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Integrity, Freedom, and Trust – A Comprehensive Understanding of Corruption and Its Effect on Human Rights

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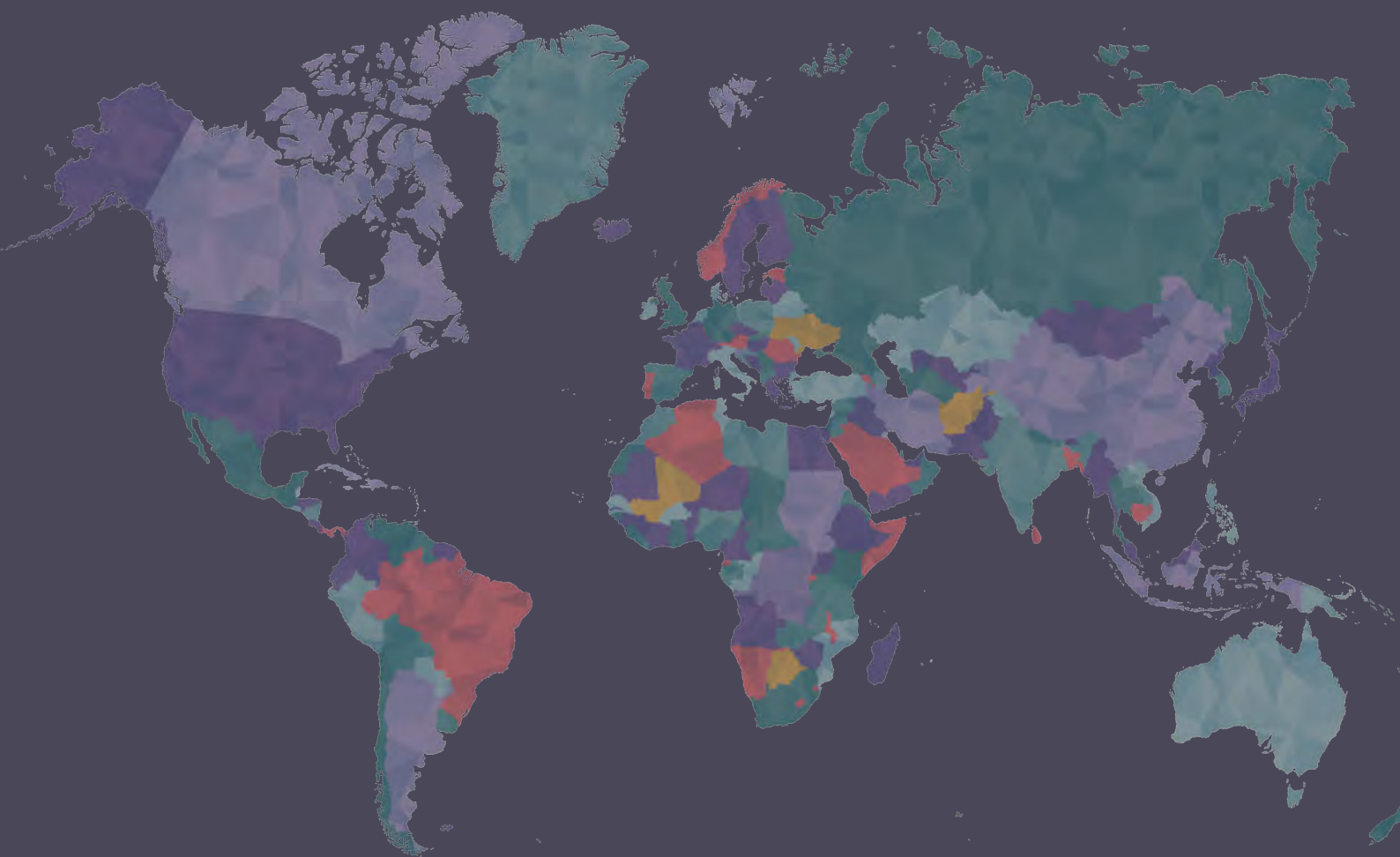
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UNEQUAL **WORLD** Conference

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



December 8–9, 2021

UNEQUAL
WORLD
ONLINE
CONFERENCE

INTEGRITY, FREEDOM, AND TRUST

*A Comprehensive Understanding of Corruption
and Its Effect on Human Rights*

December 8-9, 2021

Book of Abstracts

UNEQUAL WORLD Conference

Third Edition

Integrity, Freedom, and Trust –
*A Comprehensive Understanding of Corruption and
Its Effect on Human Rights*

December 8-9, 2021
New York, NY, USA

UNEQUAL
WORLD
ONLINE
CONFERENCE

INTEGRITY, FREEDOM, AND TRUST

*A Comprehensive Understanding of Corruption
and Its Effect on Human Rights*

December 8-9, 2021

This publication includes the abstracts accepted for presentation at the UNEQUAL World Conference on December 8-9, 2021. The conference was organized by the UNEQUAL World Research Center, IPSEC, and UN Liaison Office for IRLA and SDA.

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Lucile Sabas, PhD

Carlos E. Biaggi, PhD

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Preface

The third edition of the UNEQUAL World Conference intended to provide a forum for exploring the effect of corruption on society, human rights, freedom, religion, law, development, health, economy, social justice, distribution of resources, businesses, investments, economic growth, organization's reputation, transparency, and more. The conference was attended by 80 participants from 25 countries: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Perú, Poland, Romania, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Uruguay, USA, and Venezuela.

The conference theme was *Integrity, Freedom, and Trust – A Comprehensive Understanding of Corruption and Its Effect on Human Rights*. Hundreds of millions of dollars are spent trying to remove global corruption every year. Transparency International estimates that 79 percent of the world's 7.6 billion people live in "corrupt" nations.

Every year on December 9th, International Anti-corruption Day, numerous international organizations raise awareness of the pressing need to eradicate corruption. Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay stated, "Each year, corruption steals enough money to feed the world's poor 80 times over." In June 2021, the UN General Assembly conducted its first-ever *Special Session Against Corruption* (UNGASS 2021) and adopted a Political Declaration entitled "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation." Corruption presents a significant challenge to society's stability and security, as the UN Member States acknowledged in this Declaration.

The main purpose of this research initiative was to support the development of trust, integrity, and human rights in various settings, including society, politics and business environment, mass media, education, the academic community, and much further.

We would like to express our appreciation to all participants for their valuable involvement in the conference, and the session chairs for their support and leadership. Special thanks to all guest speakers for their outstanding presentations and valuable insights, and to the editors for preparing this publication.

On behalf of the organizers,
Nelu Burcea, PhD

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INTEGRITY, FREEDOM, AND TRUST

*A Comprehensive Understanding of Corruption
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Integrity, Freedom, and Trust

***A Comprehensive Understanding of Corruption
and Its Effect on Human Rights***

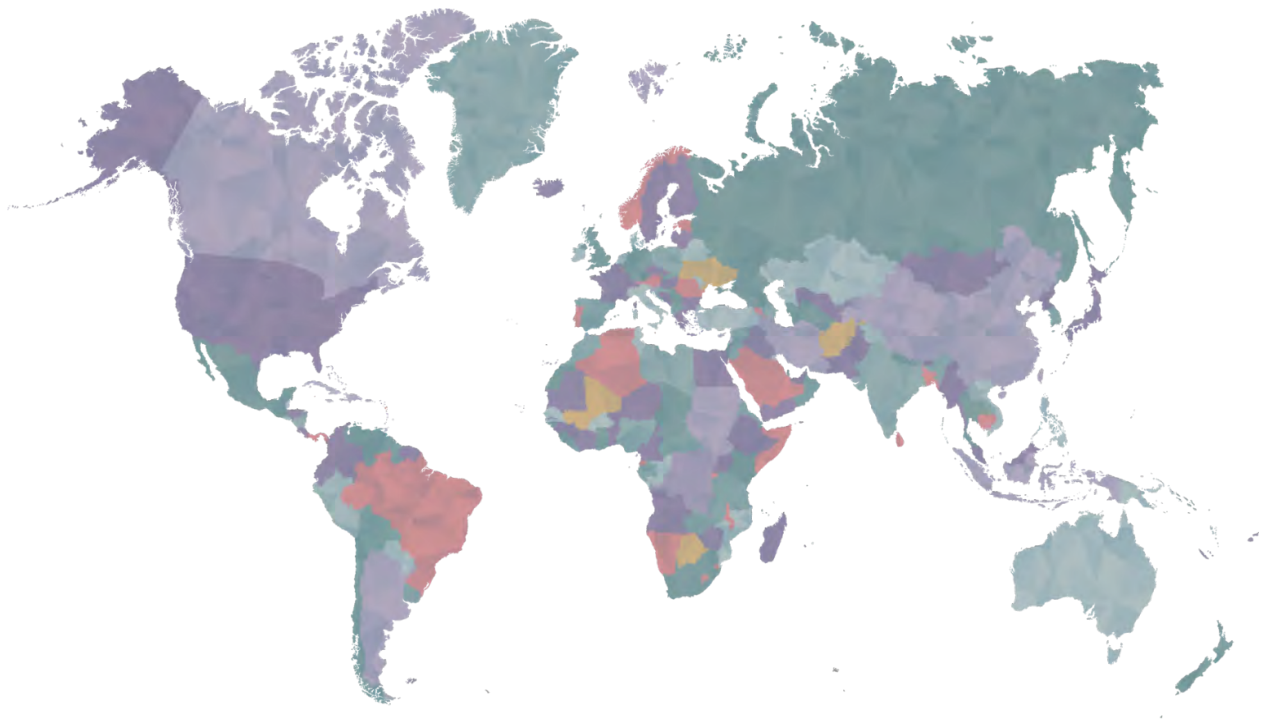


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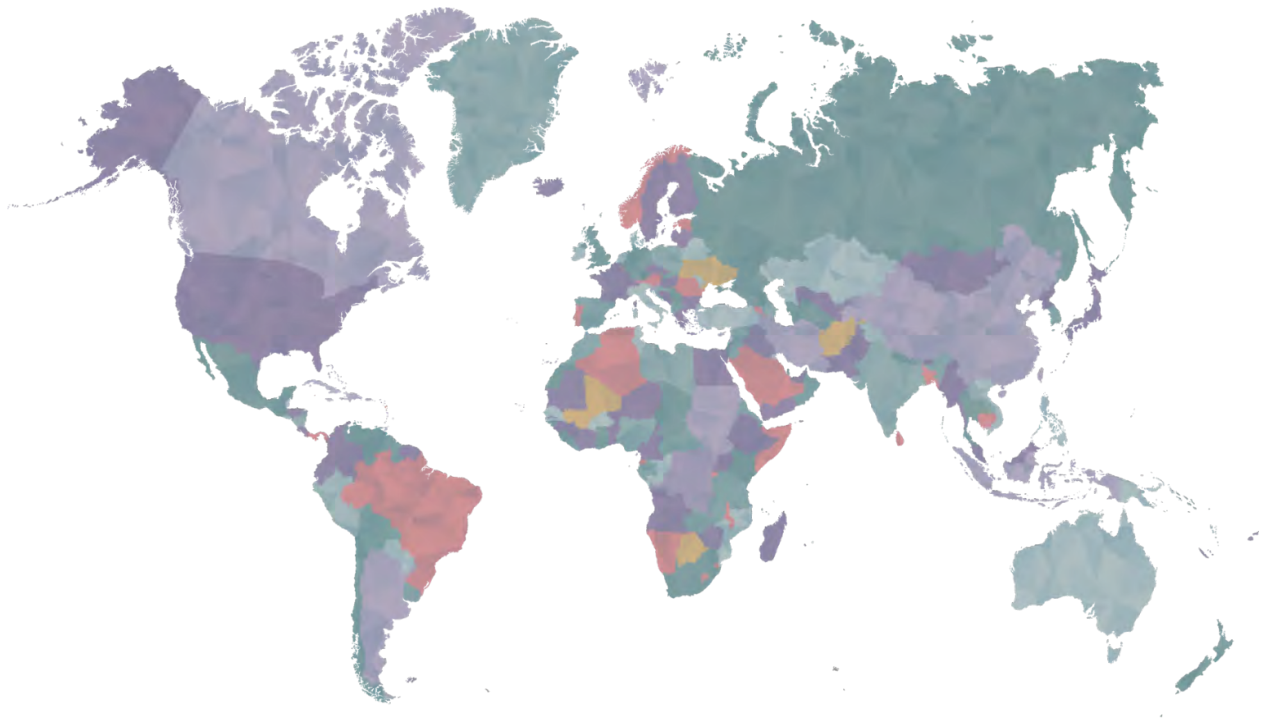
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PRESENTATIONS

GUEST SPEAKERS



Corruption and Economic Development: Does the Stage of Development Matter?

