

**THE PERCEPTION OF UNIBEN STUDENTS ON THE  
ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE FIGHT AGAINST  
CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA**

**BY**

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**A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MASS  
COMMUNICATION, FACULTY OF ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN IN  
PARTIAL FUFIMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF  
BACHELOR DEGREE IN MASS COMMUNICATION (B.A Hons)**

**JUNE, 2021**

**DECLARATION**

I thereby declare that this research work was undertaken by me in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor of Arts degree in mass communication, University of Benin.

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## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this work was done by **MOKAYI OZIOMA MICHAEL, ART1601479** Under my supervision in the Department of Mass communication, in partial fulfillment of the award of bachelor of Art (B.A. Hons) in Mass communication, University of Benin, Benin City.

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## **DEDICATION**

I sincerely dedicate this work to God the greatest for his strength and grace that has helped me to complete this work successfully. I also dedicate it to my parents, siblings, and to my supervisor and lecturers for their assistance.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I will like to express my appreciation to God for the success of this work, and specially to my project supervisor MR Collins who gave me the opportunity to do this wonderful project topic about “*The perception of Uniben students on the role of social media in the fight against corruption in Nigeria*”. This has made me do a lot of research and I have acquired new knowledge and I am grateful for this opportunity.

I will also like to appreciate my parents and friends who help with mental and material support to ensure the success of this work.

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study examined the perception of Uniben students on the role of social media in the fight against corruption in Nigeria. It analyses how the social media is functional as a tool that gives citizens of a geographical area the opportunity to act proactively against corruption by serving as a platform through which citizens could publicly identify loopholes that exist in the system. The objective of this research includes to find out if the social media helps tackle corruption and how often issues of corruption have been exposed on social media. The researcher employed survey research methodology of which questionnaires were served to respondents to generate details for this research. With the data gathered for the research, findings revealed that issues of corruption are usually exposed by the social media with 55% of respondents who affirmed that they have seen issues of corruption being exposed online before. Also, 58% of the respondents supports that social media helps to tackle corruption while 59% of the total respondents agree to the fact that social media exposes ills and irregularities in government. With findings from this research work, it was concluded that social media is a viable tool for fight against corruption because it provides an opportunity for political participation and freedom of expression compared to the traditional media.

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

## **1.1 Background of the Study**

The new media have become a very vital part of today's society and it has gradually changed the way people communicate with one another. Social media as an aspect of the new media have become significant in effecting change and transforming lives all around the world. It has emerged as highly powerful development tool used especially among the younger generation for several purposes.

Social media is important because it allows you to reach, nurture, and engage with your target audience no matter their location. Social media is about conversations, community, connecting with the audience and building relationships. It is not just a broadcast channel or sales and marketing tool, it gives authenticity, honesty and open dialogue which are also key in human communication in the society. Social media not only allows you to hear what people say about you, but enables you to respond. Social media enables you to communicate and stay up to date with family and friends around the world, find new friends and communities; network with other people who share similar interests or ambitions, Join or promote worthwhile causes and raise awareness on important issues.

The social media tools also give citizens of a geographical area the opportunity to act proactively against corruption by serving as a platform through which citizens could publicly identify loopholes that exist in the system. Corruption does not occur in a vacuum, it emerges from certain conditions that are inherent in the system. Akasike (2009) points out that corruption happens more when the system has certain "institutional loopholes" that makes corruption always probable in the country which includes the following amongst many others:

- i. Delay in the judicial system (lack of speedy trial of corruption suspects)
- ii. Weaknesses in the crime fighting institutions such as the police, EFCC, ICPC, etc
- iii. Absence of press freedom
- iv. Weak culture of checks and balances in government

All these factors and many others are constantly contributing to the nurturing of corruption in the system and if there'll be any serious fight against corruption, it ought to begin by addressing these loopholes. Social media tools have the capacity of integrating all members of the society in the process of public discourse. The tools

stand out as a formidable platform on which the citizenry could point out and deliberate on these loopholes, thereby proactively engaging corruption in the country.

With the social media tools such as Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and so on, individual citizens could table some of these issues for all to air their views on them. This way, the attention of all is brought to them and the government is possibly brought under pressure to remedy them. In other words, through social media platforms, the citizenry would engage in what may be termed proactive journalism which fosters a situation where the journalist tries to expose the ills of the society, through investigative skills. This style of journalism clearly highlights areas which contradict the acceptable standards of the society, with the view to forestalling or discouraging the society from indulging in such behaviours”.

In Nigeria, access to the traditional media seems so much restricted and their use is so much censored that freedom of expression may hardly be obtained by them. Contrarily, the social media is much more than the traditional media, it offers the citizenry the opportunity to more freely scrutinize the activities of their leaders. The social media has become a unique platform that affords a voice to all, rich and poor,

powerful and weak, low and mighty etc. for everyone to air their views with little or no restriction.

Nwahunnaya, (1996, p.19) argues that “In Nigeria, particular people engage in corrupt practices simply because the citizenry take it for granted that no one can hold public office without corruptly abusing it directly or indirectly”. Similarly, Ogbondah (1994) rightly noted that corruption continues to thrive in the developing world “because the leaders rarely face the sort of tough public scrutiny their counterparts in more developed, more democratic nations face from time to time.” Elaborating further in his words, he maintains that in a clime like the United States, leaders always feel the burden of strict public scrutiny. This is why leaders in that part of the world are found from time to time resigning their positions even when they know too well that there is no law requiring their resignation. Even when there is no impeachment process initiated against them and there was no case legally established against them, and legally no one could arbitrarily force them out of office, they still leave office simply as a result of public pressure.

On the contrary, leaders of developing countries such as Nigeria rarely feel such compulsion because they are rarely so scrutinized mainly for the reason that they do

all within their powers to stifle the press to ensure that it does not have the freedom to initiate scrutiny.

Nevertheless, the new media seemingly serves as a possible way out of this problem. By affording the ordinary citizen such freedom not enjoyed by the institutional media, the citizen becomes empowered to on its own initiate and sustain scrutiny over the activities of all category of leaders so as to ensure that a culture of public accountability is strongly entrenched in the polity.

