

“Corruption in Society: Multidisciplinary Conceptualizations” is an edited systematic multidisciplinary study that is dedicated ‘to the victims of corruption everywhere.’ Its holistic approach from the ancient period to the present is timely. This volume will help readers identify and understand cases of corruption while providing proposals for its elimination. Corruption is no longer oversimplified or misunderstood because of the clear and in-depth analysis revealed in this volume. Its editors, James T. Gire and Abdul Karim Bangura, and the contributors challenge readers to rethink their understanding of corruption.”

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Corruption in Society: Multidisciplinary Conceptualizations is the first book to address the notion of corruption in a truly multidisciplinary manner, augmented with empirical evidence. The prevalent definition in books and articles on corruption is that it is a dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those with political and/or economic power, typically involving bribery. This political-economy or public choice denotation, while very useful, is inadequate for a comprehensive understanding of the concept because the notion of corruption appears in every discipline. For example, in the field of chemistry, chemical corruption concerns (a) the incorporation of defective compounds into experiments to better simulate conditions on the early-Earth and to help us understand how the first molecules of life formed and (b) how to make chemicals appear safer, sometimes dodging restrictions on their use, by minimizing the estimates of how much is released into the environment. In order to address this shortcoming, this book provides a discipline-by-discipline conceptualization of corruption buttressed with evidence from the discipline.

Contributors

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