

CORRUPTION AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY IN NIGERIA

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BY

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this project was written by ELUEMUNOR CHINYERE with the Matriculation Number SSC1909676 of the Department of Public Administration, University of Benin, Benin City.

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DEDICATION

This project work is dedicated specially to God Almighty for the strength to carry on till the end and also to my parents Mr. and Mrs. Lucky Monye for their immense contribution towards my academic pursuit to them and forever beholden

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Firstly I'd like to appreciate my project supervisor Dr Mrs C.K Omorede thank you for your understanding and support, I pray God blesses you and your family Amen.

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ABSTRACT

The need to fight against corruption in Nigeria led to the promulgation or the establishment of Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Act, 2000. The Act was the first bill presented by President Olusegun Obasanjo to the National Assemblé for consideration at the inception of the present democratic administration in 1999. It was passed and signed into law on the 13th of June, 2000. The Act establishes the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), which is the apex body saddled with the responsibility of fighting corruption and other related offences. In spite of the existence of the Anti-Graft Act, corruption in all spheres of our national existence is still on the increase. This inglorious monster of all embarrassment, which has eaten deep into the fabrics of our society, keeps exposing us to international odium and opprobrium. The established ICPC so far still has a lot to do in the aspect of corruption by the investigations carried out. The commission ahs come to be accepted by the populace and expectations on its activities are high. The commission is guided by the vision of fighting corruption to a 9 standstill and restoring Nigeria to the enviable standard of respectability and dignity within the Comity of Nations. The objective of this study therefore, is to look at the role of ICPC and to see how far this role has been performed. The views of scholars on this subject is reviewed in chapter two, we also look at the causes and effect of corruption in the same chapter. Chapter three looked at the stage of data presentation, interpretation and analysis, chi-square (X^2) was employed for its effectiveness and near accuracy in social science research. This also followed the research design. It is however, the findings of this work that corruption in Nigeria may have been encouraged by the level of poor education, poor salary among others that exist in the country. This project may now serve as a reference term to others who may be doing similar corruption in Nigeria, the researcher recommends that: Workers should be well paid. ,Worker's pay should always reflect the socio-economic situation in the country and Education should be given priority in the government budget. If possible, free education to all levels should be introduced and enforced.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

The word corruption is almost as old, as the world, but has only changed forms and dimension in the modern times. It manifests its ugly head in different forms and shapes. Several pictures have been painted about corruption in Nigeria. Anyhow, it is a social ill. It is a hydra-headed evil, which has eaten deep into the fabrics of the society.

Corruption in Nigeria pre-dates the colonial era. It seems to be an inherent evil that beclouds Nigeria as a country. It is surprising that despite the British transparent policies in public dealings, Nigerians who had the initial privileges to acquire Western Education who were enlisted to be interpreters to the British District Commissioners extorted money from the illiterate Nigerians. Truly, the situation became worse soon after the British authorities left Nigeria. However, corruption in the recent times even gave Obasanjo government a course for concern. To further show readiness to combat this crime, the government has passed Corruption Act, for the public officers. The Act preliminary, second item (interpretation states):

“In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires – “Agent” – means any person employed by or an officer serving in or under any public body, or a corporate body or any political party or institution, a trustee, an administrator or executor of the

estate of a deceased person, a sub-contractor, any person employed by or acting for such trustee, administrator, executive, or sub-contractor”.

The law considers any of the persons above as a public officer and expects a high sense of discipline and decorum in discharge of public responsibility including financial management. The Corruption Acts also established an independent commission, for trial and punishment of corrupt public officers.

The Act under section three, sub-section one states:

There is hereby establish a commission to be known as the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (hereafter in this Act referred to as “the commission”).

The Nigerian public jubilated over the establishment of the Obasanjo Corruption Act seeing that as one of the best things that has happened to this country in the recent years because the looting of public treasury by public officers was fast becoming a legitimized illegality. Nobody frowns at it as evil any longer. This sin of official corruption came to the climax during the resign of Ibrahim Babaginda, while the late Head of State, General Sani Abacha who was a brute literally turned the nation’s treasury into his personal property.

The worst thing that would happen to any nation is the acceptance and integration of corruption as part of its norms. Public corruption in Nigeria at a point became a subject of discourse at the international scene. It was rated the worst corrupt

country on the globe. The private sector is not exonerated in the wave of this national decay. It manifests in all aspects of the nation's life-socio-economic, political and what have you. It is no longer shocking news that contractors use inferior materials or even abandon the projects fully paid for by the government. What about commercial life of the people? Honesty and decency have been thrown to the mud. Cases of human trafficking, international prostitution, and ritual killings and kidnapping are on the increase. What else? The country was not spared in any way in the matters of corruption.

Apart from poverty, value system is another cause that promotes corruption in the country. "Materially" irrespective of the source of wealth. Such public officers who apparently looted public treasury become opinion leaders and respected voices in the communities. This encourages anyone who is opportune to hold such offices to acquire ill-gotten wealth. Again, when virtually everyone is guilty of the offence of the sin of corruption, therefore, no authority had the gut to investigate and punish offenders. Perhaps, it could be said that it was only the experience of President Olusegun Obasanjo in the prison that made him to have a change of heart. He felt seriously bothered about the level of corruption in all aspects of the nations life. This moved him to propose the anti-corruption bill, which has been passed into law by the National Assembly. This probably might be the beginning of the salvation of this country – a nation so rich, yet its citizens are almost eating from the dustbins. Honestly, the Corruption Act cannot do all the work of national cleansing because the sin is much. It can only be seen as a good

beginning. It is a right step at the right direction. This decay however, is not wanting in any sector of the Nigeria economy. This is why the society should come up with effective sanctions to deal appropriately with the ‘big’ corrupt politicians, or else all efforts towards tackling corruption will be fruitless.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Nigeria is a country blessed with natural resources. One wonders in spite of the fact of these resources, she has not been able to utilize these opportunities to better the nation and the populace at large.

Recently, it was reported by Sahara Reports New York Monday 17, August 2007, how the former governor of Delta State, Chief James Ibori bankrupted Intercontinental and Oceanic Banks. Also, in the same vein, Cecilia Ibru and Erastus Akingbola both were the former chief executives of Intercontinental Bank who were dismissed from their jobs on August 15th and were declared wanted on charges of fraud, stock manipulation and money laundering.

What then are the compelling factors that have put Nigeria into this shameful existence? It would seem that the most dangerous self-fulfilling cycle was attributed to bad leadership that are abound in the country as attested to the issue of graft and corruption. Writers have highlighted this corruption cycle of corruptive tendencies with dismay.