One of the key factors that have sustained corruption in Nigeria is poor culture of reporting corrupt practices. Many Nigerians fail to report corrupt acts simply for two reasons, according to Okachie (2012); first is the fear that they may end up becoming the victim themselves given the belief that corrupt security agencies could be bribed by suspects to turn the table against a person that brought up a report; thus punishing the patriotic citizen and vindicating the corrupt citizen. Secondly, many Nigerians fail to report corrupt activities because of their belief that it would amount to sheer waste of time as the suspects would ultimately go free either as a result of their influence or inefficiency in the justice system

However, with the social media, the above two concerns of the citizenry, who otherwise could have reported corrupt practices, would be substantially addressed. Social media tools provide cover for the citizens against official victimisation whenever they have any corrupt act to report. Secondly, the fear that such reports could be swept under the carpet could be addressed by citizens themselves by using social media platforms to make such corrupt acts public.

With the social media, the citizens can report corrupt practices by posting them on social media network sites. Some cases of irregularities and corrupt practices of some Nigeria law enforcement agents who were not aware that they were being captured on video had gone viral on social media networks. This had afforded the populace both within Nigeria and in diaspora the opportunity to beef the unjust act of corruption by the people who should maintain law and order in the country. The ordinary citizens can now generate content for the media instead of consuming contents from the media alone.

This method of reporting corrupt practices via the social media is a serious challenge on the gatekeeping functions of the conventional media because the citizens who are linked to the social networking sites where these pictures and videos are posted get

first-hand information of the corrupt practices perpetuated by the people who should maintain law and order in the society. This could act as a deterrent for other people in public offices who may want to perpetuate act of corruption in their respective positions.

According to Ogbondah (1994), security agencies are not diviners who could magically determine when corruption has taken place; they operate based on information given to them. When this information is not provided, many corrupt acts go on unpunished; thus a culture of impunity is created and sustained. So, the only viable means that affords the citizen of exposing and revealing information on corrupt practices and ills of the government is the social media. This research therefore seeks to assess the perception of the youths on the role of social media in the fight against corruption.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

There is much corruption in Nigeria (Moyosore, 2015). And it's persistent in threatening the growth and scenic development of the nation. No wonder that Ribadu (2006b) opined that corruption is responsible for perpetual collapse of infrastructure

and institutions, the cause of the endemic poverty in Nigeria and the shadow behind the underdevelopment and cyclical failure of democracy to take root in Nigeria.

This has eventually made Sowunmi, (2010) to conclude that corruption is worse than terrorism. Therefore, it is quite disheartening to note that the mere mention of Nigeria to foreigners, prompt the foreigners to think about corruption. Does it mean that corruption reminds them of Nigeria?

It is quite unfortunate that corruption has remained an incurable malady in Nigeria as a country despite all the talks about fighting it by the successive governments, civilian or military. Thus, Nwahunnya(1996) contends “that this problem had remained so, even in the spirit of the ‘fire brigade approach’ made by the so-called military administration to check corruption.” The question thus remains: what can be done to tame this monster seriously afflicting Nigeria?

To whichever angle one perceived the concept the point is Nigeria has become almost interchangeable with the vicious word “corruption”. However, due to the fact that successive governments have initiated various anti-corruption agencies like EFCC, ICPC to write off the scourge, there is a need to point from theoretical perspective, the power of media in handling such issues. This research work

therefore seeks to assess the role of social media in the scenic development of the Nigerian society through its functions of exposing the ills and corrupt practices of government in Nigeria.

### **1.3 Objectives of the study**

The objectives of this research were as follows.

1. To find out if the social media help to tackle corruption
2. To find out if the traditional media do more than social media in tackling corruption
3. To find out how often the students use social media
4. To find out how often issues of corruption been exposed on social media.

### **1.4 Research questions**

1. Does the social media help to tackle corruption?
2. Doesthe traditional media do more than social media in tackling corruption?
3. How often do students use social media?

4.How often have issues of corruption been exposed on social media?

### **1.5 Significance of the study**

This study will help to understand the extent to which social media has helped to expose corruption in the Nigerian society. It will help to assess how effective the social media has been in not just exposing corruption, but ensuring that corrupt practices are been reduced and that guilty individuals are prosecuted.

### **1.6 Scope of the study**

The scope of this study will be undergraduates in the Department of Mass communication, University of Benin. This is because they are youths who are common to be in the age bracket that uses the social media platforms more than the older persons.

### **1.7 limitations of the study**

Limitation of this study includes challenges encountered in the course of this study. Basically, the major challenge for this study was the fact that many respondents do not want to attempt questionnaires until they are disturbed to do so.

## **1.8 Operational definition of terms**

**Role:** This is regarded as the function or position of something.

**Social media:** Social media is computer-based technology that facilitates the sharing of ideas, thoughts and information through the building of virtual networks and communities. The social media platforms include whatsapp, facebook, instagram and tweeter.

**Perception;** The ability to see, hear or become aware of something through the sense.

**Corruption:** Corruption is a form of dishonesty or criminal offense undertaken by a person or organization entrusted with a position of authority, to acquire illicit benefit or abuse of power for one's private gain

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## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

This chapter gives detailed information about several works and previous researches done which are related to the topic of this research. It gives a review of some literatures which are relevant to the research and can add to the body of knowledge.

#### **2.1 Conceptual Review**

##### **2.1.0 The Concept of Social Media**

Social media is a computer-based technology that facilitates the sharing of ideas, thoughts, and information through the building of virtual networks and communities. By design, social media is internet-based and gives users quick electronic communication of content. Content includes personal information, documents, videos, and photos. Users engage with social media via computer, tablet or smartphone via web-based software or web application, often utilizing it for messaging. Social media originated as a way to interact with friends and family but was later adopted by businesses which wanted to take advantage of a popular new communication method

to reach out to customers. The power of social media is the ability to connect and share information with anyone on Earth, or with many people simultaneously. Globally, there are more than 3 billion social media users. The social media is an ever-changing and ever-evolving web-based platform. According to the *Pew Research Center*, social media users tend to be younger. Nearly 90 percent of people between the ages of 18 and 29 used at least one form of social media.

Social media may take the form of a variety of tech-enabled activities. These activities include photo sharing, blogging, social gaming, social networks, video sharing, business networks, virtual worlds, reviews and much more. Even governments and politicians utilize social media to engage with constituents and voters. For individuals, social media is used to keep in touch with friends and extended family. Some people will use various social media applications to network career opportunities, find people across the globe with like interests, and share their thought, feelings, insight, and emotions. Those who engage in these activities are part of a virtual social network.