Lucile Sabas

*Assistant Dean of the College of professions & Associate Professor, Department of Accounting,
Economics & Finance, School of Business Administration, Andrews University, USA*

Abstract: This study assesses whether or not the impact of corruption on economic development and growth would be different depending on the stage of economic development of a country. Does the level of a country's economic development influence the impact of corruption on its social well-being? What was the experience of developed countries at the stage of economic takeoff? Will the transition period from the takeoff to the maturity level of development take longer in developing countries today due to corruption? Corruption seems to be an inherent problem in any form of government or organized society, regardless of the level of organization. It seems to have existed at all times. At the beginning of the organization of the people of Israel as a nation, GOD warned them concerning the prerogatives of the Kings who would rule over them and who would engage in abuses of power in their regard. In our modern society, corruption exists at different levels, whether in developed or developing countries. However, its devastating consequences are visible and significantly more evident in developing countries, as entire populations are condemned to live in persistent cycles of poverty and depravation. Like Lucas J. Uberti (2021), we used the “newly assembled indicator of corruption (V-Dem)” on a panel dataset of developed countries at their stages of takeoff and mass consumption, and developing countries at their stage of takeoff. We found that corruption has a negative impact on economic growth of the developing countries. Its impact on the development and economic growth of a country will be stronger at the early stage of development than it would be at the final stage, thereby delaying the transition to maturity of today's developing countries.

Keywords: economic development, stage of development, takeoff, economic growth, corruption, developing countries

Giving Voice to Values: An Innovative Approach to Teaching Ethics

Carlos E. Biaggi

PhD, Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration, Middle East University, Lebanon

Abstract: While corruption in governments, businesses, and society has an adverse effect on human rights, most frequent than not corruption is performed by individuals who desire to break the corruption cycle but who do not know how to do it. Hence, the importance of teaching strategies that would empower individuals to act based on their ethical standards. While the teaching of ethics in undergraduate and graduate programs has generally focused on ethical awareness (is this an ethical issue?) and ethical analysis (what is right or wrong in this situation?), it has failed to move to ethical action (how can I voice and act on my values effectively?). Giving Voice to Values (GVV) is an innovative approach to teaching ethics that fills this gap. Assuming that individuals know what is right, GVV helps individuals reflect on how to effectively voice and act on their values. By analyzing their values-based position, risks for each party and creating effective responses for anticipated common rationalizations, individuals are empowered to develop action plans that develop their moral muscle memory. Thus, using pre-scripting, rehearsing, and peer coaching, the GVV approach is helping thousands of individuals in all types of organizations around the world to live their values effectively.

Keywords: Giving Voice to Values, values, ethics, integrity, corruption, human rights

Corruption from a Human Rights Perspective

Nelu Burcea

PhD, Representative of the IRLA and SDA to the United Nations

Abstract: Corruption is a universal social phenomenon that manifests itself in various ways and has significant consequences for the economy and society. It is recognized that corruption has a detrimental influence on access to essential services and human rights, as well as the fact that it can worsen poverty and inequality and negatively impacts the most vulnerable members of society such as women, elderly, children, prisoners, minorities, migrants, refugees, persons with disabilities, indigenous people and others. Even though international human rights treaties do not clearly define corruption as a violation of human rights, various UN agencies and mechanisms have recently confirmed the harmful consequences of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights and have addressed the matter multiple times. This paper explores the connection that exists between corruption and human rights more closely and how corruption threatens non-discrimination, ethical values, religious freedom, and other major aspects of contemporary society. Furthermore, the paper examines the measures member states are taking to prevent and combat corruption and their challenges in implementing them, following the first-ever UN Special Session Against Corruption that took place in June 2021.

Keywords: human rights, economy, responsibility, inequality, corruption, United Nations

A Passage through the Labyrinth: On Women's Path to Leadership

Prof. Amal Nagah Elbeshbishi

*Chief, Employment & Skills for Sustainable Development Section
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Office for North Africa, Rabat, Morocco*

Abstract: Women in the workplace in many developing countries suffer under male-dominated hierarchies and traditional values shaping perceptions of appropriate divisions of labor. Research on women's career development reported that international organizations have few women in roles of elite leaders and top executives (Acker 2009; Bagilhole & White 2011; Broadbridge 2010; Davidson & Burke 2012). Little attention has been paid to problems confronting women leaders in developing countries. Knowledge on women leaders in developing countries is limited since reliable conclusions on causes of gender differences in managerial advancement differ from those in developed countries. In an ideal world, there should be a balance in the gender availability on leadership positions as the world is moving its efforts towards anti-discrimination practices. However, in a real world we find that inadequacy of career opportunities, gender-based stereotypes, gender inequalities and issues of discrimination with regard to participation and pay are among the common problems that women face. It is argued that women face these challenges in the developing world more evidently than their counterparts in the developed world. Hence, this gives room to investigate the various barriers that may hinder women from reaching leadership positions. Many theories were proposed to identify the reasoning behind holding women back from advancing to leadership positions. One of which is the "double-bind theory" which states that many leaders claim that women lack the strength needed to pursue work properly and are too sensitive to handle issues and problems, while -on the other hand- when women were recognized to enjoy the needed capabilities, their femininity will get hurt. Moreover, the "trait theory of leadership" states that women are short of some manly traits that would enable them to manage the business effectively. The purpose of this study is to investigate the factors that may affect women's ability to reach leadership positions. The study will highlight the influence of culture on the status of women. Next, a theoretical explanation regarding women, leadership, and labyrinth will be presented. This will be followed by a review of challenges facing women as leaders; these challenges include lack of leadership style requirements, male-dominated professions, lack of opportunities and other challenges that constitute key burdens to women's career progression. Then, the study will discuss strategies to navigate the career labyrinth to leadership positions. Finally, the study will conclude with a discussion on future research.

Keywords: Discrimination, gender, labyrinth, leadership, organizations

Election Integrity? How Restrictive Voting Laws Undermines Democracy

Kimberly S. Adams

Professor of Political Science, East Stroudsburg University, USA

Abstract: The 2020 election turnout in America was record breaking, with more than 157 million Americans casting their votes in the presidential election. The unprecedented number of voters at the polls and the election outcomes led some politicians to question the integrity of U.S. elections. In the 2021 legislative sessions, state legislators immediately began to draft bills “aimed at reforming election procedures” (Mena et al. 2021) and to ensure the integrity of the voting process. Many of these bills will limit voter access, and therefore, negatively affect racial minorities and disabled Americans' right to vote. To date, more than 400 bills with provisions that restrict voting access have been introduced in 49 states in the 2021 legislative sessions (BrennanCenter.org). This research analyzes the content of 30 restrictive voter laws signed into law across the U.S. in 2021 and will determine the gender, party affiliation, and race of their sponsors. Further, the research seeks to identify specific ways in which these laws could negatively impact voters and the 2022 mid-term election outcomes.

Keywords: integrity, election, U.S., voting

Looking for an Ideal Anti-corruption Response. A Biblical Perspective

Abner De Los Santos

Vice President, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists World Headquarters, USA

Abstract: Corruption is one of the most challenging problems facing contemporary society. It makes no difference in race, gender, age, culture, religion, or geography. But wherever it exists, it must be fought. Corruption from the biblical point of view is an irrationality of human beings. At the root of the problem of corruption is sin. The word corruption is used for the first time in the Bible in Genesis chapter 6:11, in connection with the story of the flood. It says that "the earth was corrupt" and "filled with violence." In this paper, from the Bible's perspective, we will explore how God, who "loves justice" and "hates robbery" (Isaiah 61: 8), confronts corruption and makes it clear that doing evil has negative consequences for both the individual and society. We will also examine some Bible verses that urge people to pursue righteousness and avoid corruption (Psalms 37: 37, 38; Proverbs 11:1; 13:11; 15:27; 20:10, 17; Jeremiah 15:19; 22:13, 17; Acts 24: 25, 26).

Keywords: Bible, anti-corruption, justice, consequences, society

The Impact of Religious Culture and Organization on Societal and State Corruption: The Case of the Carribbean Region

Nicholas P. Miller

*JD, PhD, Professor of Church History, Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, Andrews University
& Director of the International Religious Liberty Institute, USA*

Abstract: This paper examines the role of differing religious influences in the development of state and society in parts of Central America, specifically the Carribbean, and the variant impacts on corruption and economic development. It explores and reveals how hierarchical and authoritarian religious cultures correlate with higher levels of corruption and lower economic success, versus egalitarian and decentralized religious systems, which are strongly associated with lower levels of corruption and greater economic output. It examines some of the theology and history behind these competing systems, including the contribution of egalitarian theological ideas like the Protestant teaching of the priesthood of all believers and widespread education to greater government transparency, lower levels of corruption, and economic flourishing. It concludes with some reflections on why there might be a correlation between certain types of religious ideology, corruption, and economic success.”

Keywords: economic development, corruption index, protestant influence, priesthood of all believers, Carribbean development, religion and economics

Counterfeiting of the EU Digital COVID Certificate. Offenses and Penalties for Forgery and Use of False Documents

Nicoleta-Elena Hegheș

*Faculty of Juridical and Administrative Sciences,
“Dimitrie Cantemir” Christian University of Bucharest, Romania*

Abstract: The EU Digital COVID Certificate was introduced to facilitate the safe free movement of citizens in the EU Member States during the COVID-19 pandemic. When the infection rate with the SARS-CoV-2 virus increased, certain restrictions were imposed in most European countries, and the green COVID certificate became necessary for most activities or for entering public institutions. This paper focuses on counterfeiting offenses committed by some people to hide the fact that they are not vaccinated and those who take advantage of unvaccinated individuals seeking to get such documents in exchange for money. The offenses under the name of “Counterfeiting” constitute a well-defined and extremely varied category in the vast sphere of facts considered to be dangerous. False acts seriously undermine the truth and trust that must lead to the formation and development of human relationships (Duvac 2016, 395). This paper emphasizes the idea that using a false European COVID digital certificate is not a solution but a crime punishable by imprisonment. In the case of forgery, the social value that criminal law protects is public trust in things that have the legal authority to prove.

Keywords: European COVID certificates, criminal concurrence, forgery, use of forgery, public health

The Negative Impact of Corruption on Rule of Law & Poverty

Badri El Meouchi

Tamayyaz and Lebanese Transparency Association (LTA), Lebanon

Abstract: Regardless of which countries we choose to look at, corruption has a similar impact on the well-being of any system or nation. In fact, the more corrupt a system is, the more we can observe the following factors which have a dramatic impact on the financial status and legal rights of citizens:

- Less access to information, which leads to less accountability and provides political elites with more opportunity to mismanage national programs and their financing.
- Opaque public procurement systems, leading to clientelism in the types of companies chosen to execute public contracts (most often not based on Merit). This leads to a lower quality in the execution of such contracts, as well as wasted public funds. For example, in Lebanon, 56% of public contracts are consistently awarded to the same companies – most often such companies are close to (or owned by) Lebanese politicians.
- Weak public administrations which do not embody the key principles of public administration: neutrality, efficiency, effectiveness, representativeness and transparency. This leads to public administrations which are politicized and unable to provide basic needs and services.
- Weak or non-existent oversight bodies: this lack of independent oversight on public administrations leads to increased corruption and mismanagement of public funds and enables public administrations to take decisions which can sometimes be against the public interest. In Lebanon, for example, citizens pay some of the highest rates in the world for electricity, mobile communication and internet. These sectors are not regulated or independently monitored, leading to billions of dollars of wasted public funds and corruption.
- Weak independence of the Judiciary, thus leading to the erosion of rule of law, increased legal immunity of political elites and diminished ability to effectively protect human rights.

