

OPINIONS OF COUNSELLORS ON CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA, WAYS OF CURBING IT AND THEIR ROLES IN CURBING IT

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ABSTRACT

Corruption is the biggest challenge facing successive administrations in Nigeria. It has undermined social, political and economic development of our nation. Currently, it appears to defy all solutions adduced for curbing it. This study is a descriptive study designed to explore the opinions of counsellors on corruption in Nigeria, ways of curbing it and their roles in curbing it. A sample of 125 counsellors drawn from a population of professional counsellors in Rivers State using purposive sampling technique participated in the study. Two research questions and two hypotheses were designed to guide the study. The instrument for data collection was Opinions of Counsellors on Corruption Questionnaire. The reliability indices for the internal consistency of the instrument obtained through Cronbach alpha were 0.76 and 0.69 for sections B and C respectively. The findings of the study showed that counsellors in Rivers state are of the opinion that wrong value system, greed and selfishness, materialism, nepotism and parochialism, unemployment and weak institutions are major causes of corruption in Nigeria. They are also of the opinion that value re-orientation, strengthening corruption-fighting institutions, improved political will to fight corruption, promulgating and implementing draconian laws against corruption, and mounting surveillance cameras to help track down corrupt people are possible ways of curbing corruption in Nigeria. It was therefore recommended that for any meaningful sustainable development to take place in the country and for peaceful coexistence among Nigerians, genuine, spirited and concerted efforts must be made to eliminate or curb corruption in the country.

Keywords: Corruption, election rigging, examination malpractices, kidnapping, adulteration, budget padding, cyber crime, advanced fee fraud, robbery, contract inflation, kickback, bribery.