

Review of: "Why Corruption in Nigeria? Experts' Accounts on the Occurrences and Persistence"

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This is an important article on the problem of corruption in Nigeria and does not apply only to Nigeria but, from what I know, many other countries in Africa and around the World.

The results are exciting but limited by the methodology. For example, the results are entirely linear. It would be interesting to examine the interconnections between these codes using a systems thinking approach.

My general concern with the article is the figures. I am unclear on the use of shapes and colours and what they are intended to show. I think they could be used more consistently.

Some specific concerns about the figures are that, for example, the need for survival is based on pressures, and from what I see, pressures are based to some extent on pressure. Similarly, political motivation is based on unpatriotic attitudes, and unpatriotic attitudes are based on patriotism. Moral and ethical values are based on an erosion of values based on moral values. This is tautological.

I think the economic motivation figure is problematic because it is related to profitability but only includes deterrence and punishment. There is no discussion of benefits. For example, deterrence and punishment do not lead to profitability. Profitability is based on income and expenses.

Finally, I think incentives, greed, and self-interest could be placed under economic motivations, demonstrating some of the arbitrary nature of the coding system.

All that being said, it would be fascinating to see how these factors are interconnected and how they build on each other in vicious cycles, which might help suggest systemic solutions to the corruption problem in Nigeria and other countries if these vicious cycles could be turned into virtuous cycles.

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