Transparency International's yearly 'Corruption Perception Index' (CPI) clearly demonstrates the results mentioned above. As a consequence, we see that well governed countries have less corruption, more rule of law, less poverty and a better human rights history (for example: Scandinavian countries, Western European countries, Canada, Australia and New Zealand amongst others – these countries consistently score well in the CPI. Compare that to Haiti, Sudan, Somalia, Iraq and Lebanon who consistently score badly in the CPI).

Keywords: corruption, countries, rule of law, Transparency International

Unequal World in Healthcare, Digitalization and Corruption

Julia M. Puaschunder^{1, 2}

¹*The New School, Parsons School of Design, Department of Economics, New York, USA*

²*Columbia University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, <http://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/jmp2265>*

Abstract: The currently ongoing COVID-19 crisis challenges healthcare around the world. The call for global solutions in international healthcare pandemic outbreak monitoring and crisis risk management has reached unprecedented momentum. Digitalization, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and big data-derived inferences are supporting human decision making as never before in the history of medicine. In today's healthcare sector and medical profession, AI, algorithms, robotics and big data are used as essential healthcare enhancements. These new technologies allow monitoring of large-scale medical trends and measuring individual risks based on big data-driven estimations. Examining medical responses to COVID-19 on a global scale makes international differences in the approaches to combat global pandemics with technological solutions apparent. Empirical research finds the world being unequal in regards to AI-driven global healthcare solutions. The parts of the world that feature internet connectivity and high GDP are likely to lead on AI-driven big data insights for pandemic prevention. When comparing countries worldwide, AI advancement is found to be positively correlated with anti-corruption. AI thus springs from non-corrupt territories of the world. Countries in the world that have vital AI growth in a non-corrupt environment are predestined to lead the world in breakthrough innovations in the healthcare sector. These non-corrupt AI centers hold comparative advantages to lead on global artificial healthcare solutions against COVID-19 and serve as pandemic crisis and risk management innovators of the future. Anti-corruption is also positively related with better general healthcare on a global scale. Countries that combine internet connectivity, anti-corruption as well as healthcare access and quality are considered to be ultimate innovative global pandemic alleviation leaders, in which access to innovation funding can drive leadership on future pandemic prevention. The advantages of access to affordable quality medical care around the world but also potential shortfalls and ethical boundaries in the novel use of monitoring Apps, big data inferences and telemedicine to prevent pandemics should become scrutinized in future global healthcare governance.

Keywords: Access to healthcare, Algorithms, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big data inferences, Coronavirus, Corruption, COVID-19, Decentralized grids, Digitalization, Economic growth, Healthcare, Healthcare Inequality, Inequality, Innovation, Market disruption, Market entrance, Monitoring apps, Pandemic, Prevention, Telemedicine, Unequal world

Considerations When Developing Business Data Analytics Projects

Denise E. Burrill Simion, PhD

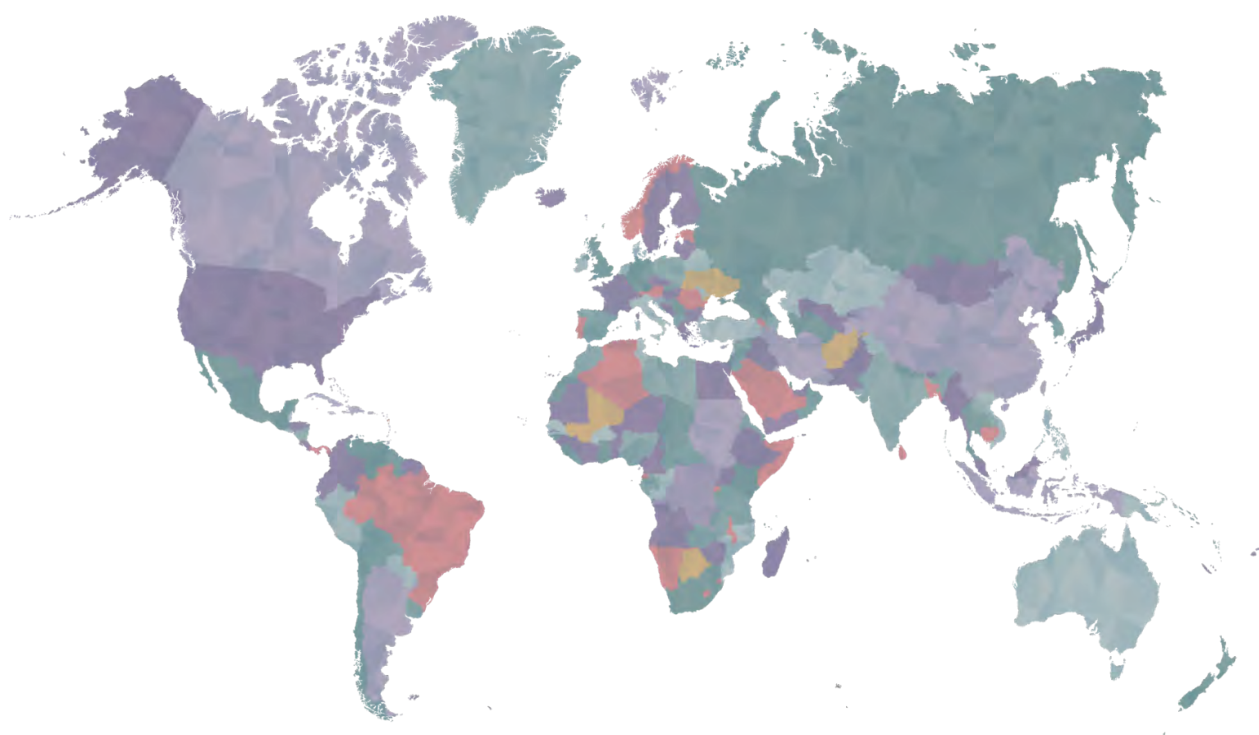
*Assistant Professor of Management Information Systems in the School of Business
at Fitchburg State University*

Abstract: Businesses are increasingly more reliant upon using Data Analytics in making key business decisions and formulating strategy from the individual divisions to the overall corporate trajectory. This paper explores the interconnectivity of organizational behavior, project management, and data science. To ensure optimal success there needs to be distinct alignments in following areas: Company Structure, Measurements, Use, Privacy, and Potential Discrimination. Determining where a company is on its data science maturity level will allow projects to decide how to proceed. Knowing how to determine a potential data project's return on investment (ROI) will provide the decision makers a clearer view on investing into developing Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to make events happen, to making predictions, or running less complex analytics. All the while companies need to be cognizant of the various legal regulations regarding use of personal data (customers, vendors, employees, etc.) Finally, algorithms are subjected to having it perpetrate discrimination when utilizing past data and practices. This paper attempts to explain the key factors to help businesses develop a clear plan when utilizing analytics.

Keywords: business, data analytics, analytics, data science

PRESENTATIONS

English language



Ethics and the Evaporation of Lebanon's Bank Deposits

Danny G. Farah

MBA student, Andrews University off-campus at Middle East University, Lebanon

Abstract: From October 2019 onwards, individuals and organizations in Lebanon have suffered from an evaporation of their bank deposits due to the devaluation of the Lebanese Lira and capital controls. The purpose of the paper is threefold. First, to shed light on the factor(s) that led to the amendment of the constitution, the social pact designated by TAEF Agreement. Was it an agreement of integrity or a surrender document? Second, to point out the involvement of USD to a LBP exchange rate over the time line, pegging and unpegging it, and how both, the financial private sector, namely the banking system, and legislative bodies and relevant parliament committee(s) collaborated and cooperated, implicitly (tacitly) and/or expressly, and played a fundamental role that led to the ongoing collapse of the economy, financial and monetary systems while trampling on human rights. And third, to highlight the moral schools, if any, on the timeline that might have been adopted and that allowed the concerned parties to persist in their unprecedented corruption that led to the current situation. The presentation ends with conclusions and recommendations.

Keywords: Lebanon, crisis, bank deposits, ethics, integrity

Review into the Psychological Perspectives of Plagiarism and Its Correlates

Anindita Gupta

*Assistant Professor, Department of Human Development,
Acharya Prafulla Chandra College, West Bengal State University, India*

Abstract: The psychology of plagiarism helps us understand the different factors that influence our activity. Cause and effect are the most important elements of our actions, decisions and thoughts. Therefore, we can say that plagiarism, which has specific causes and effects, is also associated with many other factors. The psychology of plagiarism is present in a dual mode. The personal psychology of human behavior is the main cause behind the behavior of copying others and finding a shortcut. Perrin (2018), Larkham (2009) and Culwin (2001) explained that plagiarism is the use of an author's words, ideas, reflections and thoughts without acknowledging the author. According to Fishman (2009), plagiarism occurs when someone uses other's words or ideas, without acknowledging the source from which it was used. Fishman also said that, in this case, the authors are legally expected to be the original author. Considerable researches show that the key personality traits responsible for plagiarism may be derived from the Big Five model of personality. Personality traits explained in the Dark Triad like Psychopathy, Machiavellianism and Narcissism also help us identify persons who are more likely to plagiarize. Keeping this backdrop in mind, the paper tries to find out the perspectives of plagiarism and its correlates. Understanding the psychology behind plagiarism will help us find ways to communicate and eradicate the reasons behind plagiarizing. However, as there is a dearth of research works in this area, research areas like Big Five Personality Traits and Dark triads with respect to plagiarism need to be explored in order to find out the root cause of plagiarism and rectify it.

Keywords: plagiarism, psychology, big five personality trait, dark triads

The Effects of Corruption on Effective Delivery of Quality Education in Nigerian Public Secondary Schools

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Abstract: Corruption is a cankerworm to societies and its disastrous effects on the overall national development of any nation where it is prevalent cannot be overemphasized. Anywhere corruption is prevalent, development in any sector of such society becomes difficult. In Nigeria, however, corruption has always been the order of the day since the country's final return to civilian rule in May 1999. Thus, corruption has impacted virtually every aspect of the Nigerian economy. In this regard, the educational sector is not left out, as continuous massive corruption over the years has led to various infrastructural insufficiencies which invariably lead to poor academic stance, poor educational delivery and lack of quality education in public secondary schools all over the country. In Nigeria secondary schools today, various challenges bringing about barriers to quality education are prevalent and most of these challenges are linked to massive corruption by the stakeholders involved in the sector. This worrisome situation calls for the urgent need to tackle the growing and unending trend of corruption in the educational sector so as not to further limit the delivery of quality education in the country. The research adopts a descriptive survey research method through the use of the questionnaire data collection tool. The findings revealed that corruption in the educational sector results in lack of funds for effective educational projects which can improve quality education in the country. The research sheds more light on the disastrous effects of corruption on public secondary schools. The research therefore recommended major policies, which if properly adopted, could help regain the lost glory in the Nigerian public secondary schools.

Keywords: corruption, education, public secondary schools, policies

System Change Transformation of Healthcare

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Abstract: Following the call of the Foundation of the World Economic Forum (WEF) and its founder Klaus Schwab for a System-RESET, researchers are currently searching for concrete strategies to instigate system changes to alleviate the currently ongoing Coronavirus pandemic and avert climatic threats to our society. Only an immediate transformation of the health system can bring about personalized prevention and large-scale salutogenesis needed today more than ever. The ability of doctors and clinics, but also the support of responsible employers to implement salutogenic prevention in the working community culture should also be guided by the government to support long-term oriented companies with subsidies for far-sighted prevention and whole-rounded healthcare. Above all, in light of the potential COVID-infection long-term effects, a forward-looking focus with attention to the non-specific immune system and harmony with the environment can avoid further external stressors and weather-related problems, especially in the "adaptation to stress" related to climate extremes. This paper emphasizes that the promotion of general healthcare of the future could encourage citizens in their self-determination and bestow human with dignity within the framework of health care, preventive protection and general salutogenesis in the egalitarian access to a common good of general health and well-being through a reformed general healthcare system in harmony with the environment. Clients and patients gain decision-making quality, maturity and dignity when the health system promotes individualized prevention and holistic salutogenesis in harmony with the environment. Overall, the coronavirus crisis is experienced as a unique opportunity to sustainably improve the healthcare system in more independent decentralized information exchange, telemedical revolutions, the use of AI, digitalization and robotics for long-term care of COVID Long Haulers and in an urgently-needed transformation of the healthcare system to avoid ecological and economic catastrophes.

