

# Second Income Syndrome, Corruption and Value Orientation in Nigeria Public Service

<sup>1</sup>Nein Godknows and <sup>2</sup>Babajide Olanipekun Olajo

*Department of Political Science, Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island*

*Email: godknowsnein@gmail.com, 08035443566*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Social Studies, School of Arts and Social Sciences,*

*Federal College of Education (Technical), Omoku*

*Babajideolajo@gmail.com, 08033728638*

## Abstract

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*Second income syndrome, in Nigeria, in form of corruption in the public service, undermines effective public administration, effective governance, endangers democracy, public service efficiency and effectiveness and erodes the social and moral fabrics of the country. The menace of corruption as second income which has become a syndrome has a negative effect on all aspects of our national life. Apart from greed, dishonesty, misrepresentation and immorality in public practices, it has created porosity for corrupt practices in the country. The main objective of this study is to investigate corruption as a second income in Nigeria and identify the modus operandi, the rot and decay of the system. The study employs political economy of crime as the theoretical tool. The methodology employed in the study is based on both secondary and primary data, where journals, newspapers, magazines reports, textbooks, internet and questionnaire were distributed. One major discovery of this study is that, corruption as second income discourages honest effort and behaviour, and immorality has replaced morality. We therefore recommend value reorientation for all Nigerian citizens from primary to tertiary institutions to change value system through a re-socialisation process.*

**Keywords:** Corruption, second income, syndrome, public service, value orientation.

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## Introduction

The adequacy of the public service organisation in promoting an ideal and proficient authoritative framework in a country cannot be underrated. This as a result of the imperative job it plays in the definition and usage of policies aimed at the advancement of an economy. The function of public organization is salient to all sectors of the improvement procedure in Nigeria. Bureaucratic limit figures out what will complete, when it will complete and how well it completes (Anthony, Obiajulu & Ugoo, 2012). The higher the ability of the public service to execute complex administrative and social advancement designs, the better the improvement certainty of that society. However, this is not to buttress that public service is the main tool in the advancement procedure. This apparently is not the situation. Public service ability is certainly not an adequate condition for the improvement, and it is without doubt a requirement. If the public service is unable to actualize the strategies of the political administration whose strategies are benevolent, it will not be executed in a successful way (Anthony,

Obiajulu & Ugoo, 2012). It is one thing to guarantee advancement, it is another to accomplish it. Deduced from this, the place of large organization, financial, social and political advancement poses a potential threat without a doubt (Anthony, Obiajulu & Ugoo, 2012).

In Nigeria, the exhibition of the public service has gone under serious criticism and interrogations inside the setting and the opening that occurs within the foreseen job and its real yield. The nonfeasance of general society service to provide the normal yield to the general public, the arrangement regarding changes that have come to our framework and the approach towards goal attainment have been a problem in Nigeria public service since the 1980s (Gbenga & Ariyo, 2006). The consequences of such changes were the need for effective and responsive public administration that has the skill to meet the obstacles triggered by the local and inward ecology of administration. The efforts of the Nigerian government since independence have not yielded the required outcome due to the threat of debasement of corruption as second income that has eaten

profoundly into the families of the Nigeria society, and has manifested in all sectors of the bureaucracies (Nwankwo, Ananti, & Machubuze, 2015). Nigeria is currently an instance of a country whose improvement has been impaired and hindered by the threat of degenerate practices (Gbenga & Ariyo, 2006). Undisputedly, corruption, which has become a way of making money beyond the original legitimate salary or wage, has penetrated Nigeria's society. According to Achebe, "anyone who argues that corruption in Nigeria has not yet become bane is either a fool, a crook or else does not live in this country." Achebe's comments bring out the extent of debasement in the Nigerian society. The frequency of these exercises in the different parts of our regulatory system has enormous unfavourable consequences for personal satisfaction in Nigeria (Nwankwo et al., 2015).

Muhammed (2013) sees the threat of corruption which has been discussed at various levels; yet, this ugly incident keeps surviving with us in all facets of our endeavors, despite several efforts to curtail it. The circumstances are still unsuitable with corruption as a means of second income, a syndrome which proceeds to infiltrate and invade all segments of our national life in Nigeria (Muhammed, 2013). Ogundiya (2013) posits that the activities of the fourth republic and current administration indicate that corruption has become a norm. Therefore, it is no longer a story that the front pages of our newspapers are always inundated with news about political and public service corruption. The popular saying now by politicians and bureaucrats is, "Thou shall not be caught." By this, it means that only those caught are corrupt. Arowolo (2010) contends that, corruption as second income, has demonstrated universal blending with individual blood and societal life, where formal duties do not just personalize government work; in addition, principles embodied in the work guidelines have been grievously undermined by the make easy money disorder from second income apart from main salary. Onimode (2001:3) showed that "not only the staffs of government are corrupt, but corruption is a way of life," and lootocracy become a new style for the governance in Nigeria. Klitgard (1991) and Ndu (2016) attribute official corruption to greed. Ogundiya (2009) notes it as a behaviour

