

Perspective on the impact and effect of corruption in the local sphere of government in South Africa

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Abstract

This paper looks at the impact and the effect of corruption in the local sphere of government stemming from the administrative, economy and political facets. The paper posits that there is an endemic corruption being perpetrated at the local sphere of government mainly by the local government officials and elected politicians in collaboration with the private sector. Methodologically, literature review approach was deployed and utilised to identify, expose and address the problems. The paper revealed that due to endemic corruption at all these facets, the needy, the poor and the indigents who are supposed to benefit from quality basic services could not due mainly to corrupt enterprises and activities of those that have been saddled with the responsibility to provide and render basic services. The paper found that due to corruption and maladministration, most of the local governments have been bankrupt, most times there were no service deliveries and where they seemed to be, poor services were being delivered. The overall impact and effect of all these vices result to increase in poverty and the local people become more disgruntled and disadvantaged as a result of corruption and ineptitude of officials saddled with the responsibility to provide. The paper strongly stressed on the need for consequences for failure of poor deliveries and hold perpetrators accountable.

Keywords: endemic corruption; local government; public officials; private sector; private people; accountability; South Africa.

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