Keywords: Algorithms, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Coronavirus, COVID Long Haulers, Digitalization, Dignity, Ecology, Healthcare, Innovation, Prevention, Robotics, Salutogenesis

The Path to a Corruption Free Order: Exploring the Gandhian Perspective

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Abstract: Corruption is one of the insurmountable problems faced by all modern-day economies. As per Transparency International, around 70 percent of the countries score an index of less than 50 and the world average stands at 43 for the year 2018. The index for India is 41, a slight improvement from the value of 38 in 2015, which could be explained by some initiatives taken by government in the recent past to reduce corruption, including demonetization, the introduction of a more transparent taxation system in the form of Goods and Service Taxation (GST). Corruption is rightly stated to be endemic in Indian economy. It has engulfed the public sector undertakings, has been reported in the government run welfare programs such as Public Distribution System (PDS), mid-day meals and even in provision of infrastructure, health and education. Needless to say, as a result, the benefits do not reach intended beneficiaries resulting in widespread poverty. The study intends to explore these channels through which corruption endemically flows in all the lifelines of economy. Though corruption is the chief problem, the others such as crime and violence, unemployment, inequality and financial irregularities and crisis are no less damaging and in fact are likely to propagate the former. The precedence given to economics and market over ethics and morality is at the root of the corruption problem. Mahatma Gandhi would have viewed these disorders as adharm, and in fact, he was prescient as he did warn about these dangers arising from a reckless living style. The study explores the multi-faceted ways in which corruption has manifested itself in Indian economy. It then goes on to present the Gandhian perspective and the scope for 'bottom to top' approach as the permanent path for reducing corruption and improving accountability.

Keywords: Mahatma Gandhi, corruption, economy

Decentralization and Effective Forest Governance: Case of Van Panchayats of Uttarakhand, India

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Abstract: This paper sheds light on the decentralized institution engaged in governance of forest in Uttarakhand, India. In the natural resource management and development debate, decentralization is considered an imperative to promote community empowerment, sustainable and equitable distribution of resources and participatory development. The community's active participation in the governance of forest resources is considered pertinent because locals possess better knowledge of resources, socioeconomic and ecological conditions as well as constraints, share mutual interests, easier formulation of rules in unanimity, and settlement of conflicts at lower costs. Though the idea of decentralizing forest resources was being promoted globally in 1980s, decentralized forest governance was prevalent in Uttarakhand in the form of *Van Panchayats* (Village Forest Councils) since 1931. This decentralized governance model was inceptioned in 1931 under Scheduled Districts Act, 1874 (Kumaon Forest Rules, 1931). It emerged out of conflicts between the British rulers and the local community. Conceding the demands of forest community, local communities were entitled with the power to formulate the rules for use, access, disposal and management of forest resources with little intervention from state under the VPs Act. Communities were free to manage and sell forest resources based on their needs. These VPs are currently managing forest area of 7,32,688.9 hectares in Uttarakhand. Reviewing the VP Act, this paper will discuss the institutional mechanism of VP. Based on FGDs with 13 VP members, it will then discuss the extent to which these arrangements address the concerns of 3Es i.e. equity, efficiency and effectiveness at ground level. The study reflects mixed results. The efficient VPs are also producing effective results in terms of transparency, accessibility and inclusiveness.

Keywords: decentralization, effectiveness, equity, efficiency, forest resource, community participation, Van Panchayats

People's Perception of E-Governance as a Tool to Control Corruption

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Abstract: 'E-Governance' or electronic governance is the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to provide services to the people. E-Governance is also known as 'SMART' – Simple, Moral, Accountable, Responsive and Transparent government. E-governance helps in removing many hurdles in the delivery of services to the people, by providing services to the people at their convenience thereby bringing efficiency and effectiveness in administration. It is also considered to be an effective way to deal with the menace of corruption by providing a simple, moral, accountable and transparent government that removes the middleman in the provision of services to the people. The researcher presented a paper in 2004 titled *E-Governance a SMART way to Tackle Corruption in a Regional Conference on Corruption*. In 2004, E-Governance was in the nascent stage in India and has now come a long way. The pandemic COVID-19 has also hastened the process of extending e-governance in all fields, including education, medicine and provision of welfare services. This paper assesses people's perception of E-Governance as a tool to control corruption in the current times. It is based on the primary data collected by the researcher from the people of the Union Territory of Chandigarh. The data will be analyzed using appropriate statistical techniques. The paper will also compare the results of the previous study conducted by the researcher.

Keywords: E-Governance, corruption, SMART Governance, ICTs

The “New Normal” Modalities in Algerian higher Education: A Recalibration of the Old Paradigm

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Abstract: It's no secret that the COVID-19 pandemic has wreaked havoc on educational systems across the globe. Within this “new normal” situation of teaching, the teachers often have a fair share of challenges, including ensuring that the quality of learning is maintained, even in the absence of face-to-face interactions, from lesson planning to class conduct and assignment distribution. Hence, universities in Algeria have moved some of their classes online to ensure continuity to the teaching and learning process and minimize the spread of COVID-19 infection. But for this to happen, digital equity must become a priority for the sector of higher education and for society. The pandemic has shown that internet access isn't a luxury but a necessity – not just for access to learning but to enable graduates to thrive in a world of work increasingly reliant on digital technologies. If we are to prevent unequal access to the internet from further entrenching existing inequalities in education, then we cannot and must not wait for another crisis to force our hand. Presently, there are a lot of technologies available for online teaching and learning processes but sometimes they create certain constraints like technical issues as downloading errors, issues with installation, login problems, and problems with audio and video. Therefore, this presentation will address several challenges, implications, and possible future directions for distance learning in higher education with a reference to the case of Algerian universities. This indicates that there is a window of opportunity here and now to diversify learning experiences, to expand learning opportunities, and to enable more people to surmount the traditional barriers that still dictate who gets to learn and who gets to teach.

Keywords: new normal education, challenges, Algerian higher education, technology

Industrial Espionage

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Abstract: Competition has always been the fair play in the business world. Thus huge rivals to micro enterprises strive to exist and grow. However, at some point, the meaning of what is known as integrity the business ethics tend to cease. Recently, the word “competition” has been taking a different form that is “Industrial Espionage”. It is the very corrupting act that several enterprises, disregarding their sizes, use to develop and compete. Nevertheless, it is very interesting to note that the first act of industrial espionage had taken place in 1712, where father Francois Xavier d’Entrecolles had revealed the manufacturing methods of the Chinese porcelain in Europe. This was broadly emerged during the 18th century between Britain & France to the start of its booming phase in the second half of the 19th century. Nowadays, the revolution of technology has been facilitating the frequent occurrence of this industrial spying. Moreover, the essential component of computers and phones applications is the internet where it has been the main tool for the broadest espionage scandals recorded cases in the 20th century. As a result, some countries have put sanctions for such espionage acts. Furthermore, and to maintain the competition role under the limitation of legal and ethical activities, “Competitive Intelligence” has been attained. Competitive intelligence is also known as CIS (Competitive Intelligence Solution) or CRS (Competitive Response Solution). This tool is used to examine newspaper articles, corporate publications, websites, patent filings, specialized databases, and similar activities to determine information on a corporation. Nonetheless, more clarifications should be publicized to spread the awareness on the difference between competitive intelligence and industrial espionage within the legal limitations. Hence, this would secure a more equal world through a fair business environment.

Keywords: competitive intelligence, espionage, integrity, business ethics

Rethinking Development in Twenty-First Century

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Abstract: Development is known for the growth and progress of an individual and society. It not only involves economic growth but also enhancement of capabilities and giving opportunities and choices. Moreover, it also gives priority to right-based approaches of development which encompasses a comprehensive social, economic, cultural and political process. Therefore, human rights approach to development is found integrated and multi-disciplinary. On this premise, this paper attempted to rethink 'development' in 21st century. A theoretical framework based on human capabilities has been developed to understand development. It has argued development in a sustained and human-oriented perspective. This paper reflects and rethinks development from a 21st century standpoint; therefore, a systematic review analysis is done to gain deeper insight. According to our findings, first, there is the need to distinguish between *positive* and *evaluative* meaning of development. With positive meaning, people don't agree to share ethical values, if development is defined as a high monetary income. With evaluative meaning, development is defined as high quality of life, where people usually share ethical values. Second, there is a need to understand why positive and evaluative meaning often becomes interrelated. This paper also examines the various reasons for rethinking 'development' in the light of the new emerging realities of 21st century. Various substantial reasons are found, *poverty, inequality, injustice* and *lack of effectiveness* in development policies. From the developmental analysis, human-centered development has been subjugated by unprecedented economic growth. In fact, there is an along gap between a person's ability to use opportunities, and the abilities or capabilities are the outcomes of opportunities used. Indeed, development policies should be oriented towards the formation of individual capabilities. It could be concluded that development is to be human-centered, and that should be the end of every development rather than a mere means.

Keywords: Development, Human Rights, Human Capabilities, 21st Century

Governance and the Challenges of Resolving Conflicts in the Post-Truth Age in Africa

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Abstract: The biggest challenge of our time has been growing misinformation and finding truth amongst the fakes. An experience that is cracking on efforts of democratic values and good governance in running better societies, eradicating corrupt practices, and in resolving conflicts in the post-truth age in Africa. In this study, I use the current Anglophone crisis in Cameroon as case study for my analysis. The crisis, which spans four years and ongoing has been a battle between government forces and separatists' fighters mainly from the two English speaking regions of Cameroon (Northwest and Southwest regions). The separatists have been fighting for their own independent country called 'Ambazonia', due to long years of marginalization, poverty and the feeling of not belonging. Often described as the Anglophone crisis, the conflict has left more than 3500 dead, 700, 000 displaced persons with an increasing amount of them running into neighboring Nigeria for their safety. In 2018, the Norwegian Refugee Council named it the most neglected crisis in history. This study shows how the Anglophone crisis motivates in-depth academic research on the causes of state-based conflicts, civilian victimization by State and non-state actors, showing how all sides are guilty of war crimes and offenses against humanity. Also, it looks at the role of false propaganda that limits conflict resolution within a dictatorship - the role of actors such as the press, the government and non-state armed groups in how they manipulate or document reports to maintain their own side of the story. Lastly, the study seeks approaches that are open to new strategies and tactics that can establish truths that promote sustainable ways for good governance and democratization with the hope of creating a corrupt-free society.

Keywords: Africa, Anglophone crisis, Cameroon, challenges, conflicts, corruption, governance, post-truth age

Corruption in Medicine on the Example of Judgments of Professional Courts in Poland

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Abstract: The problem of corruption in health care is a severe phenomenon for patients, both for public patients and their families. Corruption in the health care sector is a problem that cannot be ignored, or a pathology that should be stigmatized and combated. In Poland, corruption is a prosecuted crime for which there are punishments. In the case of public professions, such as a health profession, that is also a professional one, the penalty is imposed within the framework of professional self-government. The main task of the judicial self-government is to cleanse the health care circles of those who would put a stain on the good name of healthcare workers. Failures to preserve this state have contributed to the spread of corruption. The analysis of the judgments of professional courts from 2015-2019 shows that the corruption phenomenon in this control group concerns insurance of medical judgement, mainly in the field of occupational medicine. In the case of occupational medicine, a medical professional gives a statement in which they allow a person to work in a certain profession based on examinations, medical examinations and an assessment of potentially harmful situations the person may find themselves in. Occupational medicine examinations are mandatory for everyone, for certain jobs such as a bus or a train driver, these mandatory evaluations are even more important as these professions may have the safety of other people in their hands. For this reason, the penalties for corruption with occupational medicine should be very harsh. Examination of the type of penalties in such cases show the true state of affairs.

