

## **INNOVATIVE WAYS TO SPREAD ANTI-CORRUPTION AND DEMAND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE COUNTRY.**

Corruption can be said to be the abuse of entrusted power or leadership for private gain. It is a dishonest, fraudulent and swindling conduct by those in power, it is often done to acquire illicit benefit and it usually involves bribery. Corruption may involve embezzlement, bribery among others. Corruption in the society has prevailed from one form to the other. The basic inception of corruption started with our opportunistic leaders who have already done a very deep damage to our great country Nigeria. Corruption in the society is a result of the connection between bureaucrats, politicians and criminals.

Further more, corruption has become an act that is widely respected and almost generally accepted in the present condition of the country we are today, corruption has a lot of negative effect in the state of our country especially in the national image and international image of our country. Other countries believe Nigerians are the most corrupt and fraudulent people in the world due to some inappropriate events, acts and activities that are being carried out in the country and outside the country by some Nigerians.

Anti-corruption can be said to be laid down strategies and plans that are designed to eradicate, prevent and fight dishonest or fraudulent conducts especially in public service and mostly in political context. There is no silver bullet for fighting corruption, so many countries have made significant progress in curbing corruption. However, practitioners are always on the lookout for solutions and evidence of impact. Fighting corruption requires a set of measures at the domestic level where corruption takes place, where stolen funds and assets are often located, these measures ranges from the adoption of mechanisms and reforms to support prevention and detection of corruption.

We usually view corruption as just bribery which just financial, bribery is not the only form of corruption that exist, some other forms of corruption includes public civil servants going to work late, sometimes they don't even go to work, favoritism in recruitment of staffs, not awarding contracts to contractors and constructing companies who are qualified to be awarded contracts and boycotting due procedures to get something because you know the top officials in charge . Corruption has changed the view of the proletariat and the world entirely, the world only respect the rich and wealthy, even in the family level the eldest in the family is no longer respected rather the rich and the wealthiest are well respected even if it is the youngest of the family, he or she even take decision and they have the final say for the family instead of collective decisions.

One of the ways to spread anti-corruption is to involve the well respected people in the country like musical icons, comedians, actors and actresses to help join hands to spread the news of anti-corruption. Just as we know that people mostly listen to hip hop music, the hip hop artiste should write and sing a song that portrays corruption as a negative impact to the image of our great Nation, movies and comedies should be done too to help spread anti-corruption. Comics and cartoons for the kids should be done to help the kids in the awareness of anti-corruption, we all know kids loves cartoons and comics even in newspapers, and kids learn more faster from comics and cartoons. It will help in spreading anti-corruption.

There should be a program on National television broadcasting networks which will be talking about anti-corruption, on a particular day of every week, it will help in the spread and awareness of anti-corruption

Another innovative way to spread anti-corruption is to schedule a time for extra curriculum activities such as social gatherings, sports etc. This should be for schools places of work and so on all in the name of anti-corruption. Icons are to be invited in this extra curriculum activities to speak or lecture on the topic 'anti-corruption' if this is done regularly it will help in spreading anti corruption.

Another innovative way of spreading anti-corruption is to declare public holiday for public servants, this public holiday should be once or twice every year for rallying, protesting and demonstration on anti-corruption. Non governmental organizations or groups can play a vital role in the rally, protest and demonstration if the youths are recruited into these organizations and educated on the fight against corruption, banners, hand bills etc. Should be made and shared during the time of this protest and demonstration. The recruited youths and the public servants should not only go to the roads, street, towns and villages but rather should dedicate their time by moving house to house and door to door educating the people about anti-corruption, this education should be done in different languages which the people will understand. If 75% of the families in Nigeria are aware of the fight against corruption they will surely spread the news to other families who are not aware. The families will groom their children on how to resist corruption and with time it becomes a part of them to always resist corrupt acts and they may also report to any the nearest police anytime they see or witness one.

Another way to spread anti-corruption is the social media, we all know most youths and most adults spend most of their time on social medias via their mobile phones everyday, the spread of anti-corruption can be done through broadcast messages that talks more about corruption, creation of handles of anti-corruption on twitters and so on. This should be done always and it should be very active. The problem about this way is that when a particular issue comes up on social media, it will trend for sometime and with time it will be forgotten. So expert should be employed who will only base on the spread of anti-corruption on social media.

One of the most important ways of spreading anti-corruption is to involve our religious leaders which are our pastors and imams, we should task them to always preach on anti-corruption in every religious gatherings and when ever they get the time to do that. We all know our religious leaders are well respected and the masses always listen to them because they believe they are holy and God sent. This strategy will go a very long way in spreading awareness on anti-corruption.

On the other hand, accountability is an elusive concept, but understanding where it originates from can help the citizens to find ways to make the government of a state accountable for all it's actions politically, socially and economically.

One of the ways to demand accountability is for laws to be enacted to make it mandatory for all public officers to declare there assets and liability publicly before resuming office, as well as senior public servants, this asset and liability declaration should be done even when they are leaving office (that is after there tenure in office). If there assets is made public, it will be impossible to

steal a dime because even if they want to use other people's and businesses to divert public funds for personal use, they may not be able to claim such after office because the people know the implication of such act as criminal.

Governmental and Non governmental bodies or committees should be set up for critical investigation on every public officers during and after their stay in office. This committee will help in proper investigation of so many public officers and if any one is found wanting he or she should be executed without any further delay in judgment.

In conclusion, if all the steps on the spread of anti-corruption and demanding accountability in our country can be followed, the percentage of people who are aware of anti-corruption will increase on a daily basis and accountability in our country will be steady.