1.3 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- 1.) What are the factors responsible for corruption in Nigeria?
- 2.) Is corruption in the society linked with politics?
- 3.) Is poor salary responsible for the rampant level of corruption?
- 4.) What roles have independent corrupt practices and other related offences played in curbing corruption?

1.4 OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

The main objective of this study is to:

- 1.) Examine the roles of anti-corruption agencies in the aspects of corruption.
- 2.) To identify the factors that promotes corrupt practices in Nigeria.
- 3.) Look at the effect of corruption in the country.
- 4.) To suggest a means of curbing corruption in Nigeria.

1.5 HYPOTHESES OF STUDY

- 1.) **H₁:** Corruption weakens economic growth of Nigeria society.
H₀: Corruption does not weaken economic growth of Nigeria Society
- 2.) **H₁:** Poor education is a major cause of corruption in Nigeria.
H₀: Poor education is not the major cause of corruption in Nigeria.
- 3.) **H₁:** Male workers are more corrupt than female workers
H₀: Male workers are not more corrupt than female workers
- 4.) **H₁:** Corruption in the society is linked with politics.

H₀: Corruption in the society is not linked with politics.

5.) **H₁:** Poor salary is responsible for the rampant level of corruption.

H₀: Poor salary is not responsible for the rampant level of corruption.

6.) **H₁:** Independent corrupt practices and other related offences has played a good role in curbing corruption.

H₀: Independent corrupt practices and other related offences has not played any role in curbing corruption.

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

Though a number of works may have been done on corruption related topics, however, the researcher diligently agencies in the aspect of corruption in Nigeria, and to know the causes of corruption using ICPC as a case study.

1.7 SCOPE OF STUDY

There are many towns, cities, villages and organizations within the Nigeria economy; however, the scope of this research is deliberately restricted to University of Benin in Edo State, faculty of Arts as a case study.

1.8 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

It is unavoidable that a work of this nature is bound to experience problems anticipated or not.

The researcher encountered inflation in the prices of material (e.g. stationeries). Time factor was yet another handicap that affected the researcher, which suggests the reason for her inability to deeply do an intensive work on the research topic.

Transportation between Ekenwan Campus and Ugbowo Campus (library) was on the high side because of their distance. All these aforementioned limitations after me negatively.

1.9 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Regarding this research study, the under mentioned terms and abbreviations should be regarded as defined thus:

Corruption: A simple and uncomplicated definition of corruption according to Prof. Bolaji Akinyemi is “acquisition of that to which one is not entitled.

Legal: Derives from or is concerned with law. The word law on its own is naturally broad in concept and it finds relations in virtually every other human endeavour or phenomenon. “Ebenezer O. Ayoola”.

Act: A law that has been passed by a parliament (1979 Constitution of Nigeria).

ICPC: Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The problem of corruption in Nigeria is such that has affected all the facets of the society. It has been described as a millstone that grinds old people young and young people old.

The fame has gone beyond the boundaries of the nation's territory.

The British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC in 1998 rate Nigeria the most corrupt country of the world. The view of world media had a great adverse effect on the nation's economy. Foreign investors do not feel safe to invest in Nigeria economy. Aside, the nation's economic problems, the investors dreaded the activities of Nigerians swindlers. Nigerians no doubt have shown high level of skill in fraud and other related offences.

It is not surprising that while the Nigerian National Team, the Super Eagles crushed out at the first round of the ongoing world cup championship, Nigerians serving varies jail terms in Japan created history by winning their opponent on the 16th of June 2002. Reports said they were convicted for offences ranging from robbery to drug trafficking and other related offences. Many of them would serve ten years and above according to a news report by the National Television Authority NTA network.

Following the same problem of corruption Nigeria's international image has been seriously battered. Countries of the world are always at alert anytime they are dealing with Nigerians. This has given Nigeria a very bad image at the international scene. It is a big shame that while, Japan, Russia, England, India, America and other countries in the West and Asia are making break through in science and technology, Nigeria's breakthrough is only in corruption and other crimes.

At this juncture, it shall be helpful to review related literature as a way of appreciating this problem better.

According to G.C. Nwobi started by remarking that corruption is a symptom of a failed stratum. Quoting him verbatim: "and yet, widespread corruption remains a symptom of a poorly functioning state as witnessed in most developing countries such as Nigeria". In spite of the fact that corruption is a worldwide phenomenon, the writer's opinion is still passed on the fact it is widespread and common among developing countries.

C. Obioma² corroborated Nwaobi's view by positing that, corruption is rapidly destroying the very fabrics of our (Nigeria) existence as a nation. He went ahead to expose the overt and covert dimensions corruption has taken. He enthused that "its many faces include but not limited to bare faced looting of the common wealth, extortion by law enforcement agents, scant regard for due process in the conduct of

government business, demand for gratification by public officers before legitimate services are rendered, inflation of contracts and payments for those not executed.

V.E. Dike³ supports the views of the two previous writers by saying that: There are many unresolved problems in Nigeria, but the issue of the upsurge of corruption is troubling the damages it has done to the polity are astronomical”. This scholar viewed corruption holistically into many forms and sub-divisions.

While O. Olaja⁴ in the same vein sees corruption “as a destruction of government structures and capacity. Corruption can destroy the legitimacy of a government and alienate modern oriented civil servants. This may cause them to reduce or withdraw their services or to leave the country. What this scholar is trying to say is that, corruption could lead to brain-drain in Nigeria and if nothing is done to reduce this problem, Nigeria would find it difficult to develop and could lead to unnecessary bureaucracy in the civil service and other parastatals across the country.

The argument of the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG)⁵ is also in line with what the previous scholars have been saying; this body says, “corruption is presently endemic in the country”. The international community regards Nigeria as the most corrupt nation and this affects the level of foreign direct investment in the country that we can attract.

B. Akinyemi⁶ in his own argument does not deviate from the path the previous writers had taken and he posits that corruption and crime are twin brothers. According

to him, crime makes room or create enabling environment for corruption and vice versa. In his words, he enthused that “not only is corruption a specie of crime but there is a symbolic relationship between crime and corruption. Crime breeds and feeds on corruption, whenever you find one, you find the other.” The writer says that there is no difference between corruption and crime.

P. Edework⁷ took some what different look at this topical issue saying that “the society exist to benefit all people irrespective of race, colour, status and ethnic background moulded by people and it also moulds people inhabiting it. For the continuity of society, people enter into various relationship to benefit them”. In other words, Edework is saying that it is the relationship that exists between the inhabitants of the society and the system of the society that breeds or brings about corruption. He sees man as an expectant goals, be it through corruptible or genuine way.

e. Banifield⁸ who walks in the same path as Edework, views corruption as a phenomenon rooted in orientation. In a nutshell, Banfield is saying that corruption cannot be delineated from the family system and its workings. That is, there is a close relationship between corruption and family orientation and values.