Keywords: health protection, doctors, occupational medicine

Corruption in the Nigerian Industrial Sector: The Underdevelopment Implications

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Abstract: The importance of the Industrial Sector to the Socio-Economic cum Human Development of any particular Society cannot be overemphasized. The Industrial Sector does not only provide employment for the teeming population of any particular Society, but also goes ahead to contribute significantly to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of that particular Society which is a prerequisite for Growth and Development. Regrettably, the Nigerian Industrial Sector has been in a near comatose state since 1999 due to Corruption. This chapter examines Corrupt Practices in major Sectors of the Nigerian Industrial Sectors like the Ajaokuta steel plant, Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), and the Power Sector. Using systematic review methods, secondary data like journal articles, annual reports, and newspapers were used to examine the forms, causes and implications of corruption in the Nigerian Industrial Sector. The chapter reveals that lack of accountability, greed, funds mismanagement, lack of prosecution of corruption offenders are the major causes of corruption in the industrial sector. It was also discovered that laundering of public funds, awarding contracts to family and friends (nepotism) and kickbacks from awarding of contracts (bribery) are some of the major forms of corruption in the industrial sector. Corruption in the sector has a negative implication and has hindered and slowed down growth and development in the industrial sector and the economy at large. The paper recommends that an individual caught in the act of corruption should be prosecuted severely as that would serve as deterrence to potential corrupt individuals. Government should endeavor to revive and resuscitate the Ajaokuta steel plant as that will go a long way in contributing to the growth and development of the industrial sector.

Keywords: corruption, underdevelopment, industrial sector

Corrupting the Nature: Denying the Right to a Healthy Environment in Indonesia

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Abstract: The government-owned cement company decided to build a new cement factory in Kendeng, the Northern part of Central Java. This new factory will jeopardize not only the surrounding physical environment but also the local culture of the indigenous people. Despite the issuance of several acts concerning environmental protection, the government itself denied the regulations. The local dwellers decided to bring the case before the administrative court. The research was done as a participatory action research by joining the inhabitants who are affected by the establishment of the factory to drafting the lawsuit, providing legal expertise by examining government document. The research found that the provincial government was breaching the law as it was indicated by the decision of the court to withdraw the permit to build the factory. However, instead of obeying the decision, the government decided to continue to build the factory by withdrawing the “old permit” that was asked by the court, and issued the new permit. Moreover, the government filed a lawsuit against the people who protested the establishment of the factory under the civil and criminal court. The government employed the Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation (SLAPP) as a method to silent the people. By doing so, the provincial government corrupting their own law and threatening the right of the people to express their opinion

Keywords: corrupting, government, human rights, violation, environment

Digital Plagiarism in Online Assessments and Students' Awareness on Plagiarism

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Abstract: Plagiarism is a concept that challenges and compromises academic integrity, especially in higher education. Academic integrity is a quality that needs to be inculcated in undergraduates from the inception of their academic life. The online learning and assessment practices that were exponentially expanded in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in universities throughout the world, prompted a renewed attention on academic dishonesty and plagiarism. Online learning environment favors plagiarism, as well as the detection of it than in the conventional learning and assessment modes. This study was conducted as a result of widespread plagiarism reported in online assessments conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to find students' perceptions and practices related to plagiarism in examinations, a preliminary study was conducted among a group of 280 science undergraduates who sat for online assessment, using a questionnaire. The degree of plagiarism occurred in their online formative assessments submitted was also checked parallelly. Interviews were also carried out subsequently with 20 randomly selected students to get more insights into their perceptions and issues related to the preventive practices of plagiarism. The evaluation of online assessment answers revealed that there was a significant percentage of plagiarism >25% among 70% of students. The study led to identifying a misunderstanding on the concept and practices against plagiarism. Although 80% of students mentioned that they took measures to reduce plagiarism during the online assessment, most students were unable to clearly distinguish how the verbatim, copy and paste without acknowledgment and paraphrasing etc contribute for plagiarism. The interview with these students revealed that some of them were not aware of the concept of plagiarism and also on the practices to avoid plagiarism. This outcome, from a cross section of students in higher education demands immediate action to educate them on practices that reduce plagiarism.

Keywords: academic integrity, online formative assessments, academic dishonesty, plagiarism, science undergraduates

Can Education Address the Problem of Corruption?

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Abstract: The journey of humanity from animal to social being traversed with certain controlled practices which cause it to ensure its prolonged survival on Earth without disruption. Amid this process of imbibing those practices, one is expected to follow them through defined and structured paths. These paths were created through religion, morality, ethics and later on insertion of legal provisions to ensure the smooth functioning of the system where individual can perform one's role in a harmonious manner. But all these subtle and direct efforts made to create a transparent and trustworthy world through different stakeholders of the society seem to get nullified when some tend to achieve the success or to meet their vested interest by following unethical practices falling under the broader purview of corruption. Corruption as the opposite of honesty has corroded in several ways the quality of living in almost all the countries of the world, but on a relative note, this is more prevalent in underdeveloped and developing countries where due to poverty, historical legacy and political systems, people started perceiving corruption as the only way to live a peaceful life. For example, in India, more than fifty percent people were involved in practicing corruption either by giving bribe or using the power to influence the subject. With this background, this paper attempts to deliberate over the prospect of including education as the means to bring awareness in the society about the negative impact of corruption and evolve themselves to follow the practices that enable them to create a corruption less society. The methodology of the paper is descriptive in nature wherein review of literature has been done to authenticate the idea. The paper concluded by giving recommendations related to education to create a corruption less society.

Keywords: corruption, human institutions, education

Impact of Al-Ingaz Regime's Corruption on the Human Rights in Sudan (1989-2019)

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Abstract: Corruption has a multidimensional impact on human rights regarding goods and services' availability, quality, and accessibility. It hinders the role of law and prevents the stakeholders from accessing the institutions of the justice system. Al-Ingaz (Salvation) regime came to power in Sudan on 30 June 1989 and fell on 11 April 2019 by a popular revolution that started on 19 December 2018. During these three decades, Al-Ingaz practiced a multifaceted corruption that affects human rights in terms of the expression of freedom, the practice of political rights and accessibility of essential services, including education, public health welfare, housing, electricity, and water. Al-Ingaz's corruption increased the poverty rate throughout the country. The study aims to identify the direct and indirect impacts of the Al-Ingaz regime's corruption on human rights in Sudan. The study will review the international corruption indexes as well as the relevant national and international reports. The study will also address the relationship between corruption and the authoritarian regime to conclude a deep understanding of the impact of corruption on human rights. The culture of corruption will be analyzed through how it was established and spread among the governmental agencies. The mechanism of corruption will be highlighted as well. The expected results will highlight the strong relationship between corruption and human rights in Sudan. The results will benefit the policy and decision-makers, and stakeholders.

Keywords: corruption, human rights, Sudan

Limited Access to Health Services as a Risk of Irregularities in the Health Care System in Poland

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Abstract: Health and human life are the highest values. Such values, like limited goods, are subject to rationing. Demand for health services is essentially unlimited so rationing becomes a necessity. The health care system in Poland provides everyone with equal access to services, regardless of the amount of the premium paid or the professional, economic or social status. However, the rationing system forces economic differentiation among patients and often discriminates against certain groups of patients, such as the elderly, who are "not worth treating." Economic rationing means that their cost is considered first and foremost. Their beneficial effect on the health of the individual is given less consideration. The Polish legislator, faced with the problem of a limited number of services, has defined the principles of the queue system. Health care services are provided on a first-come, first-served basis, and placement on a waiting list is based on medical criteria. These include: the patient's state of health, prognosis for the further course of the disease, coexisting diseases, and risk of disability. Rationing of health services calls into question the guarantee of the right to health care. It is also questionable whether the queuing system is really guided by transparent rules. They are undoubtedly defined, but in practice, such a system may generate irregularities. Waiting time may mean that some patients do not get treatment. Some will opt out and use a paid private service, even though they have insurance that entitles them to publicly funded services. A queue system may also induce corrupt behavior in order to obtain services without system constraints. Some physicians will be inclined to disregard legally defined guidelines and take into account the social utility of the patient or other considerations, including personal considerations (social contacts, acquaintance, friendship). The existing system can therefore mean consent to deprive some patients of treatment, paying for health services themselves and often acceptance of corruption in the health care system.

Keywords: health, health care system, rationing of health services, health security, corruption

Human Rights and the Upbringing of Children Through Cross-Curricular Topics from an Early Age

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Abstract: The competencies that a child acquires during compulsory primary education are not necessarily related to a specific subject but are also acquired through interdisciplinary topics and lifelong learning. The Croatian curriculum covers seven cross-curricular topics through which we develop children's social and personal development, teach them civic education, and often use information and communication technologies through learning. All seven curricula are arranged according to common guidelines and are implemented through domains and educational cycles. We achieve outcomes through different methods and forms of work within each subject and through cooperation through different projects. It is important to emphasize the joint cooperation of all teachers and professional associates. Cross-curricular theme Personal and social development includes the development of responsible behavior and care for personal health and quality of life as well as the quality of relationships with others within the community. The fundamental values promoted by learning and teaching Civic Education are responsibility, human dignity, freedom, equality and solidarity. Proper use of information and communication technology is one of the prerequisites for effective participation and decision-making in the digital age. Educational expectations of interdisciplinary topics are part of all teaching and extracurricular activities of students.

Keywords: social development, personal development, civic education, primary school education, cross-curricular theme

Controlling Corruption: Frameworks Adopted in India

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Abstract: Corruption was identified as ‘the single greatest obstacle to economic and social development’ by the World Bank in 2001. It is important to constitute a framework for controlling corruption amongst nations across the world. This paper analyses the Institutional/Administrative framework adopted to control corruption in India. Prominent among those include Central Vigilance Commission, E-Governance, Lokpals, Central Bureau of Investigation and Direct Benefit Transfer. Various legislative acts have also been enacted from time to time. Corruption weakens efforts to create an egalitarian society and eliminate poverty. The poorest of the poor are the worst affected in the long run. The paper focuses on the steps taken to control corruption and gives suggestions based on the functioning of current frameworks. The developing countries are more critical with respect to corruption and adequate methods need to be adopted and updated periodically to enable nations to combat it.

Keywords: corruption, prevention, legislative acts, frameworks

Corruption as an Obstruction in Development: Glimpses from India

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Abstract: More citizens are negatively affected by corruption, which is increasing in almost every aspect of society. This paper analyzes the corruption in India, which is considered a consequence of cooperation between public officials, politicians, and the organized crime sector. Corruption means any act or omission on the part of an authority that is illegal, immoral, or incompatible with ethical standards in society. In this presentation, the term corruption is used to describe any action or omission by an authority that is illegal, immoral, or incompatible with ethical standards applied in society. As Mahatma Gandhi eloquently said, "corruption and hypocrisy ought not to be inevitable products of democracy, as they undoubtedly are today." Unfortunately, the effects of corruption have almost inevitably spread to many societies. Bribes, for example, have at least two motivations, which will be described in this study. The first reason people usually bribe public officials who are decision-makers is to influence changing the right direction of the decision in their favor using illegally and immorally methods. It means to deviate from the purpose for which the product or service has been created. Changing the right direction of things will help divert the purpose for which the product or service has been created. The second reason someone bribes a public official is to convince them to do the right thing at the right time. Without this compensation, no one would be motivated to do this service or make those decisions that morally and legally should be made. And this, the second one is not less culpable than the first one. It creates a context of corruption and encourages other people to do so. This paper aims to assess the impact of corruption on society and to help determine the corrective actions that should be taken. Additionally, I will discuss how education, religion, and ethics can help people fight corruption by strengthening their sense of responsibility.