For businesses, social media is an indispensable tool. Companies use the platform to find and engage with customers, drive sales through advertising and promotion,

gauge consumer trends, and offering customer service or support. Over one-fifth of an individual's online time is spent on social media. Social media's role in helping businesses is significant. It facilitates communication with customers, enabling the melding of social interactions on e-commerce sites. Its ability to collect information helps focus on marketing efforts and market research. It helps in promoting products and services, as it enables the distribution of targeted, timely, and exclusive sales and coupons to would-be customers. Further, with its ability to help sharing and transmitting of information, the social media can help exposing and giving updates of issues happening in the environment. Either about people, organizations or government. While social media has its positive side, many point to the platform and call out negative features, likening its overuse to an addiction. Some contest it contributes to inattentiveness, stress, and jealousy. The *National Center for Biotechnology Information* links heavy social media use to depression (Dollarhide; 2021).

Also, many times, social media may be a conduit for misleading information and falsehoods. The [2016](#) American presidential election has well-documented accounts of the impact of the ability to spread false information through the platform. Such a

phenomenon leverages the power of social media, allowing anyone to reach an audience of millions with content that lacks oversight or fact-checking.([www.investopedia.com](http://www.investopedia.com))

### **The Concept of Corruption**

According to Idowu (2018), corruption is the appropriation of commonwealth to self. Corruption is a dishonest behaviour by those in positions of power, such as managers or government officials. Corruption can include giving or accepting bribes or inappropriate gifts, double-dealing, under-the-table transactions, manipulating elections, diverting funds, laundering money, and defrauding investors. There are many situations in which a person can be considered corrupt. In the financial services industry, chartered financial analysts and other financial professionals are required to adhere to a code of ethics and avoid situations that could create a conflict of interest. Penalties for being found guilty of corruption include fines, imprisonment, and a damaged reputation. Engaging in corrupt behavior may have negative long-lasting effects for an organization.

When corruption occurs within an organization, unflattering media coverage typically follows, which may result in customers losing trust in the company's business

practices and products. A comprehensive public relations campaign is often required to limit reputational damage and restore trust. This requires valuable resources, such as time and money, which may result in other critical areas of the organization being deprived. As a result, inefficiencies that lead to financial losses can occur.

Corruption when unchecked can increase criminal activity and organized crime in the community. A number of steps can, however, help to manage corruption. Corruption is likely to be reduced with accountability mechanisms in place; this in turn is likely to reinforce a culture that fosters strong ethical behavior while holding those to account who violate the norms. Corruption can further be reduced by making it easy to report, whether by managers, employees, suppliers, and customers. A robust control environment also reduces the risk of corruption as do thorough background checks before hiring or promoting employees or before electing and appointing government officials.

### **Effects of Corruption**

Writing on the effects of corruption, Ahmed and Adisa (2018) citing Adaja (2016), Adeyemi (2013), Nageri, Gunu and Abdul (2013), and Rek (2015) observed that corruption “waned civic hope, impedes justice and fairness, affects communal

understanding and undesirably weaken economic buoyancy” (p.171). Similarly, Sowunmi, Raufu and Usifoh (2010) citing Maduegbuna (2005) observed that corruption begets loss of government revenue, negative national image, poor governance, underdevelopment, unemployment and poverty. Corruption has over the years been destructive element in the governance of Nigeria and the perception of the country at large. According to Dandago (2008) in the work of Sowunmi, Raufu and Usifoh (2010) stated that corruption is a threat to enduring democracy and economic development in Africa.

Meanwhile, Nigeria has since independence, do not only suffer from corruption but military dictatorships, civil unrest and war, security threat, underdevelopment and acute poverty. However, the most troubling of all this issue is ‘corruption’ which has eaten deep into the Nigerian souls. This is because previous development strategies used to tackle the problem has not yielded positive results. However, economic servitude and continuous poverty are what some believed that the nation would remain of, if the leaders do not desist from corruptive tendencies. But the fact is Nigeria has immense potential (Word Bank, 2014).

In the same vein, Akindele (2005) and Moyosore (2015) assert that the truism that corruption is a surest route that hinders development in any society does not need contention because it has direct relationship with poverty and development. Apparently, this could be one of the reasons why President MuhammaduBuhari during his presidential manifesto in 2015 opined: “If we do not kill corruption in this country, corruption will kill Nigerians” (The Nation: 2015, March 13).

Idowu (2018) further observed that Nigeria is contending with the “developmental challenges of corruption to good governance, transparency and accountability”. And to contain this, effective communication media has to be entrenched. With the advancement in technology and the emergence of the new media, one of the viable platforms that will enhance effective communication media is the ‘social media’. This is because the social media has influenced globalization, making it possible for people across the globe to freely share and receive information where physical distance is no longer a barrier.

### **2.2.1 The Social Media and Fight Against Corruption In Nigeria**

In recent time, the social media has presented itself as a formidable platform for fighting against corruption in Nigeria. This is largely due to its democratisation

impact on the society. Ogbondah (1994) observes that corruption thrives most where there is absence of democracy, where the people lack a voice and the press gagged. This is why corruption has remained a prominent feature of dictatorial governments all over the world. Hence, the relevance of the social media in the Nigeria's quest to end corruption becomes clear.

The internet has opened a new wave of political participation to the people, reaching more people than ever before. This platform is mostly used by young minds that read and comment on certain laws on social networking websites as well as organize public gatherings and protests. The recent #endsars protest is an example of the relevance of the social media as a tool for mobilization, political participation and exposing corrupt practices of government. This social networking trend has led to a greater political transparency and public inclusion.

While many traditional newspaper and publishing companies are losing their clients to the internet, social networking websites such as Facebook and twitter are capturing new members every second. It appears that such websites are becoming the most effective means of distributing private or public information. Indeed, citizens can

express their political opinions by being supporters of different political parties on Facebook pages. (Ferdinand 2009).

However, while the social media is capable of doing such a great deal of good in exposing corruption and reporting anomalies in the society, it is confronted with quite a number of challenges. The greatest challenge to the use of social media in the fight against corruption is the tendency that it could be abused. People are likely to hide behind the cover of anonymity which it affords to peddle false information about other people. Social media users could be veiled, faceless, giving rise to a new kind of challenge to the use of social media in matters as sensitive as fighting corruption. Phillips and Brabham (2012) note that the new media “technologies allow users to remain anonymous as they participate in information exchange online, throwing accountability and authenticity into question.” This user-anonymity otherwise referred to as “disembeddedness” Bucher (2002) cited in Phillips and Brabham (2012) surmises makes Internet communication highly risky, because disembedding always means loss of control: control over sources and their reliability, control over selection and control over verification of information.