E. Lotterman⁹ in the same vain sees corruption as an effect of bad rule and ineffective taxing system, which makes it difficult to track down people’s financial dubiousity. What Lotterman was trying to do is to figure out what really breeds corruption and he further went ahead to draw a parallel line between bad rule and

ineffective tax system i.e. defect of the system to collect and compute taxes paid or unpaid.

Lipset and Lenze¹⁰ went ahead to corroborate the views of the other scholars by saying that “those going through corrupt means (through the back door so to say) to achieve their objectives have little or no access to economic opportunities. The writer enthused that the hindrance to economic opportunity could be as a result of their “ethnicity, lack of skills, capital, materials and other human resources”. In other words, he was trying to unearth the root cause(s) of corruption.

According to S.T. Akindele¹¹, who is also in line with the previous scholars view corruption: “as a socio-political, economic and moral malaise that usually holistically permeate all the nerves of any polity. It is contagious and malignant to the physiology of any political system. Once it sets into any part, it automatically contaminates all the strata of the systems, socio-political structures in ways symmetrical to the spread of a bush fire”. In other words, what Akindele is trying to say is that, the sociological approach tends to identify corruption as a social problem that connotes an act of behavior which constitutes concern to a significant proportion of the society to warrant a common solution by that society.

Akindele¹² went further in another paragraph to say that corruption in Nigeria include among others: corruption ascendancy to political leadership through election rigging and genocidal political techniques: “son of the soil” philosophy; politics of

expediency, doctrine of ten percent, judicial fractionalization of human beings; political self-aggrandizement, police insistence on taking bribes as precondition for performing their duties, bureaucrats indulgence in the act of falsifying accounts; false declaration of assets, violation of oaths of office; payment of money for government jobs not done and looting of the public treasury among other vices.

At this point, he was trying to itemize the various forms of corruption in the Nigeria polity which graphically captures the exact happenings in the public sector.

A. Babalola¹³, in his own argument did not deviate from Akindele's views. He says that "corruption in politics occurs at two levels. The first has to do with the various forms of corruption in politics at the lawmaking level, while the second level is at the law-implementation level. At the first level, people try to influence law making and policy decisions, while at the second level; efforts are made by people to pervert the course of justice and influence judgment. In the actual sense, Babalola was trying to point out the political realities of the times in the body of ours (Nigeria).

According to O. Agbuo¹⁴, corruption he said "is a common phenomenon in human practice, human trafficking as presently practiced is a recent addition to the dictionary of global woes" (Although human trafficking is beyond this work). Though rampant globally, corruption varies from region to region and country to country in its intensity. In other words, human trafficking in its occurrence, especially as it increases, the globalization process intensifies. In essence, human trafficking is the other side of

the coin. Human trafficking is a corrupt practice that causes decay and underdevelopment in any country that harbours it. It is concerous as corruption itself because it causes untold problems, and hardship both physically and psychological on a nation and its people.

A.A. Akinola¹⁵, after appraising the anti-corruption crusade pioneered by president Obasanjo commented thus “welcome to the country of corruption” would have been an appropriate inscription of Nigeria’s international airports. This captures how corruption has eaten deep into the fabric of the Nigerian society. He further posited, in short, corruption pervaded very stratum of Nigerian society”. He sounded a note of caution that using past tense does not mean that Nigeria has now been transformed into a corrupt free environment.

Transparency International Kenta with Constitution of Kenya Review Commission (CKRC)¹⁶ says that corruption undermines a society’s integrity and combating corruption sustainably is only possible with the involvement of all the stakeholders which include the state, civil society and the private sector. The lack of transparency in both public and private affairs ahs helpful fuel corruption.

“One of the greatest challenges facing Kenya that undermines its fledging democracy, human right, economic well-being, growth and development, and national stability is corruption”.

According to Claude Ake¹⁷, man cannot live without bread and this, natural need for bread influences man's behavior in virtually all spheres of his life". Nigeria and other less developed countries of the world including Kenya have this deadly disease. He promised his argument on the poor foundation of a nation's polity. He was arguing that corruption couldn't be eradicate in the polity where the material foundation for it exists. He further went ahead to opine that what causes corruption is poverty.

O. Adebayo¹⁸, in the same vein, sees corruption in the less developed countries (LDGs) and Nigeria specifically as: A result of poverty, deprivation and disparity". HE went further to say "bad governance and leadership is the cause of corruption in the less developed countries (LDGs)". HE emphasized more on leadership and patron-clientele relationship that exist among the African countries. The need for the political leader to perpetuate themselves in power further leads to corrupt practices, which over clouds our development ambition and aspiration.

S. Rose-Ackerman¹⁹ in her own contribution also enthused that corruption in Africa is the spiritual causes of many instability: civil wars, coup d'etats, separate agitations as a result of the struggle for power, wealth accumulation. Corruption is the key collapsing element in the destruction of nation-state, empires and societies, including individuals". No wonder she sees president Obasanjo as a spiritualist cum prophet as regards the level of decadence in Nigeria. President Olusegun Obasanjo

called for spiritual and moral regeneration as bulk walk against the destabilizing disease of corruption and other moral diseases that have see his country directionless.

According to the Boston Globe²⁰, an editorial originally published on Sunday, February 28, 1999; has it that corruption is the cataclysm that ahs racked Indonesia, Thailand, South Korea, and Russia. Corruption, far from being part of the solution for underdevelopment in third world and post communist countries, is a root cause of the problem. The writer went further to say that the violent chaos in Indonesia and the renamed Congo demonstrate how high the price can be for endemic corruption. It is an acid that corrodes currencies, markets, and investments, a subversive force that can topple the most entrenched regimes, an accomplice to organized crime, narcotics, trafficking and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

And lastly, the view of B. Ibekwe, a student of Nigerian Institute of Journalism (NIJ) Lagos, serves as a departure point from the route of thought of all the aforementioned scholars. Although he is still in tune with others, yet he uses sarcastic style in conveying his view about the topical issue. He sees nothing wrong as regard corruption to be in Nigeria – he perceives all the voices of those shouting foul as mere propagandists and unpatriotic fellows. In his words, he states that:

“The recent ranking of Nigeria as the third most corrupt country in the world by Transparency International (TI) is misleading, unacceptable and totally false. It must be discarded and thrown into the waste basket.”

As we observed above, the remark is ironical.