Keywords: Corruption, bribes, society, India, development, ethics, and religion

Psychological Correlates of Social-Emotional Learning among Children of Incarcerated Parents: A Systematic Review

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Abstract: There is an emerging mental health crisis among millions of children residing in different parts of India. Countless risk factors pertaining to a child's behavior, feelings and adjustment in the community lie unrecognized. Research suggests that educational institutions, family environment and support groups are direct contributors in the development of social and emotional competencies in children. Children of incarcerated parents have a deprived supply of familial support and care, they often experience feelings of loneliness and sadness during the period of their parent's imprisonment. In addition, facing incarceration and upholding the difficulties it imposes on families left behind, make it important to address mental health and ensure children develop adequate skills for their emotional well-being. The proposed area is underrepresented and the glaring research gap is evident. A 2013 national survey reports 87 percent of teachers believe SEL will help prepare students for the workforce. In this paper, the researcher will undertake a systematic review of social-emotional learning and related curriculums presently active in educational setups. It encompasses a review of articles, research done on social-emotional learning with an aim to provide a thorough presentation of concepts of psychological well-being reflected in the modules in practice. The preliminary results of the research reflect a gap in linking emotional needs with teaching in schools. Following an in-depth analysis of preliminary research results, recommendations for writing instruction will be presented. Through the study, the researcher has tried to take a step forward in the direction of uplifting the socio-emotional needs of children in India. This will help integrate social-emotional needs of children of incarcerated parents within existing policy frameworks, catering to mental health needs of children right from an early developmental age to foster independence and nurture growth.

Keywords: social emotional learning, children, incarceration, systematic review, India

Economic Inclusion and Domestic Violence Against Women in 21st Century India

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Abstract: Domestic violence includes both the actual abuse as well as threats of abuse. While on the other hand, economic inclusion means the participation of females in economic activities. Generally, economic inclusion is dependent on various factors. Some of these factors are education and labor force participation. Economic inclusion may have a positive impact on intra-household bargaining power because the rise in labor force participation or rise in education made the female to be empowered. Domestic violence is a major problem that exists in Indian society but there are very few policies that focus on minimizing it. The reason is the lack of research on the topic and some of the studies that try to address this problem have some major limitations. The primary purpose of this study is to find out the relationship between the economic inclusion of women and domestic violence. The study obtains quantitative data from secondary sources for the period of 2000 to 2019. To obtain the data on domestic violence the reliable source is the data provided by the National Commission for Women (NCW). Using the time-series regression analysis, this study explores the relationship between domestic violence and the Economic Inclusion of females in the 21st century that is how the change in female labor force participation and gross enrolment rate has an impact on the domestic violence they face. The collected data is longitudinal, so this study used the time-series analysis and causal research design to obtain the relationship between said variables. The probable result may be that the rise in female economic inclusion will cause a decrease in domestic violence cases.

Keywords: domestic violence, economic inclusion, female labor force participation rate, education, India

Current Issues in the Study of Mental Health

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Abstract: The purpose of the research is to analyze the level of spread of mental and psychological disorders in the modern period. Experts predicted a "tsunami of mental illness" after the COVID-19 pandemic with its long-term impact on mental health. Restrictions imposed due to the coronavirus have led to a noticeable increase in the number of cases of severe depression among the population. The age group from 18 to 25 years was particularly affected. The prevalence of mental disorders is expected to increase in the post-pandemic period as a result of restrictive measures introduced, such as social distancing and quarantine. 20% of those who have had COVID-19 have mental disorders for 90 or more days. Most often, these are anxiety, depression, and insomnia. Mental disorders after 6 months in people (236,379 US patients) who had COVID-19: anxiety disorders – 17%, other affective disorders – 14%, couples abuse - 7%. 25% of the population suffers from depression or anxiety. 800,000 people die each year as a result of suicide, the second most important cause of death among people aged 15-29 years. Depression is a very common mental disorder characterized by boredom, loss of curiosity, inability to enjoy, feelings of guilt or low self-esteem, sleep disorders, fatigue and poor concentration. Recovery from depression is not the absence of negative affective symptoms, but the restoration of normal emotional functioning, the ability to be yourself and experience positive emotions and enjoy life. Appropriate means of preventing these negative phenomena, as well as special psychotherapeutic techniques, help to significantly improve the level of mental well-being of the individual.

Keywords: anxiety, depression, mental health, mental disorders, self-esteem

Climate Change, Crime, and Human Rights: A Geographical Analysis

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Abstract: Climate change compromises the effective enjoyment of a wide range of human rights, including the rights to life, water and sanitation, food, health, housing, self-determination, crime, gender issues, culture, and development. In this study, we attempt to identify the relationship between climate change, crime, and human rights, as well as potential resilience, mitigation, and adaptation strategies. By critically reviewing various existing ideas about climate change, crime, and human rights, this study identified the possible thinking and future ideas. In the context of climate change, this study constructs an argument based on societal issues such as crime and a lack of human rights. As a contribution to existing knowledge, we argue why and how to conceptualize climate change spatially in order to achieve the goals of social sustainability, human freedom, and rights.

Keywords: climate change, justice, crime, human rights, human development

Can I buy you a Religion?

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Abstract: Owing to the rapid rise in consumerism, the world has experienced an exponential rise in economic growth. In the words of Huntington (1996), a nation's culture is an integral element of its Economy. Croucher, Zeng, Rahmani, & Sommer (2017) further strengthened the claim by deducing the inseparability of religion and culture. Weber (1930) argued that religiosity had a significant impact on economic development, thereby bringing the interplay between consumerism and religious practices into question. Based on the findings of El-Bassiouny (2014), Jamal & Sharifuddin (2015) and McAlexander et al. (2014), which highlighted that the consumption of food items is often influenced and guided by religion, the current research extends a deeper understanding of the influence of religion and spiritualism on consumer behavior by exploring the relationship between spirituality and religiosity. This research is based on secondary data collected from various publications of governmental organizations, announcements of foreign governments or international bodies and their secondary magazines, research journals, books and newspapers and also a careful review of reports and announcements of various institutions connected with the current topic. The research has also considered reports published by research scholars, universities, data analysts, etc., in different fields, statistics available for reference, historical documents, and other sources of published information. In synch with the findings of Shah, Jalil, & Shah (2020) about trust being a vital economic variable, Arli et al. (2016), Katz (1960), Shavitt (1989), underlined that religiosity and spirituality define the core values of individuals, making the point of reference coherent (Snyder & DeBono 1985). This reference point interacts with the public/private understanding of goods thereby impacting their choices.

Keywords: religiosity, spirituality, consumerism, consumer behavior

Incarcerated Mothers: Is There any Impact on the Children?

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Abstract: The number of women prisoners has been increasing. There is a great need to study women in prison as women are the primary caregiver of the family. This research Showcases the impact on the children and the effect on the families of imprisoned women. The method used for the present research is qualitative research, where descriptive research analysis was also used with the source of information based on secondary data. This study explores the fact that women prisoner often comes from poverty-stricken background. It has been witnessed that they are serving their sentences because of the domestic situation in order to provide for the family or to fund their partner's addiction. However, being the primary care taker of the children, because of their imprisonment, their children had to face poor financial conditions, homelessness and isolation. The policies and programmes that are taken up by the government have helped the mothers and children feel less awkward when they come together for visits. This has helped the mothers and children to retain or build their relationship and also have helped the women to become a better functioning member of the society.

Keywords: women prisoner, primary care-taker, children

The Need for a Pluralistic Mentality

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Abstract: God the Creator created man free, with the possibility of choosing between good and evil. The element of freedom and the ability to choose and express one's freedom is one of an ontological nature, it is essential and planted in our human being. The ability to understand each other and his needs depends on each of us. The pluralistic mentality will also take into account the opinion and need of the other. Pluralism is a fundamental element of the structure of contemporary modern democratic societies in all aspects, whether we are talking about political pluralism or economic pluralism, ethnic pluralism, cultural pluralism, religious pluralism, it is absolutely necessary to assimilate and accept and understand needs of plurality, of the existence of several opinions and not to try to impose our opinion on others. Obviously, the forms of intolerance can be overturned at any time in the public mind. Religious denominations must be constantly on the lookout for relations with the state, because it can happen at any time that a person within a central or local authority can generate certain abuses in its relationship with a religious community. We must recognize that the problem of religious freedom is not a given forever, but it can disappear overnight. Religious freedom does not start only from the legislation regarding religious freedom, but also from our entire behavior and our relationships with the other, with the neighbor, that is, more precisely what the Savior Jesus Christ teaches us about the relationship with the other. Who is my neighbor? That is the fundamental question, and once we have clarified who our neighbor is, we will know how to respect him and reach the stage of respecting religious freedom.

Keywords: religious freedom, mentality, religious pluralism, abuse

Belief Systems of the Western Himalayas: A Case Study of Shimla Hills

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Abstract: India is a country of contrasts and diversities. Its vast landscape, from Himalayan Mountains to Indian Ocean, has been a cradle of diverse forms of life, culture and knowledge. Himalayan region boasts on its peculiar ethnography, culture, vegetation, biodiversity and wisdom, which are replete in every aspect. In the past century, this region gradually paced towards modern paradigms of development but kept its peculiar socio-cultural aspects intact. However, the 21st century marks a watershed phase in rural as well as urban spheres of the Himalayan life. The intersection of the indigenous, national and trans-national cultural imperatives seems to have affected the poise of the region, which has set the currents for a new hybrid or amalgamated heterogeneous scenario. This paper aims to interrogate, evaluate, and discuss how emerging cultural trends in this region have impacted the lives of the people in this area. The paper will also discuss how the waves of modernization and globalization have influenced the belief system in the Himalayan landscape and how this cultural diffusion has led to cultural dynamics in this region of Western Himalayas.

Keywords: Folk beliefs, Traditions, Supernatural

The Corruption Disaster of Africa: Pragmatic Development Perspectives on Currents and Undercurrents in Nigeria

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Abstract: Corruption is the most important reason most African countries remain underdeveloped. Of major concern, however, is that while corruption remains a fundamental human rights issue, rather than corruption abating on the African continent, it is actually becoming more deeply entrenched, more aggressive, more pervasive, more creative/innovative, bolder, more systemic and more existentially dangerous and life-threatening. It is in an attempt to better understand corruption and its implications for human rights in Africa that this paper adopted the case study of Nigeria to contribute to knowledge on this very crucial issue of corruption because corruption is the overarching reason for most other problems affecting human rights in Africa and Nigeria, be it poverty, insecurity, unemployment and mis-governance among others. The choice of Nigeria as a case study is based on objective reasons. Empirical data suggest Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa, it is one of the most resources endowed countries on the continent, it is the biggest economy in Africa, it is one of the most corrupt nations in Africa and the world and it is one of the most underdeveloped countries of the world. Through unobtrusive research design and over 20 years of primary insights, researches and lived experiences of the author in/on Africa/Nigeria, this paper extensively examined the extent, nature, causes, deep-seatedness, drivers, trajectories, ramifications and solutions to the corruption problem of Nigeria in manners that provide a sustainable roadmap to development in Nigeria and Africa.

Keywords: corruption, development, human rights, Nigeria, Africa

Impact of COVID-19 on Rural Education: Reflections from Colombia

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Abstract: The aim of this research is to analyze the strategies implemented by institutions located in rural areas to guarantee the continuity of education during the closure of schools due to the health emergency in Colombia. The information comes from 21 semi-structured interviews conducted with secretaries of education and rectors of institutions. Some of the most recurrent strategies were the delivery of physical guides and nutritional supplements provided by the Programa de Alimentación Escolar (PAE for its acronym in Spanish) in the students' homes. The implementation of this program has presented acts of corruption that have affected the vulnerable population even in crisis contexts. On the other hand, in rural contexts where connectivity through cell phones was possible, WhatsApp was used as a means of communication between teachers and students. In other municipalities, alternative knowledge transmission mechanisms such as radio were used. Likewise, to avoid dropping out, environmental programs were continued from their homes and academic visits were made to the homes of students with low performance and a high probability of dropping out of their studies. New programs were also implemented that responded to the needs of students amid the pandemic. In any case, the lack of support from teachers and interaction with peers had negative consequences on the quality of rural education. Despite the efforts made by some directors-teachers, it cannot be disconnected that due to acts of corruption and government neglect, millions of children cannot receive virtual classes due to the lack of connectivity in rural areas, aggravating the situation with the latest act of corruption. by the Ministerio de Tecnologías de la Información y las Comunicaciones de Colombia.