### **2.2.2 Corruption as An Endemic Problem In Nigeria**

Corruption has been an endemic bane of Nigerian development since independence. Despite the presence of priced natural resources in the land that if properly harnessed could uplift the living standard of Nigerians, yet, Nigeria suffers from the problem of corruption which begets malnutrition, illiteracy, poverty, unemployment and hunger. Nageri, Gunu and Abdul (2013) citing Ngouo (2000) contend that “corruption is the exploitation of public positions for private benefits” (p.48). Similar to this, Park (2012) contend that corruption is the abuse of public responsibility for private ends while Idowu (2018) concluded that it “is a malaise that afflicts all societies where no nation is immune to”.

It has become a generally accepted view amongst individuals within and outside the nation that Nigeria’s problem is majorly that of corruption. In other words, the nation’s myriads of political, economic and social problems are ultimately hinged on the fact that corruption has eaten deep into the fabrics of the polity. Obasanjo (1999, p.5) observes that corruption “is the single most important factor that has hindered Nigeria’s progress over the years.”Corruption in Nigeria has indeed become endemic

chiefly because it is rooted in the leadership from where it flows down to all layers of the society.

Idumange (2005, p.66) argues, that corruption “is tied to our historical experience as a nation and problem of Leadership, our level of development, level of citizens’ orientation and awareness is tied to this experience.” Similarly, Achebe (1983, p.12) agrees with this view, and avers that “the trouble with Nigeria is simply and squarely the failure of leadership and her poor public accountability culture.” In the light of this, Aja (1996) paints a vivid picture of the endemic problem of corruption in the Nigerian polity which stems from the failure of leadership and mismanagement of the national resources with the attendant issues of treasuries been looted, funds been misappropriated and stolen with reckless abandon and yet these people who perpetrated this evil go untouched. More so, this problem of corruption has led to certain aberrant behaviours that are carried into various areas of our national life, out of frustration, cynicism, apathy, helplessness and disillusion. To this end, citizens who otherwise should show exemplary behaviour engage in deviant activities, that suggests that the problem which manifest at the surface in our society, has always

been orchestrated by the people who should guide our national aspiration and quest to development. Aja (1996)

### **2.3 Empirical Review**

The mass media in its own part has continued to sustain relevance in the development of nations by providing information and knowledge to enable people make informed decisions that affect their lives. In this process, the media mobilize development efforts by bringing to public issues that requires their attention for nation building (Nwabueze, Ugochukwu & Egbra, 2014).

The mass media has since been recognized as a catalyst for development because of its capacity to perform its watchdog role over the government by probing the movements of leaders and informing citizens against abuse of power specifically through reporting of their corruptive tendencies. In the words of Semiu, Adejola and Folarin (2012), mass media are entrenched with constitutional responsibility embedded in section 22 of the 1999 to institute responsibilities in government and make them accountable to the people.

In performing this function, Udomisor and Kenneth (2013) noted that the media act as the society's watchdog, mounting surveillance over the environment to analyze, report the corruptive behaviours to the world so as to create opportunity to punish, sanction and deter the perpetrators just as to open room for development. Even as the mass media keeps performing this body of functions, it appears that the rate of corruption does not seem to reduce. Certain institutional challenges appear somewhat in impeding, the traditional mass media from effectively exposing corruption in the country, particularly in this era of profit-minded capitalist media institutions and the poor press freedom culture in developing countries like Nigeria.

Consequently, attention is shifting to the new media or the ICT as an alternative platform for fighting corruption. ICT as a viable communication tool for diminishing corruption enhances transparency and accountability of government administration by making inaccessible information hitherto accessible to the views of the general public online.

As an instrument of curbing corruption, ICT has significant role to play in different areas such as:

- Facilitating the collection of digital footprints and complete audit trail which increase the opportunity to hold individuals accountable and ultimately increase the possibility to detect corrupt practices.
- Facilitating the work of civil society organization working towards greater transparency and against corruption by supporting a mix of methods of campaigning on transparency and educating citizens on what corruption is about and their civil rights.
- Facilitating information sharing and social mobilization and ultimately providing digital platforms where citizens can report incidents anonymously.  
(Grönlund, Heacock, Sasaki, Hellström, & Al-Saqaf, 2010 p.3),

Since the new media could play all these significant roles in fighting corruption, it can be rightly predicted that it will be a viable means of tackling corruption.

The new media has recently become an alternative source of independent information for citizens and, potentially, an agent of political change in nondemocratic regimes. Theoretically, citizens and activists might use social media for sharing information about wrongdoings by politicians or public officials. This information can, in turn,

change the way both people and public officials behave by encouraging more transparency and improving accountability.

However, with low entry barriers anyone can easily create Twitter or Facebook content to make the reputation and quality of individual blogs a serious concern. Also, many governments engage in various kinds of online censorship and propaganda activities. Invariably, one can predict that social media can have a real impact on political and corporate accountability.

## **2.4 Theoretical Framework**

A theory is a statement of prediction or a symbolic construction based on individuals viewpoint about an aspect of reality. In the same trend, Communication theory is a set of ideas that provides an explanation of communication phenomenon. In a bid to give theoretical backing to the study the democratic-participant theory will be used.

### **Democratic-Participant Theory**

This theory emphasizes that the prevailing democratic, commercial and professional hegemony in media system should be done away with so as to ensure easy access to the media by allowing potential users and consumers. The theory equally observes

that given the fact that the mass media have become too important socially, it should not be left in the hands of professionals. This theory has been described as the press equivalent of ‘grassroots democracy’.

McQuail (2010, p.170 - 171), in a more distinct manner, enumerates the basic principles of this theory as follows:

Individual citizens and minority groups have rights of access to media (rights to communicate) and rights to be served by media according to their own determination of need.

- The organization and content of media should not be subject to centralized political or state bureaucratic control.
- Media should exist primarily for their audiences and not for media organizations, professionals or clients of the media.
- Groups, organizations and local communities should have their own media.
- Small scale, interactive and participative media forms are better than large-scale, one-way, professionalized media.

- Central social needs relating to mass media are not adequately expressed through individual consumer demands, or through the state and its major institutions. Communication is too important to be left to professionals.