pattern in Nigeria because of the widespread petty and grand corruption; Nigeria has become a place of wastages of funds with no investment and profit. Corruption does not allow integrity and important financial exercises but allows wastefulness and nepotism (Sen, 1999). Above all, public service corruption and other forms have portrayed the picture of Nigeria, as we have seen. Nigeria has continued to suffer, more than most countries, from a horrifying universal picture, made by its powerlessness to manage defilement and bribery.

As per most Nigerians, to have illegal income in Nigeria is practically unavoidable, as truth and integrity is lost. In light of this fact, to endure, individuals need to obtain illegal money, a developed sense of second income. Transparency International ranked Nigeria as the 146th out of 180 countries, according to the 2019 corruption perception index. In 2021, Nigeria scored 24 out of 100 points in the index. Nigeria's current 154 ranking of 180 countries in the 2021 corruption index is a drop of 149 in the 2020 index. In the 2018 report, Nigeria ranked 144 out of 180 countries surveyed by the organization. That means Nigeria dropped two steps. Nigeria also scored 27 out of 100 points in the 2018's CPI, maintaining the same score as in the 2017's, the same it did in 2018. Despite Nigeria's anti-corruption campaign, the country (Nigeria) has dropped from 144 in 2018 to 146 in 2019 on the annual corruption perception index published by Transparency International. Report revealed that Nigeria ranks 146 out of the 180 countries considered, behind Botswana (34), Rwanda (51) and Mauritius (56) among other African countries. In 2017, Nigeria ranked 148, while it dropped to 144 in 2018. Nigeria's current position means the most populous black nation is two steps low to 146 in 2019.

Based on the above literature, the paper examines the second income syndrome, as a gap to be filled, in spite of scholar perception on public service corruption. The paper developed this study on second income syndrome in order to bridge the literature for future research. We tried to fill the gap from the perspective of public service, corruption and the perception of people on corruption and the impunity of second income (illegal income). This is what has informed this study. Hence, this study employed simple statistics as a method of analysis. The information for the study was drawn from both

primary and secondary sources such as textbooks, journals, the internet and questionnaires, etc. One major finding is that, corruption as second income is more valued and has become an unavoidable norm, even with well-paid public servants. Therefore, the paper suggests among others the need for value reorientation to engender right behaviour, attitude, morality and transform from the impunity of corruption as second income in Nigeria.

### **Literature Review and Theoretical Underpinning**

#### **Theoretical Framework**

In this paper, we employed the political economy of crime as the theoretical tool for analysis. This theory as a contributing factor to explaining crime causation is closely related to class on one hand and to the ecological determinant on the other hand. Political economy owes its origin to Marx and Engel (1888), Ake (1980), and Obi (2015). The strains associated with the opportunity structure especially for upward social mobility in terms of enhancing one socio-economic status contributes to an individual's susceptibility to criminal behaviour such as corruption based on material worth, that is, where your financial position is respected regardless of the source (Lynch, 2013). The theory of the political economy of crime places emphasis on political instability and economic depression as concomitant factors responsible for a criminogenic society. Lynch (2013), Jacob (2011), Clinard and Abbot (1973) and Anupamu (2011) argue that developing countries are poor countries. It therefore seems logical to associate their poverty with their criminality. This assertion from an objective point of view is very peculiar to most West African countries, especially Nigeria. The triumph of this high level of criminal corruption is based on the faulty distribution network, which is discriminating (available) to the upper-class members.

The other causal factor for the rising rate of corruption is anchored on the economy; with the current economic recession, the Nigeria's dependent economy has adversely been affected and its susceptibility to change and recession contributes to high levels of criminal behaviours, such as corruption (Anupama, 2011; Alenuka,

1990a). Anupamain, in his view about the depressed state of the Nigerians economy and the crime rate, argues that it is a universal crime theory that in time of economic depression, there is the tendency for crime wave to rise (Anupama, 2011).

