social deviation represents a particular type of cooperation between social groups. There are several causes of political corruption for example: the environment of political system, economic and social system as well as cultural dimensions. The target of political corruption is to gain the private compensation in material or service advantages, however, usually accompanied by considerable social damages. In deviant societies political corruption often becomes as acceptable social norm in their society. We are analyzing political corruption as a deviant activity, bringing example of negative consequences in countries that are contaminated with corruption. The fight against corruption requires functional policy and the establishment of institutional framework and conditions for the implementation of the policy. This paper initiate that political corruption is very negative social activity. The impact of political corruption has very high destructive effects on political system, and whole society.

Keywords: Political corruption, social deviation, political system, policy, society, social groups.

Introduction

Political corruption is a very dangerous public enemy around the world. All the money a corrupt politician or businessman gets is stolen from an elderly woman in need of health services, students who deserve better education, or money taken from municipalities in need of water, roads and schools.

There is a lot of data showing that many countries are involved in corruption, tax evasion and other major financial crimes. Corruption greatly hurts people and they are usually residents or citizens of the poorest countries in the world.

The consequences of corruption in the field of economic, political and social development are becoming increasingly apparent and with long-term consequences. The fight against corruption is very modest, and public opinion remains uninformed about the amount and intensity of this deviation. We have very little political debate about this destructive social phenomenon. The true cost of corruption needs to be publicized and the reasons why governments and businesses should give high priority to the fight against corruption. It should be noted that, according to Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index for 2018, it shows very alarming links between corruption and the level of democracy. The results show that most of the 180 countries surveyed have failed to cope with corruption.

Further analysis shows that countries with high levels of corruption are those with low levels of political rights and democratic institutions. (Corruption, Democracy, and Political Uncertainty, Professor Christos Cabolis).

According to many studies, the increasing trend of corruption is one of the most dangerous and major social phenomena for the political and economic development of a society. Corruption poses a challenge to strengthening democratic institutions in countries under authoritarian rule. The insistence on establishing a political environment, in which

political rights, political participation, pluralism, and civil rights are objective reality and a key goal of policymaking, is one of the primary tasks of the fight against corruption. But our task is to structure this transition in a way that reduces the feeling of insecurity for the citizens of a country and increases the benefits of participants and participation in political processes.

Defining the notion of political corruption

The term "corruption" refers to the misuse of resources or power for private gain. Transparency International defines corruption as "abuse of trust for private gain". In political discourse a distinction is made between political corruption and bureaucratic corruption. So first let's explain political corruption, which as a deviant social phenomenon develops and takes place at the highest levels of political authority. (Political corruption: An introduction to the issues Inge Amundsen). It includes politicians, government ministers, senior civil servants and other elected officials, appointed in high public positions.

Political corruption is the abuse of power by those who decide about laws and regulations, which serve to distribute various resources that are very important in a society (ie those who make "rules of the political game"). Political corruption means adapting state laws and regulations to the benefit of various factors for private sector companies and businessmen to award large public contracts to specific firms or embezzle funds from the state budget. (How corruption weakens democracy, Patricia Moreira)

We also have bureaucratic corruption that occurs during the implementation of public policies. It includes appointed bureaucrats and public administration staff at central or local level who abuse their position for private gain. Political corruption and bureaucratic corruption as deviant social phenomena are interrelated.

Factors that make political corruption possible

Political corruption is a multidimensional phenomenon. There is a wide range of social, cultural, economic, political and administrative factors at national or international level that enable the political corruption. Political corruption is the result of wider political dynamics, different political interactions, opportunities and weaknesses in socio-political systems. We can conclude that political corruption is the result of dynamic relationships between many political and social actors. Political corruption has a direct impact on the economic development of a country. (Corruption, Causes and Consequences Štefan Šumah)

An important discussion is the analysis of how political corruption has a direct impact on the development and effectiveness of the economy, and the economic growth of a country. The impact of political corruption on reducing economic growth is one of the most important discussions in our time. Political corruption is a consequence of the political system and the manner of governance and socio-economic situations in a given society. The causes of corruption are very complex and consist of a combination of political, historical, societal and cultural factors, and normally of the level of economic development.

Political implications affect each of these factors, through the analysis of political stability and the rule of law. Corruption is very closely linked to the struggle for economic resources. If a state has a high degree of economic freedom, it also has a high potential for doing business freely, easily enabling businesses to open and close as needed. The government also provides protection for citizens from any unlawful acts that may disturb their business. Economic freedom is characterized by the presence of the legal structure the rule of law, access to finance, and international trade, and in business creation (Determining Factors Affecting Corruption: A Cross Country Analysis Ransford Quarmyne Churchill)

William Agbodohu, Peter Arhenful). These deficiencies are prone to corruption since, because of their illegal nature, they lack legal protection. This situation can cause corruption by government officials, for example through the collection of illegal taxes and the sale of various illegal business permits. In this process, police officers may also receive bribes in exchange for protecting this illegality.