According to Daramola (2012), the theory opines that greater attention should be given to the needs and interests of the receiver in the society. In the light of these details by these authorities, we can examine the relevance of this theory to the context of the study in the sense that the social media has given the citizens of a democratic society the opportunity to be exposed to and to share information. Free flow of information is key to a democratic society, it enhances political participation. The social media with the existence of various platforms gives room for the free flow of information and also promote political awareness and participation. This theory advocates pluralism as against monopolization, and decentralization against centralism. It also suggests that small scale media enterprise should replace or co-exists with the media conglomerates and this is what enhances participation of the people. The relationship between the theory and this study is how the social media comes in to play the role of the media mechanism that allows participation of the masses in the political and national affairs.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introduction**

This chapter details the various methods, techniques and the procedures adopted by the researcher in the process of gathering and analyzing data for the study. It entails the research design, population of the study, sample size, sampling technique, validity and reliability of research instrument, method of data analysis.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

Nachmias and Nachmias (1981:75) in Adedeji 2012 defined research design as the programme that guides the investigator in the process of collecting analyzing and interpreting observations. It is the framework or plan for a study used in collecting or analyzing a set of data. For the purpose of the research, the survey method will be used in collecting the necessary data.

According to Udeagha (2013), in a survey research design the scientific sample is studied to gather demographic information or sociological facts as well as psychological information, opinion and attitude. The survey method is useful in

obtaining data in a population which might be too large to be subjected to direct observation. The survey method was adopted with the use of questionnaire as research instrument.

### 3.2 Population Of Study

The population of the study required will include the undergraduates of the University of Benin, Mass communication Department. It will include all the undergraduate students in all levels totaling 834 population.

### 3.3 Sample Size

The sample size was determined based on the Taro Yamane (1967).

The formula = 
$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

- Where:
- n = desired sample size
  - N = population for Study
  - I = theoretical constant
  - e = expected error margin (5%)

Therefore,

$$n = \frac{835}{1 + 835(0.05)^2}$$

$$= \frac{835}{1 + 2.0875} = 3.0875$$

$$\frac{835}{3.0875} = 270$$

### **3.4 Sampling Technique**

A Sample is a sub-group or a subset of a population or universe. Meanwhile, Adedeji (2012:41) states that sampling involves the process of selecting a sub-set of observations from among many possible observations for the purpose of drawing conclusion about that set of observations. The purposive sampling technique will be employed for this research. According to Eharefo, Gujbawu, Asemah and Okpanachi (2012), purposive sampling is a sampling method in which the researcher uses his or her judgment to choose respondents and selects those that best meet the purpose of study. It is the sampling method in which the researcher just picks those considered to possess the required attributes or information.

### **3.5 Research Instrument**

For the purpose of achieving the objectives of this study, the research tool to be used is the questionnaire which will contain close ended questions to obtain information from the population of study. The Questionnaire is the most appropriate for a research work that will sample the opinion of the people on a specified problem.

### **3.6 Methods of Data Collection**

The structured questionnaire will be administered personally by the researcher to the respondent and the completed questionnaire will be collected on the spot. The data collected from the respondent will be analysed using frequency percentage and statistic method.

### **3.7 Validity and Reliability**

With the assessment and approval of the research supervisor, the questionnaire, being the instrument to be used in conducting this research, will be made to reflect variables of the study. The appropriateness will be examined so as to be able to answer the research questions and achieve the research objectives.

### **3.8 Method of Data Analysis**

Both quantitative and qualitative methods will be used. Hence, tables, Frequencies, numbers and percentage will be used in the analysis of data and interpretation of the information collected in the study.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

#### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the statistical analysis of data gathered with the questionnaire on the research topic. The data was analysed and presented in tables of frequency and percentages with interpretations while discussion of finding comes after the analysis. 270 questionnaires were administered and gathered for the purpose of analysis.

#### 4.1 Data analysis and interpretation

##### Section a; Demographic Data

**Table 1 – Respondents Gender**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	192	71%
Female	78	29%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source : Field survey 2021

This table indicates the gender of the respondents, showing that 78 of the total respondents representing 29% are female. While 192 representing 71% are males. This indicates that more males responded to the survey than females.

**Table 2: Respondents Age**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Below 16	-	-
16-20	98	36%
21-24	70	25%
25-29	94	34%
<b>30 and above</b>	8	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source : Field survey 2021

Table 3 shows the age of respondents. It shows that 98 of the respondents falls within the ages of 16-20, 70 respondents falls within 21-24, 94 respondents fall within 25-29 while 8 respondents were within the ages of 30 and above . This implies that larger percentage of respondents for this research are youths and young adults.

**Table 3: Respondents Marital Status**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Single	265	98%
Married	5	2%
Divorced	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source : Field survey 2021

This table shows that **265** of the respondents representing **98%** are single, while 5 respondents, representing **2%** were married. This table indicates that more than half

of the students who attempted the questionnaire are single while only very few are married with no one divorced.

**Table 4: Highest Educational Level**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
O'level	-	-
OND/NCE	21	8%
HND/BSC	243	90%
Others	6	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100</b>

Source : Field survey 2021

This table shows the educational background of respondents, showing that 243 respondents representing 90% were HND/BSc holders, while 21 of the respondents were OND/NCE holders and 6 respondents were in the category of “others”. This implies that larger percentage of the respondents are undergraduates with the HND/BSC in view.

**Table 5 ; Do Respondents Use Social Media ?**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	267	99%
No	-	-
May be	3	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source : Field survey 2021

This table indicates the number of respondents who use the social media. 267 respondents representing 99% use social media while 3 respondents representing 1 % chose “may be” indicating that they aren’t sure if they use the social media. However, it is evident that almost all respondents use the social media.

**Table 6: How Often Do Respondents Use Social Media?**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Regularly	136	50%
Sometimes	92	34%
Once in a while	42	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source : Field survey 2021

This table shows how often respondents use the social media platforms.136 respondents representing 50 % use social media regularly, 92 respondents