Keywords: pandemic, school closure, educational inequalities, school guides, corruption

Funding

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Corruption and Women Human's Rights in India

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Abstract: Human Rights are the natural rights possessed by every individual. These rights have been considered as alienable and sacrosanct rights which are essential for overall as well as individual growth of every human being. Hence, the State has been responsible for upholding and protecting these rights. However, human rights of women have always been a critical issue because of the global discrimination faced by them since time immemorial. This, further, resulted in emergence of different forms of corrupt practices. Corruption mainly trims down the availability of resources for emancipation of poor and vulnerable sections of society. Likewise, corruption has significantly impacted women's empowerment and resulted in the infringement of their human rights. It is the by-product of numerous factors such as gender, context, race, socio-economic status, power relations, vulnerability and so on. The present paper, therefore, aims to study the causes and forms of corrupt practices that results in violation of human rights of women in India. The paper analyzed, on the basis of secondary data, that the magnitude of violation of women's human rights has increased manifold due to the prevalence of corruption. Social, economic, political, legal and psychological causes, further, catalyse such gross violation of human rights of women. Thus, creating gender equality and gender mainstreaming could be the effective tools to fight and prevent corruption against women.

Keywords: human rights, women, gender inequality, gender mainstreaming

Corruption and Human Rights Violation by Police in India

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Abstract: In a democratic society, police is the primary law enforcement agency to protect and preserve human rights of citizens. It is assumed to act as the benevolent defender of people's fundamental rights and act as the custodian of public peace and human rights. Ironically, police is, usually, accused of violating human rights in India. Different forms of custodial violence, torture, ill-treatment of women and children, fabricating false cases against innocent persons and attempt to save real culprits, lock up deaths, custodial rapes, acts of omission and commission against weaker section, poor and less privileged, unwarranted arrests, unlawful searches and excessive use of force are some of the manifestations of human rights violations. Further, other practices that attributes to human rights violations by the police are rude and discourteous behavior of police, refusal to entertain complaints, over-bearing attitude of police, minimizing the attitude of offence, biased investigation, unjustified searches and arrests conducted by the police. Such violation has been heavily attributed to prevalence of corruption in police system. This is so because corruption mainly leads to abuse and misuse of authority in an administrative system. The present paper, thus, aims to study the perception of citizens in Chandigarh regarding the violation of human rights due to corruption. The primary data collected through questionnaire and its analysis identified that citizens ideally believed that corruption and violation of human rights are directly related to each other. Hence, creating awareness about human rights among citizens and providing human rights training to police personnel could act as deterrent against such violation.

Keywords: police, human rights, citizens, police training

Moral Injury among Healthcare Professionals during the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Abstract: The current COVID-19 pandemic has led to an exponential rise of morally conflicting situations. Exceptionally challenging situations, when mediated by the biopsychosocial factors of an individual, can foster unintended negative mental health issues. In ethically difficult scenarios with enforced changes like lockdown and quarantine, there is a violation of moral codes and deeply held moral beliefs leading to an increased risk of moral injury. Immediate challenges are reshaping human behavior, which will have a long-lasting impact on the experience of moral injury. Considering the unpreparedness and low-resource setting of the world as a whole, it becomes important to shed light on the potentially morally injurious events and their far-reaching consequences during and after this pandemic.

Keywords: moral dilemma, pandemic, moral conflict, COVID-19, moral injury

Climate Change and Social Justice: A Study on Human Health and Safety

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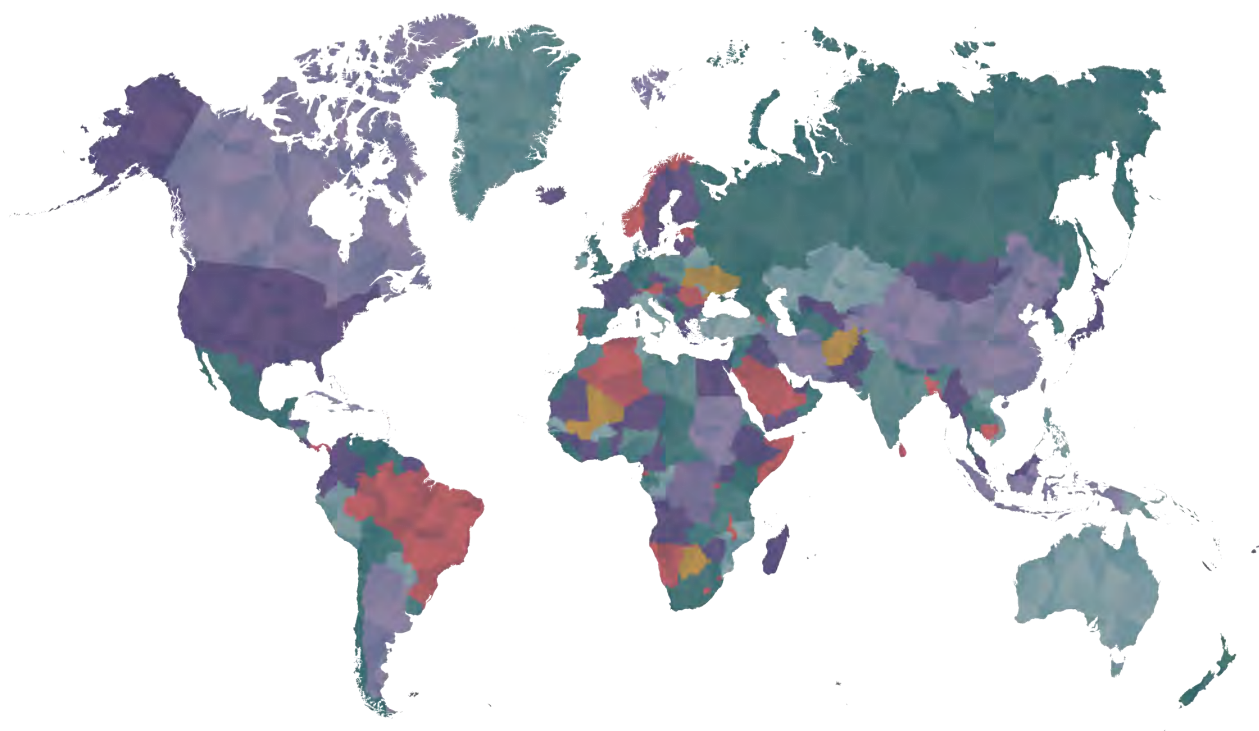
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Abstract: This study attempts to build a new line of argument in the reconceptualization of social justice and sustainability while centering around the question of Social Justice in terms of climate change. Climate change aggravates already existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. People who face intersecting inequalities as a result of discrimination based on gender, gender identity, disability, race, ethnicity, economic status, and age, among other factors, are among those least likely to be able to withstand the unavoidable effects of climate change. Inequality and climate change must be addressed concurrently. By critically reviewing various existing ideas about climate change and social justice, many ideas were found to have an impact on human health and safety, which was related to equality and justice. This study constructs an argument based on climate change-related social thinking, such as health, violent conflict, displacement, human trafficking, loss of livelihoods and wages, food and water insecurity, housing, and poverty. And the arguments presented will aid in the purpose of climate change resilience and adaptation. As a contribution to existing knowledge, we argue why and how to conceptualise climate change spatially in order to achieve the goal of social justice and sustainability.

Keywords: equality, poverty, social justice, human development, climate change

PRESENTATIONS

Spanish language



El Derecho a la Educación Frente a los Conflictos Armados y la Corrupción Política

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Resumen: El presente trabajo analiza las lesiones que se configuran contra el derecho fundamental a la educación en el marco de los conflictos armados, y los aspectos de la corrupción política que inciden en este flagelo. Para ello se hace un repaso de los alcances y contenido del derecho fundamental, así como de la situación de los conflictos armados en el presente siglo, donde algunos enfrentamientos parecen perennizados. Como tal, se ha determinado que los conflictos armados y el perjuicio que cometen contra el proceso educativo terminan afectando a toda la comunidad educativa, siendo los estudiantes los que llevan la peor parte. Asimismo, la situación involucra tanto a agentes pasivos como también, en el caso de los menores, cuando estos últimos intervienen de forma activa como “niños soldado”. Finalmente, se resalta la urgencia de adoptar medidas más efectivas en torno a la problemática, teniendo en cuenta que en el Perú, debido a los conflictos subsistentes, muchos niños ven lesionados sus derechos, y los agentes gubernamentales, con graves denuncias de corrupción en muchos niveles, son incapaces de afrontar. Lamentablemente, por la corrupción se desvían fondos urgentes de invertir en el sistema educativo, sumamente limitado producto de la pandemia COVID-19 y con más desafíos que nunca por afrontar. Un caso particular se suscita en el VRAEM, afectando a un sector vulnerable que ve su integridad constantemente en riesgo, pero también se alejan de cualquier oportunidad de progreso al verse truncado su acceso a la educación. Las políticas a adoptarse demandan todo el apoyo y esfuerzo de la comunidad nacional e internacional.

Palabras clave: corrupción, COVID-19, conflictos armados, educación

El Judaísmo Mesiánico en la Cresta Angosta

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Resumen: Martin Buber acostumbraba a usar la frase “la cresta estrecha” para referirse a la inseguridad de su Filosofía del Diálogo o Filosofía del Encuentro, como prefería llamarla, la cual no descansaba “en las amplias tierras altas de un sistema filosófico basado en una serie de afirmaciones seguras sobre lo absoluto, sino en una cresta rocosa y estrecha que sobresale entre los mares, y donde no hay seguridad de conocimiento expresable, sino la certeza de encontrar lo que permanece, lo no revelado” (Between man and man, 2004, p. 218). Esta metáfora sirve para mostrar que, de igual modo, pero en otro sentido, que todo judío creyente en Jesús de Nazareth como el Mesías, se encuentra en una situación precaria, como si viviera en una “cresta estrecha”, rodeado por los mundos del Cristianismo y del Judaísmo. Al judío mesiánico, los judíos lo califican como idólatra y no le reconocen como judío; y los cristianos le acusan de “haber caído en la esclavitud de la ley”. En un mundo desigual, en donde las minorías religiosas sufren por la violación de sus derechos y al mismo tiempo les cuesta mucho hacer oír su voz, el Judaísmo Mesiánico, siente que su libertad religiosa está bajo amenaza permanente. Eso es cierto en muchas partes del mundo, y mucho más grave en Israel. Debido a esta situación, se desea aprovechar este foro internacional para exponer este caso, para llamar la atención a las iglesias cristianas y a las comunidades judías, a dejar un lado el espíritu sectario y tender puentes de comunicación con el objeto de crear un clima de convivencia pacífica en el cual ocurran encuentros fraternales del tipo “Tú y Yo”, como enseñaba Buber.

Palabras clave: Judaísmo Mesiánico, Libertad Religiosa, Martin Buber

El Rol de la Libertad de Expresión en la Lucha contra la Corrupción: Un Análisis a la Luz del Caso Bedoya Lima y otra vs. Colombia

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Resumen: La libertad de expresión es un componente esencial para cualquier estado democrático, ya que promueve la plena realización personal de quien se expresa y facilita el intercambio de ideas que es necesario para la deliberación sobre los asuntos de interés general. A su vez, puede concebirse como un derecho que colabora en dar a conocer estructuras ilícitas y secretas con las que trabajan quienes cometen actos de corrupción. Si bien este derecho protege a todas y cada una de las personas, tiene una especial relevancia en quienes ejercen la profesión del periodismo y la comunicación, especialmente cuando investigan, informan y denuncian actos de corrupción. Como el objetivo de las personas corruptas es mantener sus actos fuera del conocimiento público, la libertad de expresión de los periodistas y comunicadores, permite que se produzca un cierto control por parte de la sociedad sobre las actuaciones ilícitas de los gobiernos. El objetivo de esta presentación será exponer sobre cuál es el rol de la libertad de expresión en la lucha contra la corrupción. Para eso, desarrollará la idea de la doble dimensión (individual y colectiva) del derecho a la libertad expresión y la del deber que tienen los Estados de garantizar un ambiente libre de amenazas para los periodistas y comunicadores que dan a conocer actos de corrupción. A su vez, estudiará la sentencia dictada por la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos para el caso Bedoya Lima y otra vs. Colombia, del 26 de agosto de 2021.