He now came out clean by making his statements in black and white. He remarked in later part of his write up that:

Nigeria deserves something better, which is the first position. As far as corruption is concerned, Nigeria is number one”

He further went to use examples such as that of a pregnant woman been shot by policeman because a commercial bus driver refused to part with N20, and the episode of a senator giving N300 million to distribute to his colleagues as bribe to drive home his point. He was to explicit in his write up.

As the case may be, these are all the views put forward by these crudite scholars of note and from the foregoing that they are all singing the same song and lyrics, that corruption is a cankerworm and a contagious disease in any society that must be fought by all stake holders in any society including Nigeria or else where.

2.1 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

For the purpose of this study, two theories shall be used in grasping the problem of this study. The theories are: Radical political economy approach, political culture approach/perspective with emphasis on patron/client politics, prebendalism and the system of values.

This first is the radical political economy approach, with emphasis on class and materialist forces. The second is the political culture approach/perspective with emphasis on patron/client politics, prebendalism and the system of values.

The origin and foundations of radical political economy can be traced to the writings of Karl Marx, who developed his own organic conception of capitalist society through a systematic critique and reformation of the theories of classical political economy (Mclean, 1996:383). For Marx the structure of society and human relations and circumstances rather than of ideas, thought or consciousness (Mclean, 1996:313), materialism gives priority to material conditions of many implying that economic need is man's most fundamental need. The economic system or the mode of production is the material foundation of social life. It is the economy that forms the base upon which other aspects of social life like the legal system, political system, belief system and morals and ethics are erected.

Marxian writer like Althusser, Bukharin, Fanon, Luxemburg, Lemin and Trotsky have refined and developed these ideas. In the particular context of Nigeria, the renowned Marxian scholars Claude Ake have employed these perspectives in his writing on the Nigerian state. According to Ake (1981:2) in Nigeria, those from the economically privileged social status are more successful professionally. This means that economic inequality is extremely important, tending to reproduce itself endlessly in a series of other inequalities. The privileged groups are interested in preserving the

existing social order, while those who are disadvantaged have a strong interest in changing it. As such the economic structure sets the general trend of political interest and political alignments. This easily explains the war-like approach to material accumulation by Nigerians.

Elsewhere, Ake (1985) suggest that quest for material accumulation in Nigeria has led to a situation where elite groups use every means at their disposal to gain political offices. The situation is best expressed in Ake's own words contending groups struggle on grimly, polarizing their difference and convinced that their ability to protect their interest and to obtain justice is co-extensive with their power. In this type of politics, there is deep alienation and distrust among political competitors consequently, they are profoundly afraid of being in the power of their opponents. This fear in turn breeds a huge appetite for power which is sought without restraint and used without restraints (Ake, 1985:10). Indeed this is the major explanation for the violent 'do or die' approach to elections in Nigeria, as politicians often see political offices as channels for private material accumulation.

A second theoretical approach that will aid our present inquiry is the political culture perspective. Here, the most important analytical tools shall include patron/client politics, prebendalism and the system of values.

Political culture refers to the attitudes, beliefs and values which underpin the operation of a particular political system (Mclean, 1996:379). These include the knowledge and skills required to function within the political system. It also includes positive and negative emotional feelings towards the system particular regional, ethnic or other groups within the political system are referred to as subcultures. Cultural explanations can help in understanding how reactions to political events may vary in different societies. The analysis of substructure remains important in understanding tensions and clearages within particular societies (Mclean, 1996:380). Scholars who have used culture perspectives or aspects of it in their analysis include Antonio Gransa, Vilfred, Pareto & Geroge Simmel.

In Nigeria, political relations and support is done on patron-client basis political parties are usually entities with a myriad of actors held together, as Graf (1988) says, by links of patronage and mutual advantage. Corporate executives in the private sector, business people and contractors all covertly or overtly support political parties in the run-up to critical elections with an eye for contract or other favours in return. Political parties are thus under obligation to deliver to these party Stewarts patron-client relationship underlines political behaviour in Nigeria and remains on of the sources of pervasive corruption in much of the post-colonial history of the Nigerian State.

Another aspect of political culture in Nigeria relates to the value of Nigerian society. It is relatively easy for powerful office holders to steal and use the money to

help his/her Kith and Kin. Hyden (1980) referred to this as the economy of moral affection; Dudley (1982:28-9) also argue that in so far as a successful individual is seen to contribute to the welfare of his community, he is not seen as corrupt. Ekeh (1975) suggests that an amoral value system exist in Nigeria's public domain due to the disjuncture between the state and society under colonial rule. He argues that this gives rise to corruption, abuse and exploitation of public office. Joseph's (1987) prebendalist perspective draws in part from patron-client relations, but also uses the absence of Weberian themes in critical institutions in Nigeria to argue that government resources are corruptly embezzled by public officials. Joseph (1987:55) suggests that this is the common thread underlying ethnic, regional and religious identities in the country. Indeed, Ondely (1982), Ekeh (1975) and Joseph (1987) all share the belief that the improper value system in Nigeria's public domain accounts for the widespread corruption that takes place in the country.

Nigeria's Fourth Republic commenced in May 29th, 1999 with the ascension of President Olusegun Obasanjo. It has been observed that the experience of the fourth Republic indicates that corruption has become a norm (Ogundiya, 2012). The back covers of our Newspaper, magazines and other journals are often indicated with news about political and bureaucratic corruption. All the three arms of government and other state institutions are thought to be thoroughly immersed in corruption (Mohammed, 2013:124). In the National Assembly, Chief Evans Chuba Okadigbo and Adolphos

Wabara were all impeached on grounds of corruption (Ogunliya, 2012). Chuba Okadigbo was involved in the inflation of street light project to the tune of its million naira. He also authorized the payment of 372 million naira to furnish his residence and equally installed and commissioned a 100KVA at the Senate President lodge at an inflated amount of 15 million naira (Oguntiya, 2012).

As Senate President, Adolphus Wabara was guilty of receiving a bribe of 55 million naira from Professor Osuji (Former Education Minister) to inflate the budgetary allocation to the Education ministry. The scourge of corruption, permeate the entire National Assembly. Former speaker, Madam Patalia Olubunmi Etteh, was forced to resign following allegations of misappropriation of public funds in multiple contracts of about 628 million naira for the renovation of her official residence and purchase of 12 official (Mohammed, 2012:124).