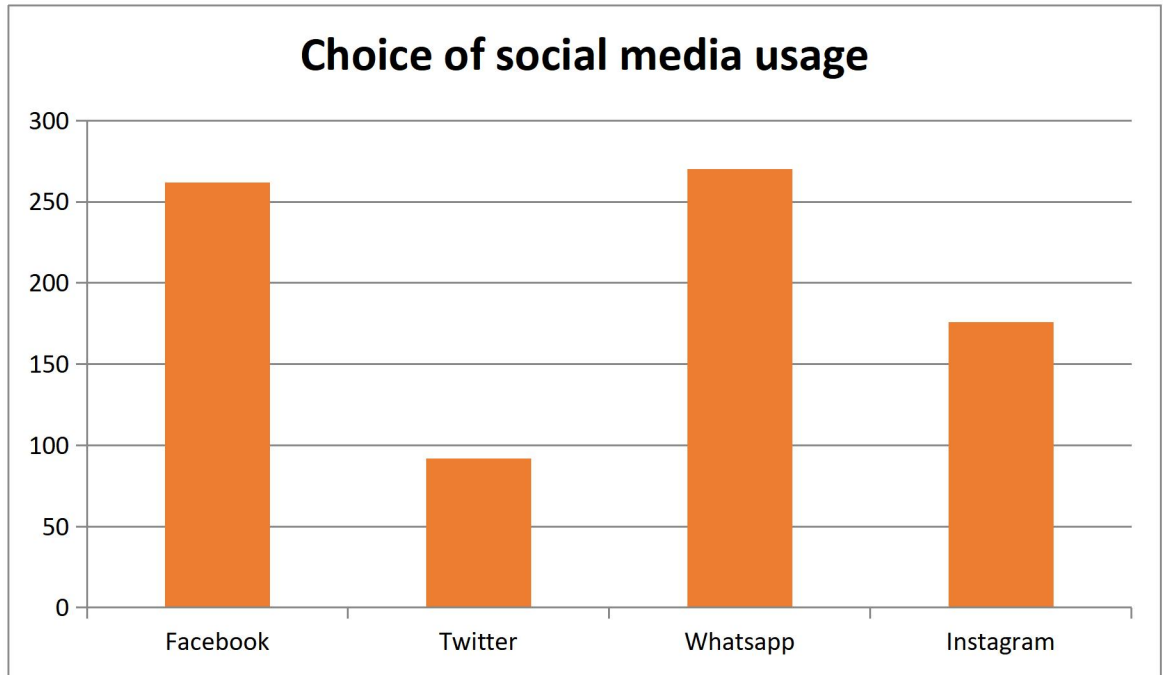
representing 34 % use social media sometimes while 42 respondents representing 16% use social media once in a while.

**Table 7: Which of These Social Media Platforms Are Used by Respondents?**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Facebook	262	93%
Twitter	92	34%
Whatsapp	270	100%
Instagram	176	65%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source : Field survey 2021

The figures in the table above is clearly represented in the chart below indicating the choice of social media platforms as used by respondents. Some respondents use more than one social media platform.



This chart shows clearly the choice of respondents in their usage of the different social media platforms. It shows that 262 respondents use facebook, 92 respondents use twitter, 270 respondents use whatsapp while 176 respondents use instagram. The figures showed that the most used of all the social media platform is whatsapp, followed by facebook.

**Table 8 : Do Respondents Think Social Media Helps To Fight Against Corruption**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	158	58%
No	94	35%
May be	18	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source : Field survey 2021

This table shows if respondents think that social media helps to fight against corruption. 158 respondents representing 58% think social media helps to fight against corruption, 94 respondents representing 35% do not think that social media helps to fight corruption while 18 respondents representing 7% are not sure social media helps to fight corruption.

**Table 9: Have Respondents Come Across Any Issue of Corruption Exposed Online Before ?**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	148	55%
No	79	29%
May be	43	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table shows if respondents have come across any issue of corruption online before. 148 respondents representing 55% agreed to have come across any issue of corruption online before, 79 respondents representing 29% have not come across any issue of corruption online before while 43 respondents representing 16 % are not sure if they have come across any issue of corruption online before. This implies that larger percentage of the respondents have come across issues of corruption online before.

**Table 10: How Often Have Respondents Seen Corruption Matters Exposed on Social Media?**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Regularly	98	36%
Sometimes	83	31%
Once in a while	89	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source : Field survey 2021**

This table shows how often have seen corruption matters exposed on social media. 98 respondents representing 36% have seen corruption matters exposed on social media regularly, 83 respondents representing 31% see corruption matters exposed on social media sometimes while 89 respondents representing 33% use to see corruption matters exposed n social media once in a while. This indicates that Corruption matters are often exposed on social media.

**Table 11: Social Media Exposes The Ills And Irregularities In Government**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	30	11%
Agree	128	48%
Undecided	40	14%
Disagree	14	5%
Strongly Disagree	58	22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field survey 2021**

This table indicates the respondent's reaction to determine if social media exposes the ills and irregularities in government. 30 respondents representing 11 % strongly agrees, 128 respondents representing 48% agrees, 40 respondents representing 14% were undecided while 14 respondents representing 5% disagree and 58 respondents representing 22% strongly disagrees. This data implies that larger percentage of

respondents agree that the social media exposes the ills and irregularities in government. This is supported with the total of 59% of the entire respondents on the agreement choice.

**Table 12: Social Media is Very Effective in Exposing Corrupt Practices in the Society.**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	56	20%
Agree	102	38%
Undecided	32	13%
Disagree	22	8%
Strongly Disagree	58	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100 %</b>

**Source : Field survey 2021**

This table indicates the respondent’s reaction to determine if social media is very effective in exposing corrupt practices in the society. 56 respondents representing 20 % strongly agrees, 102 respondents representing 38% agrees, 32 respondents representing 13% were undecided while 22 respondents representing 8% disagree and 58 respondents representing 21% strongly disagrees. This data implies that larger percentage of respondents agree that social media is very effective in exposing corrupt practices in the society. This is supported with the total of 58% of the entire respondents on the agreement choice.

**Table 13: Social Media Is A Better Platform For Expression Than Other Traditional Media**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	51	19%
Agree	95	34%
Undecided	19	7%
Disagree	47	18%
Strongly Disagree	58	22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field survey 2021**

This table indicates the respondent's reaction to determine if social media is a better platform for expression than other traditional media. 51 respondents representing 19 % strongly agrees, 95 respondents representing 34% agrees, 19 respondents representing 7% were undecided while 47 respondents representing 18% disagree and 58 respondents representing 21% strongly disagrees. This data implies that larger percentage of respondents agree social media is a better platform for expression than other traditional media. This is supported with the total of 53% of the entire respondents on the agreement choice.

**Table 14: Traditional Media Helps To Expose And Tackle Corruption Than Social Media**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	43	16%
Agree	46	17%
Undecided	41	15%
Disagree	76	28%
Strongly Disagree	65	24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field survey 2021**

This table indicates the respondent's reaction to determine if traditional media helps to expose and tackle corruption than social media. 43 respondents representing 16 % strongly agrees, 46 respondents representing 17% agrees, 41 respondents representing 15% were undecided while 76 respondents representing 28% disagree and 65 respondents representing 24% strongly disagrees. This data implies that larger percentage of respondents disagree that traditional media helps to expose and tackle corruption than social media. This is supported with the total of 52% of the entire respondents on the disagreement choice.