Palabras clave: libertad de expresión, corrupción, Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos

La Feminidad y el Trabajo en un Mundo Globalizado

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Resumen: El trabajo desde el enfoque económico es considerado como el conjunto de actividades que se realizan para atender necesidades humanas, producir bienes y servicios, alcanzar una meta, solucionar un problema, requiere continuamente ser revisada, no sólo el reconocimiento de equidad de género para otorgar autonomía e igualdad de oportunidades en el trabajo con mejoras salariales en las mujeres, sino porque es un ser con iniciativas personales, capaz de desarrollar acciones complejas, donde le permiten alcanzar la perfección de su condición humana. El propósito del estudio es enunciar aproximaciones positivas del trabajo, como también revalorar el papel que desarrolla la mujer en el mundo actual. El análisis sistémico de la investigación se sustenta desde una revisión de documentos, que permiten unificar los diferentes criterios del trabajo profesional y manual. El resultado encontrado refleja el papel esencial de la dimensión femenina dentro de una sociedad altamente tecnológica y cada vez más deshumanizada, donde se atribuye para esta nueva realidad, el reto de construir una cultura del cuidado.

Palabras clave: mujer, feminidad, trabajo, virtud

Efectos de la Corrupción Sobre el Derecho a la Libertad Religiosa en Colombia y México

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Observatorio de Libertad Religiosa en América Latina, Paraguay

Resumen: En América Latina, la corrupción es la mayor limitante para el desarrollo de la democracia. El Estado, en ocasiones, ‘cede’ su autoridad a actores no estatales de manera no deseada, ya sea como resultado de su ausencia territorial o directamente o por acuerdos o alianzas ilegales. Tanto en Colombia como en México, las guerrillas, los cárteles de narcotráfico y otros grupos ilegales ponen en riesgo diversos derechos humanos. El hostigamiento y uso de la fuerza de estos grupos prevalecen, en ocasiones, gracias al consentimiento de las autoridades, lo que posibilita el afianzamiento del poder de estos grupos y mayores dificultades para combatirlos o denunciarlos. En territorios donde las autoridades involucradas en estas alianzas no cuentan con credibilidad, los líderes religiosos gozan de mayor respeto y confiabilidad por su labor como defensores de los derechos humanos, libertad y justicia, y como promotores de denuncias de crímenes o actos de corrupción. Este rechazo a la mentalidad y actividad criminal, o el trabajo por un cambio social, pueden ser percibidas como un cuestionamiento al ‘estatus quo’ de estos grupos criminales, implicando riesgos a la seguridad de los líderes religiosos. Para detener su influencia, guerrillas y cárteles recurren a la intimidación y sumisión a través de medios violentos, asesinatos, extorsiones, secuestros, amenazas y desplazamiento forzado, entre otros, para reforzar el control en sus territorios. Como consecuencia, el poder obtenido por los grupos criminales como resultado de la impunidad, corrupción y colusión con agentes estatales o agentes socioeconómicos, que, en apariencia, pueden desarrollarse de manera legal, magnifican el riesgo de líderes y comunidades religiosas en México y Colombia, ya que muchas de las acciones violentas no son atendidas, sino que, por el contrario, son una constante que limita el ejercicio integral del derecho a la libertad religiosa.

Palabras clave: corrupción, libertad religiosa, grupos criminales, México, Colombia

Impunidad en Casos de Violencia Sexual contra la Niñez como Problema Estructural del Estado

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Resumen: La violencia contra la infancia es una grave vulneración de derechos humanos que aún no se ha logrado atender de manera integral por parte de los servidores públicos de países como Colombia, en donde la impunidad por delitos relacionados con actos de violencia sexual es de un 94%, cifras que revela una realidad crítica y preocupante. A pesar de que los operadores de justicia han iniciado a realizar revisiones internas y reflexiones sobre la atención que se le está dando a niños y niñas víctimas de estos delitos, la indiferencia ante la impunidad y la re-victimización persisten, vulnerando de forma directa la dignidad humana de aquellos cuyos derechos deberían prevalecer. Recientemente, desde el Consejo de Estado de Colombia, en el marco de un ejercicio que analizó los niveles de impunidad del país, se encontró por ejemplo que en el 2007 se realizaron 42.576 investigaciones en la Fiscalía de las cuales solo 5,6% terminaron con sentencias condenatorias, las restantes, en decisiones absolutorias o de preclusión. Adicionalmente, un reciente análisis de 34 sentencias, en las que se ordenó la indemnización de los agresores sexuales, arrojó un dato importante: muchas de estas decisiones estuvieron basadas en estereotipos y prejuicios machistas y adultocentristas por parte de servidores públicos responsables de garantizar los derechos humanos, especialmente de las poblaciones más vulnerables. Estas creencias se configuran en obstáculos que impiden materializar los derechos humanos de los niños, niñas y adolescentes, sumado a fenómenos presentes en toda la región como lo es la tolerancia social, la inexistencia de datos objetivos, el subregistro o la ausencia de atención estatal en las zonas apartadas. Con este panorama: ¿Se están cumpliendo los compromisos adquiridos a través de los tratados internacionales para hacer efectiva y oportuna la respuesta que la infancia y la adolescencia merecen?

Palabras clave: Estado, niñez, impunidad, injusticia, violencia sexual

Derechos Humanos y un Mundo Tecnocivilizado

Freddy Daza Roncal

Resumen: La Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos DUDH establecida en sus 30 artículos, el 10 de diciembre de 1948 una respuesta a los “actos de barbarie ultrajantes y fatídica para la conciencia de la humanidad”. Valores y Derechos fundamentales, como el “Derecho a la vida, la supervivencia, el desarrollo y la dignidad humana, hoy no son más que derechos en decadencia, por la pérdida de valores y principios, en lo político, económico, social, cultural y religioso. La sociedad sin fronteras (Aldea Global) ha roto “padigmas y conductas arquetípicas”, cimentadas El neo humanismo tecnocivilizado ha roto las tradiciones subsistentes de los valores y principios instaurados por el judeocristianismo en gran parte del mundo, principios y valores que enseñaban al hombre, las sendas de la Justicia, lealtad, honestidad, la solidaridad. Cuando se lanzo al mundo la declaración universal de los derechos humanos, por las circunstancias que ocasiono la segunda guerra mundial, los hombres de las naciones, eran hombres de talla, de valores y principios, conservadores, altruista, patriotas de sus naciones, entonces garantizaban la declaración de las naciones Unidas, la conducción de los pueblos por los derroteros, de la justicia, la verdad y la solidaridad. El hombre de hoy, se forja, instantáneo, emprendedor, agresivo, hombre tecnocivilizado, individualista, de muchas aspiraciones y logros, en una sociedad que levanta altares a la ciencia, a la tecnología y excluye a Dios. Hombre que exalta las cualidades propias de la ciencia moderna que quiere dar un sentido racional a lo decadente, pero en el fondo es un ser, vacío y solo. Con el devenir del tiempo, la declaración universal de los derechos humanos, tendrán cabida en los pueblos del mundo, se lograra erradicar de la mente y del corazón del hombre a Dios a cambio de los dioses de la ciencia?

Palabras clave: derechos humanos, dignidad humana, mundo tecnocivilizado, valores

El Goce Efectivo de los Derechos Humanos: ¿Un Desafío Político o Normativo?

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Resumen: La Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos de 1948, no solo constituyó un instrumento fundamental que vino a consagrar expresamente aquellos derechos considerados esenciales, sino que dio lugar al surgimiento de numerosos tratados y convenciones internacionales que reconocerían -a todos los miembros de la familia humana- aquellos derechos que tienen por base la dignidad intrínseca de todo hombre, y que deben ser respetados y garantizados por el Estado. Por su parte, a nivel nacional, tuvo lugar un fenómeno similar de crecimiento del reconocimiento normativo de los derechos humanos -en particular, en las constituciones nacionales- dando lugar a un fenómeno -especialmente relevante en los países latinoamericanos- de *constitucionalización* de los derechos humanos. Sin embargo, esta explosión de derechos no necesariamente se tradujo en una mayor eficacia de los mismos, ni en una garantía real de goce efectivo. Esta realidad se explica -al menos parcialmente- si se consideran los altos índices de corrupción estructural presentes en la región y que tienen consecuencias negativas para el sistema democrático, el Estado de Derecho y los derechos humanos. En general, se observa que los países latinoamericanos con instituciones democráticas más sólidas y mejores índices de transparencia, son los que menos derechos constitucionalizados tienen. Y en sentido inverso, aquellos países con menores índices de institucionalidad democrática, son los que tienen un mayor número de derechos humanos reconocidos constitucionalmente. Esto pone en evidencia, que la garantía de los derechos humanos no se satisface -exclusivamente- con reconocimientos normativos, sino que este reconocimiento debe ir acompañado de políticas públicas tendientes a fortalecer la institucionalidad y erradicar la corrupción.

Palabras clave: institucionalidad, transparencia, derechos humanos, eficacia, reconocimiento normativo

Dar Voz a los Valores: Un Enfoque Innovador para la Enseñanza de la Ética

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Abstract: Si bien la corrupción en los gobiernos, las empresas y la sociedad tiene un efecto adverso sobre los derechos humanos, la corrupción con mayor frecuencia la realizan personas que desean frenar el ciclo de corrupción pero que no saben cómo hacerlo. De ahí la importancia de enseñar estrategias que empoderen a las personas para actuar con base en sus estándares éticos. Si bien la enseñanza de la ética en los programas de grado y posgrado generalmente se ha centrado en la conciencia ética (¿es esta una cuestión ética?), y en el análisis ético (¿qué es lo correcto o incorrecto en esta situación?), en general no hemos logrado pasar a la acción ética (¿cómo puedo expresar y actuar sobre mis valores de manera efectiva?). Darle Voz a los Valores (DVV) es un enfoque innovador para la enseñanza de la ética que logra pasar a la acción. Partiendo de la presuposición que las personas saben lo que es correcto, DVV ayuda a las personas a reflexionar sobre cómo expresar y actuar eficazmente sus valores. Al analizar su posición basada en valores, los riesgos para cada parte, y la creación de respuestas efectivas para las racionalizaciones comunes anticipadas, los individuos son capacitados para desarrollar planes de acción que desarrollen su memoria muscular moral. Por lo tanto, mediante la preparación de guiones, el ensayo, y el entrenamiento entre pares, el enfoque DVV está ayudando a miles de personas en todo tipo de organizaciones alrededor del mundo a vivir sus valores de manera efectiva.

Palabras clave: Darle Voz a los Valores, valores, ética, integridad, corrupción, derechos humanos

Integridad, Libertad y Confianza: Una Comprensión Integral de la Corrupción y sus Efectos en los Derechos Humanos

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Resumen: No puede hablarse de corrupción sin atender la fuente de la que emana: una consciencia colectiva errada, que institucionaliza la mentira y sus efectos perversos como forma de relacionamiento humano. En Venezuela, la ideología del odio y la violencia se nos impuso bajo una narrativa de justicia social y bien común, anclándose en las esferas más íntimas de las personas, deshumanizando la convivencia social e imposibilitando el desarrollo personal más elemental. Siendo venezolana y habiendo vivido lo vivido, haría mal si en este foro hablara solo de principios de gobernabilidad y transparencia, sin referirme al criterio orientador de la acción moral, ya que, sin él, estos principios quedarían vacíos. Es mi deber esta tarde invitarlos a buscar, encontrar y expresar libremente la verdad, para la concreción de la paz social de manera general y de la libertad humana de manera individual. Los venezolanos somos víctimas de la corrupción, evidenciada en un 94% de pobreza y más de 6 millones de exiliados. No es necesario que enumere las violaciones de DDHH que se desprenden de estas estadísticas, que van desde la negación del acceso al agua hasta torturas carcelarias. Tampoco es necesario que profundice en cómo la dirigencia opositora ha violentado nuestra dignidad innumerables veces. Nuestra situación es abrumadoramente noticiosa y evidente. Lo que sí es necesario precisar es que ya no nos domina el odio. En este largo calvario hemos madurado nuestra alma de pueblo. Desde las instancias ciudadanas hay una mayor comprensión de que la corrupción es la institucionalización de la mentira y que estamos en nuestro derecho a resistirnos a estas prácticas de manera individual. Los venezolanos somos libres de conciencia, lo que es mucho más valioso que gozar de las libertades fundamentales, constitucionales y de tratados internacionales que se nos restringen desde el poder.

Palabras clave: corrupción, derechos humanos, libertad

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