Non-functional political institutions as a cause of political corruption

Poor governance is one of the main causes of corruption. The low political and economic opportunities available in various political systems, as well as the low level of power and efficiency of state, social and economic institutions, shape the conditions and opportunities in which corruption can occur. (Corruption in fragile status Aslak Orre, Harald W. Mathisen)

In particular, when power is centralized with mechanisms of control in the executive and accountability, there are sufficient causes to give actors (especially elites) many rights and discretions, with the possibility that they have enough power to abuse the political power. It should be noted that the level of political corruption is directly related to political institutions. Therefore, different political systems have different impacts on political corruption. In this research paper one of the aspects that I analyze is the influence of the type of political system of government on the appearance of political corruption, because they think they are related to correlation. And here we can conclude that unitary or federal systems and the composition of the executive (parliamentary or presidential) have lower levels of corruption. Or to put it another way, the unitary and parliamentary forms of government help reduce corruption levels.

In order to explain this idea, we shall analyze some of the causes and deficiencies from which political corruption emerge. Among the most important are: transparency and costs of public information, intergovernmental competition, localism policies, relentless cross-party competition, rules and decision-making, collective action problems, and the organization and design of public administration.

Cultural values and political corruption

One aspect of this paper is to analyze how cultural norms affect the political corruption. Can we say that certain cultures have greater potential for political corruption? Or is there a society or state that is immune from political corruption? We can conclude that political corruption is a common global issue that has existed for many centuries in different cultures. Every state tries to control or reduce this socially deviant phenomenon, but the problem of anti-corruption campaigns is always confronted by people from the ruling party (The relationship between culture and corruption: a cross-national study Ahmed Seleim).

What can an anti-corruption commission should do if it catches the big fish? I mean people with high positions in the party and the government. Where should politicians get their financial resources? In this context we bring an explanation of a president of an African country who said that "I understand that corruption destroyed my country, but my party finances were based on corruption, if I fight corruption, it will get removed from power, or maybe they will kill me", here comes the moral dilemma" How should I get out of this?" As I continue to elaborate on the impact of corruption on society, I would like to bring up some

other examples that clearly show the negative impact of corruption on society.

A Brazilian journalist in an interview about the corruption crisis in Brazil says that "Many Brazilians believe that corruption is part of our culture", and that without a major cultural change, we will not be able to fight corruption. But we can say that Brazilians are not alone.

We have another case in Uganda, the case of Emmanuel Mwaka Lutukomoi, Deputy Commissioner of "Lira", where he states: "We live in a failed country (state), failed municipalities, failed offices, and with failed people, all of which are the result of corruption.

We have another explanation about the United States and the corruption in it, where it is said that corruption has occupied all public institutions. We (the US) have lost the moral sense of shame, (i.e. we are not ashamed). "In the United States: The philosophy of liberal politics is that Washington is corrupted by friendship, good friends (best friends), and that the political system destroys all ordinary working Americans. It should also be emphasized that even Pope Francis with a profound complaint says that corruption has become "a deviant personal and social behavior that is directly linked to the tradition of a society" and that this phenomenon is "a disease greater than sin". The scandalous concentration of global wealth is the result of the disregard of the public or political leaders who with their powers enable it. (Corruption is a devastating cancer harming the society Carol Glatz)

Pope Francis points out that corruption is greater than sin. This disease (corruption) should be treated more than forgiveness. Corruption has become a natural phenomenon, to the point that it becomes a personal and social attitude associated with a country's tradition, common practice in commercial and financial transactions, in public contracting, in any negotiation involving the state official (Pope Francis 2014). It should be emphasized here that all cultures that we consider corrupt must bear in mind the key elements of cultures such as the shared values, beliefs and norms of a particular group of people.

Conclusion

We should conclude that all kinds and ways of corruption are linked and intertwined, but at the same time, corruption as a social deviation is associated with other social deviations such as drug abuse, prostitution, gambling, games of chance etc. So in conclusion we should mention that an activity known as political corruption is closely linked to other social activities.

If we delve deeper into the scientific aspect we can say that there are some theories of social deviance such as biological, social and psychological. But at the same time it should be noted that social deviation phenomena are explained by the phenomenology and genesis of social deviation.

Considering that political corruption is a highly destructive social phenomenon, the United Nations General Assembly, as the most important international organization, in 2003 decided to designate 9 December as 'International Anti-Corruption Day' with the aim of setting up awareness of the fight against corruption and help reduce its intensity.

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