**Table 15: Social Media Helps to Expose and Tackle Corruption Than Traditional Media. (Radio, Television and Newspaper)**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	86	32%
Agree	51	19%
Undecided	21	8%
Disagree	49	18%
Strongly Disagree	62	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field survey 2021**

This table indicates the respondent's reaction to determine if social media helps to expose and tackle corruption than traditional media. 86 respondents representing 32 % strongly agrees, 51 respondents representing 19% agrees, 21 respondents representing 8% were undecided while 49 respondents representing 18% disagree and 62 respondents representing 23% strongly disagrees. This data implies that larger percentage of respondents agree that social media helps to expose and tackle corruption than traditional media. This is supported with the total of 51% of the entire respondents on the agreement choice.

**Table 16: Social Media Enhance Political Participation Than Traditional Media (Radio, Television and Newspaper).**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Strongly agree	97	36%
Agree	92	34%
Undecided	11	4%
Disagree	32	12%
Strongly Disagree	38	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source : Field survey 2021**

This table indicates the respondent's reaction to determine if social media enhance political participation than traditional media. 97 respondents representing 36 % strongly agrees, 92 respondents representing 34% agrees, 11 respondents representing 4% were undecided while 32 respondents representing 12% disagree and 38 respondents representing 14% strongly disagrees. This data implies that more than half of the respondents agree that if social media enhance political participation than traditional media. This is supported with the total of 70% of the entire respondents on the agreement choice.

## **4.2 Discussion of Findings**

The discussion of findings will be based on data gathered and analysed. It will show how well the research questions are being answered to help achieve the objective of this study.

### **Research question 1**

#### **Does the social media help tackle corruption?**

The research topic and its background triggered the need to confirm from respondents the notion that social media helps to tackle corruption. Data from respondents therefore showed that the social media helps to tackle corruption. In table 8, this affirmation was expressed with a total of 158 respondents representing 58% who said ‘yes’ to the question and this means that social media really helps to tackle corruption. It was further confirmed to support this research question to know if at all the social media helps to expose the ills and irregularities in government, responses helped to ascertain that ills and irregularities in government are exposed on social media and this facilitates that tackling of the corrupt practices. 59% of the total respondents agree to the fact that social media exposes ills and irregularities in government.

From empirical findings, Udomisor and Kenneth (2013) noted that the media act as the society's watchdog, mounting surveillance over the environment to analyze, report the corruptive behaviours to the world so as to create opportunity to punish, sanction and deter the perpetrators just as to open room for development. However, while the mainstream media performs these functions , attention has gradually shifted to social media as a platform of free expression that can help expose and tackle corrupt practices. This is partly because of profit-minded capitalist media institutions and the poor press freedom culture in the country. Meanwhile, this doesn't affect the social media platform from performing those functions of the traditional media in exposing and tackling corruption.

Another point is that corrupt practices are usually hidden and needed to be brought to light to get the attention of necessary authorities because the people are quick to spot corrupt practices than the agencies in charge so the social media is what helps them to quickly report these issues rather than approaching the traditional media. In the same vein, Ogbondah (1994) opines that security agencies are not diviners who could magically determine when corruption has taken place; they operate based on information given to them. When this information is not provided, many corrupt acts

go on unpunished; thus a culture of impunity is created and sustained. So, the only viable means that affords the citizen of exposing and revealing information on corrupt practices and ills of the government is the social media. The good in this is that people can report anonymously, and this averts the fear of being physically threatened for speaking out.

In the light of this, (Grönlund, Heacock, Sasaki, Hellström, & Al-Saqaf, (2010 p.3) asserts that the ICT which has greatly enhanced the social media platforms has continued to facilitate information sharing and social mobilization and ultimately providing digital platforms where citizens can report incidents anonymously.

## **Research question 2**

### **Does the traditional media do more than social media in tackling corruption?**

In order to know how well the traditional media performs in tackling corruption than social media, the researcher asked on the 14th item of the questionnaire. Responses showed that some respondents agreed while some disagreed. However, the larger percentage of respondents disagreed. This to mean that the traditional media involving television, radio and newspaper does not do more than the social media in tackling corruption.

From table 14, 52 % of respondents are on disagreement level that traditional media does not help to tackle corruption than social media. The Respondents probably gave this response because they have also affirmed that the social media is a better platform of expression than the traditional media. This means that the freedom of expression enhanced by the social media more than the traditional media is instrumental to tackling of the corruption. In table 13, 53 % of respondents agreed that the social media is a better platform for expression than other traditional media.

In the same vein, the researcher probed further to know if the social media truly does more than the traditional media in tackling corruption. In support of this, table 15 showed that 51% of the entire respondents agree that social media helps to expose and tackle corruption than the traditional media.

Phillips and Brabham (2012) noted that the new media “technologies allow users to remain anonymous as they participate in information exchange online, throwing accountability and authenticity into question.” This could account for reason why social media could do more in tackling corruption than traditional media because it’s easy for users to remain anonymous while they expose ills and corrupt practices of

government and as they continually creates awareness and seek prosecution of corrupt officials.

### **Research question 3**

#### **How often do students use social media?**

It was pertinent for the researcher to ask this question because only this will help to assess if the respondents are qualified to attempt the questionnaire. The researcher first asked in table 5 if respondents use social media and responses showed that 267 respondents representing 99 % use the social media. When asked how often the respondents use social media, 136 respondents use it regularly while 92 respondents use it sometimes. With this, it was evident that most of the respondents use social media regularly as indicated in table 6 by 50% of respondents.

The essence of these questions is to ascertain if the respondents have encountered issues of corruption being exposed throughout their times of using the social media. The researcher therefore asked if respondents have ever come across any issue of corruption online. From table 9, 148 respondents representing 55% affirmed that they have come across issue of corruption exposed online before and this means that larger

percentage of respondents have come across issues of corruption being exposed on social media before.

#### **Research question 4**

##### **How often have issues of corruption have been exposed on social media?**

The researcher aims at knowing how often issues of corruption are being exposed on social media. The researcher first asked in table 9 to know if respondents have ever come across any issue of corruption online before and 148 respondents representing 55% affirmed that they have seen issues of corruption being exposed online before. The respondents were therefore asked in table 10, how often they have seen corruption matters exposed on social media. Analysis revealed that 98 respondents have seen corruption matters exposed regularly while 83 respondents have seen corruption matters exposed sometimes. With these responses, it can be inferred that matters of corruption are often being exposed on social media platforms and this is still because the social media platform is a better platform of expression than the traditional media. Responses in table 13 supported this, showing 51 and 95 respondents who strongly agreed and agreed that social media is a better platform for expression than other traditional media.