In a related analysis, Ibeanu (1998) defines the state as "the totality of the materiality of political class domination in a society" (Anthony, Michael & Obiajulu, 2017). He maintains that the materiality of political class domination has three important aspects. The first one consists of the politics of classes that maintain a presence in the political class struggle. The second aspect has to do with the specific structure and institution representing the classification of these class practices. Finally, the third aspect is thinking, maintaining and reproducing the overall system of class domination, which includes economic and ideological class domination (Anthony et al., 2017).

Indeed, the actors who control the government generally use their positions to commit acts of domination and alienation. However, the general trait of capitalist states is the autonomisation of domination and commodification of labour. Those who have economic power also possesses political power and power stems from jobs or positions within the socio-economic framework, individuals gain control by involving significant positions in individual, monetary, military or bureaucratic positions, since wealth or economic power is an asset in politics (Ntete-Nna, 2004). The struggle to acquire this by public bureaucrats involves corruption as second income, to climb to the click group, by virtue of occupying important positions. Therefore, political economy of crime best suits the explanation and analysis of public service, corruption and second income syndrome in Nigeria.

#### **Public Service, Corruption, and Second Income Syndrome: A Conceptual Review**

The word public service covers a wider scope than civil service (Olaleye, 2004). In this sense the public service encompasses both the civil service and the political appointees of government. It covers all the structures of governmental administration: the central government administration, field administration, local

government and other government sponsored bodies (parastatals) (Olaleye, 2004). Public service is seen to be responsible for the slow decision and creeping decision-making and policy implementation process of government. The nature, scope and complexity of the decision makers and hierarchy of authority, through which the administration responsibility for the activities of government is exercised, characterizes the public service. In the Nigerian context, the public service embraces the civil service machinery of the three tiers of government (Olaleye, 2004). This is the scope we are looking at and if this entire system sees corruption as a second way of income, there is danger.

As such, the Transparency International (TI) note that there is no clear meaning of the concept of corruption. They argue that it is “the abuse of entrusted power for private gain.” Waziri (2010) sees corruption as a depravity or a change from the by and large acknowledged laws or guidelines for individual advantages. It embraces acts like demanding, giving or receiving a free gift or favour in swap for the performance of an official legitimate duty (Ezegbe, 2004). Madichie views corruption as a depravity which changes actively from great to terrible (Madichie, 2005). This definition incorporates such conducts, for example, bribery, utilization of a reward to distort the judgment of an individual in position of trust, nepotism, the bestowal of support by reason of inscriptive relationships instead of legitimacy, misappropriation, and illicit allotments of open assets for private employments (Arowolo, 2010). The issue of corruption brings us to the phenomenon of second income or secondary income, which needs not to be legal or official and visible, like the examples we have given. It could be hidden; it could be both hidden and visible. Similarly, it may be illegitimate. The ideas of being hidden and illegitimate are the ingredients of corruption and hence constitute the link between the two. In this sense, on whatever structure—seasoned blessing, free air tickets, lunch or dinner, kola—there is no exemption, since it is prone to impact the future strategy and transaction involving the supplier, thereby corrupting the protocol or some rules and regulations. This is the most general definition of corruption and it clearly points to the moral

dilemma facing all societies, more or less because positions at all levels of human society confer one form of privilege or another on those holding them. Worse still, the privileges are also meant to be enjoyed as part of the perks of the positions so occupied. But the enjoyed privileges compounded by these explanations tend to corrupt the system.

For now, the best explanation for the second income syndrome is straight forward: the purported inadequacy of primary income (legitimate salary or wages), relative to anticipated consumption or standard of living. Secondary income is that income needed to supplement inadequate primary income, that is, most of them would demand for money before rendering their statutory duties to the members of the public (Motosho, 2001). According to Ogundiya, “corruption as a second income has become a norm” (Ogundiya, 2013). A norm means an accepted behavioural pattern of a people and the totality of life of the people of Nigeria, that is, a culture. Therefore, second income syndrome, which is a norm or culture, developed by Nigerians to acquire illegal sources of revenue to earn a living, is engrained in the blood, regarded as a syndrome which characterizes abnormality (syndrome). Corruption in Nigeria is a disease or disorder that involves the whole of the country; the symptom occurs together and characterises the whole Nigerian society with particular abnormality and madness. In the light of above, it would appear that corruption as a form of second income is not only just a matter of stealing money from the coffers of the state or collecting bribes—which leads many to think of it only in relation to politicians and the police—it appears that every act of indiscipline, which has money for its end, is an act of corruption. Therefore, corruption is seen as every act of indiscipline engendered and maintained by the desire to acquire money (Ndu, 2016).