A senate Committee also pronounced the former Vice President, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar guilty of corrupt enrichment, having divert the sum of \$145 million Petroleum Technology Development Fund (Oguntiya, 2012). State Chief Executives have been culprits on several occasions. Former Delta State Governor, James Ibori, was arrested on 179 court charge by the EFCC, relating to money laundering of over N9.1 billion (Ademola, 2011). Former Governor of Abia State, Orji Uzor Kalu was accused of using his loot of N3.1 billion to fund slot Airline and two banks in the Gambia and Sierra Leone. He also owned some houses in the U.K. and U.S.A. Ex-governor of

Jigawa State, Saminu Turaki was accused of spending N36 million of public funds to acquire oil bloc from the federal government. Jolly Nyame, the former governor of Taraba State was charged with stealing N1.6 billion belonging to the state. Other former governors charged for various financial crimes are Edo State's Lucky Igbinedion, Ekiti's, Ayo Fayose, River's, Peter Odili and Chimaroke Nnamani of Enugu State. Ex-governor Nnamani and two of his former commissioners, Peter Mba and Spine Ejiofor were all eged stealing N5.6 billion, while some companies were also linked to him (Ademola, 2011).

The daughter of former President Obasanjo, Iyabo Obasanjo Bello, a Senator of the Federal Republic was involved in a contract scandal amounting to N3.5 billion involving the Senator and an Australian firm (Essien, 2012:36). According to the EFCC, the Senator used her mother's maiden name, Akinlawon to hide her identity in the contract. The Senator was again involved in another financial scandal involving mismanagement in the ministry of Health. Essien (2012:40) reveals that it was the scandal that led to the resignation of Mrs, Adenike Grange and her Deputy, Architect Gabriel Aduku. Iyabo Obasanjo was later arraigned in court over N300 million unspent budget.

There are other corrupt cases linking the Nigerian State to certain foreign firms that deserve close scrutiny. Halliburton and its former subsidiary Kellogg-Brown and Root (KBR) agreed to the largest corruption settlement ever paid by a U.S. company

under the U.S foreign corrupt practices Act (FCPA) (Mohammed, 2013:129). The company ‘settled’ Nigerian officials to the tune of \$579 million in order to secure contracts. Their guilty plea was only the latest in a string of high level bribery cases to secure contracts in Nigeria.

Other cases like the Siemens \$1.6 billion settlement scandal, Sillbros Incorporation’s \$32 million Panalpina’s case in the Nigerian National identity card scheme with complicity from Sagem all raising the amount of bribe collected by senior government officials in Nigeria’s Fourth Republic. These cases draw concern about the unremitting level of official corruption in Nigeria, despite the claims of successive governments that they show ‘zero-tolerance’ for corruption (Mohammed, 2013:129).

The large scale of official corruption in Nigeria’s Fourth Republic has frustrated the quest for economic development (Essien, 2012) it has inevitably led to wastage of resources that ought to be channeled into the productive process. There is a general lethargy in the nation’s quest for rapid industrialization. Critical resources that the state ought to deploy in favour of small and medium enterprises which are easily frittered away by corrupt public.

The inevitable verdict, as Mohammed (2013:132) submits is unrelenting poverty on a large scale. The economy is severely affected by the pervasive level of official corruption. The generality of Nigerians are the greatest losers, since they are the ones

that bear the burden of a largely malfunctioning economy. The frequent crisis of insecurity in Nigeria's Fourth Republic has been traced to poverty and unemployment, which are indirect effects of corruption (Mohammed, 2013).

2.2 FACTORS THAT CAN POSSIBLY CAUSE CORRUPTION

There are many factors that can cause corruption in organizations, especially in the third-world countries which include unemployment, laziness, greed, value system, lack of good education among others. However, "corruption has also undermined the morals and ethics of traditional African Cultures where people felt embarrassed to demand bribes or misuse resources, placed in their hands on behalf of society. It is strongly expressed that corruption was alien to African, although to date, Africa practices it better than any other continent".

Surprisingly, "corruption has worsened to the level of uneven development where resources earmarked for particular project have been diverted to private accounts". The story of diverting public fund to private accounts and abandoning a project fully or partly paid for by the government is no longer a disconcerting story. It is a common feature on the pages of our daily newspapers. This has been described as a serious deviation from the African value system. The truth however remains that culture is dynamic, it is true that African culture some one hundred years ago would frown and punish such derivations from the Africa norms, but today, our value system has

drastically changed. What matters is how much money one is able to gather, the source is immaterial.

Everyone wants to look important in the eyes of the society and since wealth is the major thing that counts in determining the position one occupies in the society, people had to seek for it at all cost. It might surprise to know, that individuals who get into public offices are often advised to be wise and use his office to acquire wealth so as not to be poor in life. Again, “a major element in corruption, at the higher levels is massive corruption in international transactions. This distorts decision-making, creates while elephant projects and drives up the costs of necessary projects thereby adding further to the improvement of the people. It contributes in a major way to the African external debt crisis.

Another face of corruption that is destroying the nation’s educational system in Nigeria is certificate racketeering. Nigerian certificates before now were respected all over the world, but the wind of corruption extending to the educational sector has changed this trend. The Nigerian certificates are highly abhorred following a number of Nigerian graduates that travelled abroad, but could not live up to the expectation of the certificates they purportedly possessed. The reason is not far to fetch. Students are no longer ready to work hard; this follow a sharp fall in economy whereby books and other learning facilities are not available. Even the lecturers were poorly paid that virtually every one of them needed something to augment the poor pay. Some of the bad students

capitalized on the economic situation to influence some of the lecturers who were not morally strong. What we are seeing today is the result of these corrupt practices for two decades. There is no doubt that the situation would be worst if not seriously checked. We are already beginning to see university graduates cannot communicate effectively in English language what more do we expect?

Also, Dr. Tonwe, D.A. commented, “there is no country of the world that is not corrupt. Everyone is corrupt in one-way or the other, but the degree is what differs. We are seriously bothered in Nigeria because the degree of corruption manifest is quite alarming. The world swindling had existed for centuries without many bothering to know what it means. However, the activities of Nigerians have opened the eyes of the whole world to the meaning of the word. In Nigeria, it is called 419. Several Nigerians have played governments, corporate bodies, individuals and international organizations.

Everything about Nigeria puts the entire world at alert. There is virtually no aspect of life that Nigerians have not manifested this trait. Consider the 2002 world cup championship, Nigeria was about the first country to falsify the ages of over-aged players. They were later detected and Nigerian had to be suspended for one competition. This is the extent, the problem of corruption has reached in Nigeria. An average Nigerian is more interested in telling lies than telling the truth.

2.3 GREED AND OSTENTATIOUS LIFESTYLE

Some writers have posited about the different causes of rampant and peculiar graft that exists in the country; many blame greed and ostentatious lifestyle as a potential root cause of corruption. To some, societies in love with ostentatious lifestyle may delve into corrupt practices to feed the lifestyle and also embrace a style of public sleaze and lack of decorum. The customs and attitudes of the society may also be a contributing factor. Gift giving as expressions of loyalty or tributes to traditional rulers may be fabrics of the society. Also, a political environment that excludes favour towards elites or wealthy, citizens may also be influenced by corruption – wealthy elites may resort to sleaze in order to gain power and protect their interest. However, the bottom line surmised from the views of most Nigerians is that corruption is a problem that has to be rooted out.