Also, the researcher inquired in table 16 to know if social media enhance political participation than other media. Responses showed that 97 respondents strongly agree and 92 respondents agree showing that social media truly enhance political participation than the traditional media. This therefore accounts for one of the factors accountable for the corrupt practices that are often exposed on social media.

These findings are prove that the people embraces social media to expose corrupt practices than other media because the Socialmediatools provide cover for the citizens against official victimization whenever they have any corrupt act to report. Secondly, the fear that such report could be swept under the carpet could be addressed by citizen themselves by using social media platform to make such corrupt acts public.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECCOMENDATION

#### 5.1 Introduction

This chapter gives a summary of this study and also draws conclusion based on the research findings and recommendations were made to promote the use of social media in tackling and exposing corrupt practices in government and the society in general.

#### 5.2 Summary

Corruption in Nigerian seem to have remained an incurable malady despite all the plans of fighting it by different government administrations, civilian or military. Sowunmi et al (2010) conclude that corruption is worse than terrorism. Therefore, it is quite disheartening to note that the mere mention of Nigeria to foreigners, prompt the foreigners to think about corruption.

One of the challenges that have made the menace of corruption to grow continually is due to nature of poor reporting. This is because access to traditional media in Nigeria seems so much restricted and their use is so much censored that they may hardly obtain freedom of expression. However, the social media seems much more helpful to

solve this problem than the traditional media because it offers citizen the opportunity to more freely scrutinize the activities of their leaders. The social media has become a unique platform that affords a voice to all, rich and poor, powerful and weak, low and mighty etc. for everyone to air their views with little or no restriction. It gives room for freedom of expression and people can continually bring corrupt issues to the public scene until defaulters are prosecuted.

In respect to this situation, this work sought the perception of students on the use of social media in the fight against corruption. The researcher used the survey method which involves administering questionnaires to gather information which were later analysed and interpreted for the purpose of this study.

With proper review of related literatures and findings, it was discovered that the social media truly helps in the fight against corruption. Findings revealed that social media is viable in the fight against corruption with 55% respondents affirming that they have seen issues of corruption being exposed online before and 55% respondents said yes to the question that social media helps to tackle corruption

### **5.3 Conclusion**

Since survey have been adequately carried out for this study, findings have proven beyond doubt that the social media is a viable tool for the fight against corruption because it provides an opportunity for political participation and freedom of expression compared to the traditional media. With regards to this, analysis revealed in table 11 that social media helps to expose the ills and irregularities in government as 59% of respondents supported this. As a point of conclusion, respondents also affirmed that social media definitely helps to fight against corruption with 158 respondents representing 58 % in support of this. This therefore means that much focus should be given to social media by the people in order to tackle corruption continually and as a means of reducing corrupt practices in the society gradually.

The social media will no doubt serve as a possible way out of this problem. By affording the ordinary citizen such freedom not enjoyed by the institutional (traditional) media, the citizen becomes empowered to, on its own initiate and sustain scrutiny over the activities of all category of leaders so as to ensure that a culture of public accountability is strongly entrenched in the polity.

## 5.4 Recommendation

Based on the findings from this study, the following recommendations are considered necessary to ensure that corruption is properly tackled. Also, that the social media is fully considered and employed as a viable tool to fight corruption in governance and society.

- ❖ The eradication of corruption could be possible when plurality of ideas and initiatives about development programmes are integrated with the needs and expectations of the common in the society. To achieve this, there should be transparency in governance, true democracy, good governance, accountability and increased political will.
- ❖ The media in Nigeria should strengthen their internal competence and ethical capacity for professionalism and adopt investigative journalism in the reporting of, and campaign against corruptive act and tendencies to illuminate the cherished values in people thereby guiding and directing social conduct and behaviour to achieving sustainable development.
- ❖ Given the magnitude of corruption in the nation, the little successes recorded in the fight against corruption should not be celebrated. Rather, more efforts

need to be enshrined in the fight against the scourge if Nigeria must join the league of developed economies in the year 2030.

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## APPENDIX

### QUESTIONNAIRE

Department of mass communication  
Faculty of Arts  
University of Benin,  
Benin City

Dear respondent,

I am Mokayi Ozioma Micheal a 400L student of the Department of Mass Communication, University of Benin. I am conducting an academic research titled: **THE PERCEPTION OF UNIBEN STUDENTS ON THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA.** This is in partial fulfillment of the requirement of the B.A Hons in Mass communication.

This questionnaire is designed to generate information from you regarding this research topic. You are kindly requested to answer all the questions as contained in the questionnaire by giving accurate information as it would be treated with utmost confidentiality.

Yours faithfully,

Mokayi Ozioma Michael  
**Researcher**

**Please answer each question appropriately.**

**SECTION A (DEMOGRAPHIC DATA)**

**Please, put a tick next to your answer**

1. Sex: (a) Male ( )      (b) Female ( )
2. Age: Below 16 ( )      (b) 16-20 ( )      (c) 21-24 ( )      (d) 25-29 ( )      (e) 30 and Above ( )
3. Marital Status: (a) Single ( )      (b) Married ( )      (c) Divorced ( )      (d) Separated ( )
4. Highest Educational Level: (a) O'Level ( )      (b) OND/NCE ( )      (c) HND/BSc ( )  
(d) Others ( )

**Section B**

5. Do you use the social media? a. Yes   b. No   c. May be
6. How often do you use the social media?  
a. Regularly ( ) b. Sometimes ( ) c. once in a long while ( )
7. Which of these Social media platforms do you use? (Tick as many as you use)  
a. Facebook ( ) b. Twitter ( ) c. Whatsapp ( ) d. Instagram ( )
8. Do you think social media helps to fight against corruption?  
a. Yes ( )   b. No ( )   c. May be
9. Have you come across issues of corruption exposed online before?  
a. Yes ( )   b. No ( )   c. May be
10. How often have you seen corruption matters exposed on social media?

a. regularly ( ) b. sometimes ( ) c. once in a long while ( )

**SA- Strongly Agree, A- Agree, U- Undecided, D- Disagree, SD- Strongly Disagree**

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	U	D	SD
11	Social media exposes the ills and irregularities in government					
12	Social media is very effective in exposing corrupt practices in the society					
13	Social media is a better platform for expression than other traditional media					
14	Social helps to expose and tackle corruption than other traditional media (Radio, television and newspaper).					
15	Social media enhance political participation than other traditional media (Radio, television and newspaper).					