### **Corruption in the Guise of Second Income Syndrome and Its Effects on Nigeria's Public Service**

Contemporary Nigeria is characterized by myriads of political, social and economic problems which are traced to corruption as second income, which has metamorphosed into a norm or culture and a syndrome worse than Acquired Immune

Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). It is seen as a framework practice that engenders low level accountability and straightforwardness, being the main wellspring of the failure of improvement in Nigeria (Nwankwo, Ananti & Madueze, 2015). This implies and indicates evidence of a failing state (Ibaba, 2013; Ibieta & Segun, 2013). Corruption has a ravaging effect on public administration in Nigeria. It is a common knowledge that corruption is pervasive, as consistently ranked very high in the Transparency International Index (Ibaba, 2013). The mind boggling billions of naira that were reported stolen or missing—a probe report by the Senate and House of Representatives on the oil subsidy regime and the special presidential committee on recovery of oil revenues, and also on the power sector, among several others—indicates how Nigeria's state is corrupt, a second income syndrome. Recently, the immediate past World Bank President for Africa, Obi Ezekwesili and Nigeria's Minister of Education, was reported to have stated that Nigeria has lost an unexpected USD 400 billion to defilement and misappropriation of assets since 1960 (Ibaba, 2013; Soniyi, 2012), suggesting that more than half of USD 600 billion generated from oil sales have been lost to corruption as their second income. Beyond all these are various forms of corrupt practices that have pervaded the society and institutions such as the civil service, police, custom, immigration, judiciary, university, armed forces, ministries and extra ministerial departments at all levels of government (Ibaba, 2013).

In Nigeria, corruption as a second income pervades into organisations; public services decay from numerous points of view. In the first instance, performance has become an “eye service” practice which has consequently brought about sub-enhancement ultimately decreasing efficiency, effectiveness and profitability. It makes a sentiment of dissatisfaction on the couple of morally sound ones in the framework, and reduces morale. Furthermore, it increases the expense of running the administration. This underscores the motivation behind why Nigeria spends enormous entreties of cash in her open services with no significant outcome (Lipset & Lenz, 2000).

Accordingly, without doubt, corrupt practices distort the way government uses its

money. Resources which the government can judiciously use to initiate and execute new developmental projects for its citizens are otherwise used to repeat failed projects (Joda, 2011). You will agree with me that many uncompleted National, State and Local Government projects appear in records as completed with documentations as proof, whereas there are no such projects on ground. This is due to the fact that projects such as these are executed by corrupt contractors in partnership with corrupt directors (public servants). Where a director awards a contract to his/her own company and the contract inspector is a beneficiary of the contract, what will be the result? How will “due process” be followed? Most newly constructed roads do not last up to six months let alone a year; we notice potholes and collapse that have led to unwanted road accidents. It is a shame that we all admire the infrastructural development in Europe and America (Joda, 2011).

Second Income Syndrome and norm deepens neediness and makes hard the smooth running of the framework, as this undermines the principles of straightforwardness, responsibility, unoriginality and so on etc., for which an executive must stand. For this, Joda confirms that, corruption has raised huge societal stratification among Nigerians to an inexplicable level. The haves and the have not live side by side in a complex of abject poverty and riches (Joda, 2011).

#### **Values Re-Orientation: To Remedy Corruption as Second Income and Fraud-Free Nigerian Society**

Values are an abstract term that covers a wide range of meanings and usages. Denga (1983) conceives that values represent reason, belief, convention or virtues that guide that people's behaviours and actions. Values means what represent the quality of words which people place on what they have in mind, for example, the slogan of “one nations one destiny.” Nkechi (2011) suggests, however, that values may be positive and negative connotations that require constant re-orientation on positive values, to move the society forwards. Hunt (2003) identifies important values for successful living to include autonomy, benevolence, compassion, courtesy, honesty, integrity, responsibility, and truthfulness. Hunt