Other causes of corruption are ethnicity and pressures on officials by friends and kinsmen. Friends and kinsmen seeking

2.4 EFFECTS OF CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA

Corruption negatively impacts economic growth and reduces public spending on education. “If the government can win this battle against corruption and mismanagement, the money will start to turn into functioning schools, health service and water supply, thus laying the foundation to eradicate poverty.” Lenze and Lipset went further to say that poverty and inequalities are tied to corruption in Nigeria.

Corruption wastes skills, as precious time is wasted to set committee to fight corruption, and monitor project that are often abandoned by unscrupulous politicians and contractors. The unending chains of corruption fighting commissions in the society includes, the Code of Conduct Bureau and Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), the police, Central Bank and the Court of Justice, etc. But none of them has the will to fight corruption, because some of the officers are themselves corrupt.

Corruption leads to “and abuse”. However, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank are introducing tougher anti-corruption standards into their lending policies to tackle corruption. Similarly, European Union (EU) and the Organization of American States (OAS) are reported by taking some tough measures against international corruption.

Corruption is politically destabilizing. It leads to social revolution and military take-over, as some of these less developed countries point to corruption.

Briber and corruption create the culture of late payments and delays, and refusal to pay for services already executed in Nigeria. As Hall (a reporter with Reuters News Agency) noted on the world.com, scandal corruption leads to information distortion as it cooks the books and a high level of corruption can make public policies ineffective.

Corruption tarnishes the image of a nation, perhaps, Nigeria suffers more than the most societies from an appalling international image created by its inability to deal

with bribery and corruption. For instance, the 2004 study of corruption by the Transparency International ranked Nigeria as the second most corrupt nation in the world.

However, corruption leads to slow traffic, potholed and trash-filled roads and streets, and political killings (and other election irregularities) that were rampant during the 2003 elections. Rebuff is one of the many cases dotting Nigeria's political landscape, and the heat created by it continues to raise the temperature of the polity. Corruption is destructive of governmental structures and capacity, destroys the legitimacy of the government, and makes governance ineffective. It may alienate modern-oriented civil servants and cause them to reduce (or withdraw) their service and to leave the country (the brain-drain episode is tied to corruption).

2.4 THE ROLE OF ICPC (INDEPENDENT CORRUPT PRACTICES AND OTHER RELATED OFFENCES COMMISSION) IN COMBATING CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA

The outgoing civil government of Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, on its inauguration on 29th May 1998 realized that corruption was a time bomb targeted at consuming Nigeria. The president Chief Olusegun declared transparency and accountability as the twin-pillars of his administration and plunged himself into an, avowed war against corruption. This war culminated in the president presenting an Anti-Corruption Bill to the National Assembly within sixty days of the inauguration of his administration. The bill was the harbinger of the Anti-Graft Act. The setting-up of this anti-corruption crusade led to the subsequent inauguration of the ICPC on 29th September, 2000.

DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

Investigation: Where reasonable grounds exist for suspecting that any person conspired to committed an offence under the act or any other law prohibiting corruption, it is duty bound to receive and investigate any report of the conspiracy to comment, attempt to commit and prosecute the offender.

SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURE STUDY REVIEW AND CORRECTION

The commission has the power to examine study, existing system, procedure and practices in government ministries and parastatals and review them where such systems and procedures are prone to corruption and fraud.

Advisory: It is the duty of the commission to advice, instructs and assists any officer agency or parastatal on ways by which fraud or corruption may be eliminated or minimized.

The commission is to advice heads of public bodies of any changes in practice, systems or procedures compatible with effective discharge of the duties on how to reduce the likelihood of bribery, corruption and related offences. This aspect of the commission as duties is very relevant to the theme of this study: The Commission's Committee is already putting in place the machinery of carrying out study of systems and practices in selected government ministries and departments.

Education: The commission has the responsibility to educate the public on or against corruption and related offences.

Combating Corruption: It is also its duty to enlist of 19 offences for which offenders said that the Act is very draconian, considering the all embracing scope and nature of offences. It defines corruption and gratification in clear and unmistakable terms. The act has created nineteen others, some of which before 13th June, 2000 (when the Bill was signed into Law) could not have been recognized as offences.

All public officers are advised to acquaint themselves with these provisions of the act, particularly section 22, sub-section 3,4 and 5 relating the inflation of prices or award of or signing of contracts without budgetary provision approval or cash backing or the unauthorized vivement of funds from one sub-head to another. The commission is very conscious of the expectations of Nigerians and the international community. The commission has commenced the study of systems and procedures in government ministries and parastatals and has been dialoging with the offices on ways to improve on the existing systems and enhancing its efficiency and effectiveness. The issue of delayed salary payment has attracted the attention of the commission as well.

The commission has, through the cooperation of the Head of Service of the Federation established in each ministry, parastatals, government agencies, an anti-corruption and transparency monitoring unit. These units are to promote and facilitate the functions of the commission in their respective organizations. It also requires the support of all and sundry to succeed in its onerous task.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter deals mainly with the researcher's method of information and the general conceptual and theoretical framework of the research project. It defines the type of research, reasons for its choice and contributions to researches.

Sequel to the peculiarity of this problem, the researcher has chosen to apply survey research design because of its effectiveness in examining conditions, situations or values to appraise same in order to determine the form or extent and positions of a problematic situation. It must be noted that the term survey generally means non-experimental. It is the best method for researches involving human beings.

3.1 CASE STUDY

Then problem of corruption is widely spread. It is such that touch all aspects of the society. But in order to make the research more manageable, the case study restricted the research to University of Benin, Ugbowo Campus, comprising of students, lecturers and no academic staffs. It is believed that the result arrived at in this area can accurately be applied to the entire country.

3.2 SOURCES OF DATA

The researcher has chosen to source for both primary and secondary data for effective analysis of the problem.

The sources include: administration of questionnaires, personal interview and personal observations. Other sources are textbooks, journals and many more.

3.3 METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

The purpose of research is to contribute to knowledge. The researcher use personal interview, personal observation and administration of questionnaires, textbooks and journals to source for facts concerning the problem under study. The aim is to elicit information from responses, which would give useful guidance to determining the causes of corruption.

To this end, a total of sixty copies of the questionnaire were administered to students and staff of the University of Benin, Ugbowo Campus. The questionnaire was structured in a simple English language. Also, the questionnaires have options to guide respondents

3.4 ACTUAL FIELD WORK

The research led the researcher to two libraries in Benin City to source for materials. The actual work also comprise of the administering of the questionnaire to the workers of the University of Benin and students of the said university. The sixty copies of the questionnaire administered were all returned.

3.5 DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

This is the major work to be done in chapter four. All the information gathered through personal interview, personal observation and the administering of questionnaire would be presented, interpreted, and analyzed to ease understanding.

3.6 RESEARCH INSTRUMENT

The researcher chose to apply chi-square as her statistical technique because of its effectiveness in social science research. It has a potency and adaptiveness in testing different variables. The formula is given below.

$$X^2 = \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$$

Where:

$$\begin{aligned} X^2 &= \text{Chi-square} \\ O &= \text{Observed frequency} \\ E &= \text{Expected frequency} \end{aligned}$$

3.7 RESEARCH POPULATION

This is made up of 36,000 students and 8,000 staff of the University of Benin (as at December, 2009).

3.8 RESEARCH SAMPLE

The researcher applied the random sampling method. Students of the University of Benin were used while the staff were administered questionnaires.

SUMMARY

This chapter however, has set the theoretical and conceptual framework for the problem under study.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

This deals with data presentation, interpretation and analysis. All the data gathered were presented in tables for easy reading and assessment. The researcher uses both simple percentage in analysis and chi-square in interpreting the data collected.

TEST STATISTICS

$$x^2 = \sum_{i=1}^K \frac{(O - E)^2}{E}$$

Where:

X^2	=	Chi-Square
Σ	=	Summation
O	=	Observed Frequency
E	=	Expected Frequency
K	=	Option given

FORMULA FOR DEGREE OF FREEDOM

$$V = K - 1$$

Where:

V	=	Degree of freedom
K	=	Options given

At 0.01 level of significance, for the expected chi-square (X^2) from the table below is 11.34 at 3 degree of freedom. We can state the decision rule as follows:

If $X^2 > 11.34$, reject H_0

If $X^2 \leq 11.34$, accept H_1

Note: H_0	=	Null hypothesis
H_1	=	Alternative Hypothesis

From the questionnaires distributed, A – D stands as options to be ticked by the respondent.

Where:

“A” stands for “Yes”

“B” stands for “No”

“C” stands “Not likely”

“D” stands for “I don’t know”

This will be better explained in the table below:

1. H_1 : Poor education is a major cause of corruption in Nigeria.

H_0 : Poor education is not a major cause of corruption in Nigeria.

Table 1: Shows the number of respondents who were given questionnaires.

Classes	Observed Frequency (O)	Expected Frequency (E)	O – E	(O – E) ²
A	35	60	-25	629
B	17	60	-43	1849
C	8	60	-52	2704
D	0	60	-60	3600
	60			8,778

$$X^2 = \frac{\sum (O - E)^2}{E} = \frac{8778}{60} = 146.3$$

$$X^2 = \underline{146.3}$$

INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

Since X^2 (146.3) calculated is greater than X^2 (11.34) tabulated, we then reject the null hypothesis (H_0), which states that poor education is not a major cause of corruption. We then accept (H_1) which states that poor education is a major cause of corruption in Nigeria.

Analyzing the data based on the responses on the (hypothesis), question 1 which states that poor education is a major cause of corruption in Nigeria. Table 1 shows that 58.3% of the total respondents affirmed to the proposition, while 28.3% of the respondents disagreed with the proposition. However, 13.3% said the statement is not likely to be true.

2. H_1 : Corruption weakens economic growth of Nigeria society

H_0 : Corruption does not weaken economic growth of Nigeria society.

Table 2: Shows the record of the respondents to the questions asked.

Classes	Observed Frequency (O)	Expected Frequency (E)	O – E	(O – E) ²
A	45	60	-15	225
B	3	60	-57	3249
C	12	60	-48	2304
D	0	60	-60	3600
	60			9,378

$$X^2 = \frac{\sum (O - E)^2}{E} = \frac{9378}{60} = 156.3$$

INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

Since X^2 (156.3) calculated is greater than X^2 (11.34) tabulated, we then reject the null hypothesis (H_0) which states that corruption does not weaken the economic of Nigeria society, and then accept (H_1) which states that corruption weakens the economic of Nigeria society.

Based on the data gathered from question 2, which states that corruption weakens the economic of Nigeria society, table 2 shows seventy-five (75%) percent of the respondent who agreed with the statement, thereby rejecting the null hypothesis; while only five (5%) percent averred that corruption does not weaken the economy of Nigeria society. Meanwhile, twenty percent of the respondents do not think the statement is true.

3. H_1 : Male workers are more corrupt than female workers

H_0 : Male workers are not more corrupt than female workers

Table 3: Shows that most of the respondents affirmed to the fact that male workers are more corrupt than female workers.

Classes	Observed Frequency (O)	Expected Frequency (E)	O – E	(O – E) ²
A	30	60	-30	900
B	9	60	-51	2601
C	19	60	-41	1681
D	2	60	-58	3364
	60			8,546

From the table above, $O - E$ means or stands for observed frequency – expected frequency. While $(O - E)^2$ means that you square the observed frequency and the expected frequency together.

$$X^2 = \frac{\Sigma (O - E)^2}{E} = \frac{8546}{60} = 142.4$$

INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

Since X^2 (142.4) calculated is greater than X^2 (11.34) tabulated, we then accept H_1 hypothesis which states that male workers are more corrupt than female workers and then reject the null hypothesis (H_0) which states that male workers are not more corrupt than female workers.

Analyzing the data gathered based on the question, which states that male workers are more corrupt than female workers, Table 3 shows fifty (50%) percent of the respondents agreed with the statement, while only fifteen (15%) percent rejected the view. However, 31.7% said the statement is sometimes true, while 3.3% do not have any answer to the question.

4. H_1 : Corruption in the society is linked with politics

H_0 : Corruption in the society is not linked with politics.

Table 4: Indicates the respondent's action towards question four.

Classes	Observed Frequency (O)	Expected Frequency (E)	O – E	(O – E) ²
A	33	60	-27	729
B	5	60	-55	3025
C	18	60	-42	1764
D	4	60	-56	3136
				8654

$$X^2 = \frac{\sum (O - E)^2}{E} = \frac{8654}{60} = 144.2$$

INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

Since X^2 (144.2) calculated is greater than X^2 (11.34) tabulated, we then reject the null hypothesis (H_0) which states that corruption in the society is not linked with politics, and therefore accept the (H_1) which states that corruption in the society is linked with politics.

Based on the above table, it can be seen that letter 'A' which stands for the number of people that say 'Yes' to the question tallies with the H_1 hypothesis therefore, in the same table, it is obvious that only 8.3% of the total respondents disagreed that corruption in the society is linked with politics. In the meantime, 55% agreed with the idea, while 30% said the statement is sometimes true. Only 6.7% said 'they don't know'.

5. H_1 : Poor salary is responsible for the rampant level of corruption.

H_0 : Poor salary is not responsible for the rampant level of corruption.

Table 5: Shows that majority of respondents attest to the fact that poor salary is responsible for the rampant level of corruption in Nigeria

Classes	Observed Frequency (O)	Expected Frequency (E)	O – E	(O – E) ²
A	56	60	-4	16
B	3	60	-57	3249
C	0	60	-60	3600
D	1	60	-59	3481
				10,346

$$X^2 = \frac{\sum (O - E)^2}{E} = \frac{10,346}{60} = 170.4$$

From the table above, O – E means you subtract the observed frequency from the expected frequency. Then the (O – E)² means that you square the difference you get from the observed frequency minus expected frequency.

INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

Since X² (170.4) calculated is greater than X² (11.34) tabulated, we then reject the null hypothesis (H₀), which states that poor salary is not responsible for the rampant level of corruption and then accept the (H₁) which states that poor salary is responsible for corruption.

Analyzing the data gathered based on the question which states that poor salary is responsible for the rampant level of corruption, table 5 shows that a total of 93.3%

agreed with the statement. However, 5% said the statement is not true, while 1.7% said it perhaps happens.

6. **H₁**: Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences have played a good role in curbing corruption.

H₀: Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences have not played a good role in curbing corruption.

Table 6: Explains how respondents responded to question 6.

Classes	Observed Frequency (O)	Expected Frequency (E)	O – E	(O – E) ²
A	17	60	-43	1849
B	35	60	-25	625
C	8	60	-52	2704
D	0	60	-60	3600
	60			8,778

$$X^2 = \frac{\Sigma (O - E)^2}{E} = \frac{8778}{60} = 146.3$$

$$X^2 = \underline{146.3}$$

INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

Since X^2 (146.3) calculated is greater than X^2 (11.34) tabulated, we then reject the null hypothesis (H_0) which states that Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences has not played a good role in curbing corruption.

Based on the data gathered from question 6, which states that Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences has played a good role in curbing corruption. Table 6 shows that 58.3% of the total respondents disagreed with the proposition, while 28.3% of the total respondents affirmed to the proposition. However, 13.3% said the statement is not likely to be true.

4.2 FINDINGS

After a diligent investigation on the causes of corruption, the researcher made the following findings:

1. That poor education is a major cause of corruption in Nigeria.
2. That corruption weakens economic growth of Nigeria society.
3. That, male workers are more corrupt than female workers.
4. That corruption in the society is linked with politics.
5. That poor salary is responsible for the rampant level of corruption.
6. That Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission has not played a good role in curbing corruption.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.1 SUMMARY

The issue of corruption in Nigeria, is the one that generates concern in the heart of any well-meaning Nigerian. It has given us a very bad image at the international scene. Different regimes in this country had made effort either with or without sincerity to find out the cause of corruption in the nation.

The out gone civilian regime of President Olusegun Obasanjo tried so much to curb corruption.

A lot of reasons have been advanced as the cause of corruption. The reasons include: poor education, poor salary among others. The level of corruption in Nigeria has been quite disturbing that all the causes mentioned above could have really the major causes of corruption in Nigeria.

This motivated the researcher to go into investigation on the topic: “The Roles of Anti-Corruption Agencies: A Case study of Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC)”.

In chapter one, the researcher gave a good background to the study which sets the stage for the review of similar literature. In chapter two, she looked at literature review to cover what other writers have spoken about corruption. She also looked at some of the causes of corruption in the same chapter.

Chapter three sets the design of the work, which is generally called research methodology. Chi-Square (X^2) was applied as the statistical test for its effectiveness. Direct interview and questionnaire were used in data gathering. Chapter four presented, interpreted and analyzed the data gathered.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Following a successful research work and the findings made, the researcher hereby recommends that for effective fight to be given to this social ill called corruption, the government should ensure that:

- i. The living wage is paid promptly.
- ii. The government should give Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC) free law to persecute any offender caught in respective of his or her position.
- iii. Moral education should be inculcated in schools as this would go a long way to orienting the workforce.
- iv. Worker should be motivated and there should be honest application of disciplinary measure.
- v. Workers' wages should be enhanced and opportunities should be given to workers to improve themselves.
- vi. There should be a periodic pay rise to encourage workers.

- vii. We should change our value system and learn to appreciate and reward hard work.
- viii. There should be enhanced welfare package for workers.
- ix. The government should try to provide employment for the teeming graduate population.
- x. The government should fight to reduce the level of poverty in the country.
- xi. The government should promote and sustain private sector economy.

5.3 CONCLUSION

Corruption no doubt is a social ill that must be shun. The researcher in pursuit of this project has been able to find out that poor education is a major cause of corruption in Nigeria.

The research revealed that the fight against corruption may not be faithful unless poor education, poor salary among others are carefully looked into. It was suggested that the workers' welfare package should be improved and the wages should be paid as at when due.

In the meantime, the project will serve as a reference point to other researchers who may be working on related fields of study.

Conclusively, it could be safely inferred that education should be strongly encouraged.

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**APPENDIX:
Questionnaire**

Please, fill out this research questionnaire. Every information shall be treated with the utmost confidentiality and the information needed is basically for academic work.

Tick (✓) good for any answer of your choice.

PART A

This part is not necessarily compulsory.

- 1.) Name of respondent:
- 2.) Age: State of Origin:
- 3.) Nationality:

PART B

- 1.) Poor education is a major cause of corruption in Nigeria.
(A) Yes [], (B) No [], (C) Not likely [], (D) I don't know [].
- 2.) Corruption weakens economic growth of Nigeria society.
(A) Yes [], (B) No [], (C) Not likely [], (D) I don't know [].
- 3.) Male workers are more corrupt than female workers.
(A) Yes [], (B) No [], (C) Sometimes [], (D) I don't know [].
- 4.) Corruption in the society is linked with politics.
(A) Yes [], (B) No [], (C) Sometimes [], (D) I don't know [].
- 5.) Poor salary is responsible for the rampant level of corruption.
(A) Yes [], (B) No [], (C) Not at all [], (D) Maybe [].
- 6.) Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission has played a good role in curbing corruption.
(A) Yes [], (B) No [], (C) Not at all [], (D) Not quite [].

PART C

- 1.) Suggest ways of curbing corruption in Nigeria:
.....
.....
- 2.) Would you comment on the consequences of corruption on the foreign image of Nigeria?
.....
.....cc