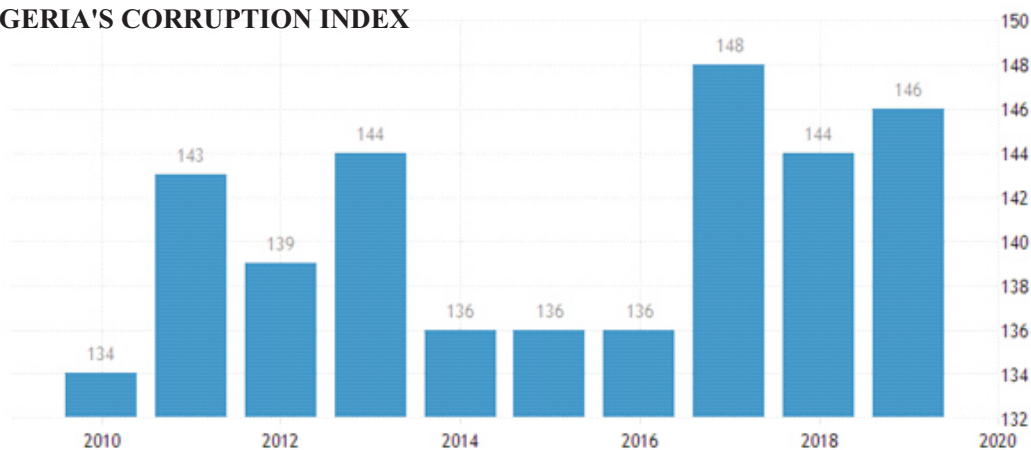
(2003) notes values as a philosophical consideration which helps an individual to personally judge how reasonable and appropriate his/her actions and relationship with others are. He further emphasizes that this belief affects people's consciences, decision making, perceptions of others and appreciation of things. However, there is a strong relationship between values, norms and sanctions of a culture (Schaefer, 2003).

Values, like cultures, encompass complete way of life accepted by the society. Culture is what is socially learned, socially shared and socially transmitted from generation to generation (Okolo, 2001; Mustapha, Zakariyya & Sadia, 2015). For instance, if a culture highly values the members of a society in morality, it may have a norm that truly sanctions the exhibition of immorality or other actions not socially accepted as good or desirable behavior. Nkechi (2011) identifies negative values which include fraud, bribery and corruption, rape, tribal and religions division, armed robbery, destruction of government and individual property in the society. Deviation from desirable values may give rise to undesirable values that are dysfunctional in the development of a society. Hence, Nigerian society values orientation for the stability of the existing accepted values. That is why Noah (2003) and Mustapha et al. (2015) consider values as the building blocks of the society.

Values re-orientation is fundamental to all nations and states in the world. Baloron (2009) asserts that values re-orientation is simply re-educating person(s) on the principles about which or what is right or wrong to enable the person(s) to have an idea of what is important in life. This means that something paramount is worthwhile, which is inculcated to a persons(s) through education in either a formal or an informal process.

Nigeria is a country ravaged by corruption, fraud and diversion of scarce public resources into private pockets, which literally undermines effective governance, endangers democracy and erodes the social and moral fabric of the country. As it is has been noted, the lust for corruption as secured income (and dash), known as gift in Nigeria, is not strictly a Nigeria problem. Corruption as second income is a phenomenon manifest in both petty and grand forms. These features have earned her disrespect in the committee of nations. It is important that social values like morality, patience, self-control, self-dignity, integrity, honesty and honour should be imbibed, most especially through values re-orientation, so as to aid the country to get rid of corruption, fraud and other fraudulent activities, with the view of making the country a corruption-free state, restoring its good image, and at the same time enhancing moral consciousness and socio-economic development within it.

**Chart 1**  
**NIGERIA'S CORRUPTION INDEX**



SOURCE: TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

Source: Transparency International, 2020

This fresh setback of second income which conforms with grand corruption, political corruption, favouritism and bribery persists in Nigeria at all levels (Oladeinde, 2018). With corruption as second income syndrome, the institutional capacity to enable proper sectoral linkages for society to equitably distribute its resources is absent. In spite of the present uncontrolled overpopulation, second income pushes to a high the unequal distribution of resources in our economy; inability to meet good standards of living; inadequate education and employment opportunities; environment degradation, unfair demographic trends and poor welfare state. In a system where the regulatory mechanism to balance several relations is absent, there is bound to be large inequalities. Corruption with the culture of second income syndrome exacerbates these unequal social relations. Debasement debilitates genuine exertion and significant monetary exercises and it breeds wastefulness and nepotism. Second income prompts conceivable data contortion as it looks the books, and an abnormal state defilement has made open strategies impossible (Sen, 1999).

The effect of corruption as second income in Nigeria is bold. The impact ranges from underdevelopment, nonappearance of essential foundation, lack of potable water and great street systems, misappropriation of national assets prompting gigantic neediness, average quality in authority and lack of clue in polished skill, lack of administration yields, high joblessness and youth misery, continued augmented hole between the rich and poor people, and falling standard of training prompting the creation of low-quality alumni (Waziri, 2010).

In spite of the above, scholars' views and arguments that corruption serves as second income syndrome, can be valuable to political improvement or political modernization and help to the progress from customary life to a cutting

edge political life. These apparent benefits of corruption as second income notwithstanding the evil, has more negative implication on Nigeria.

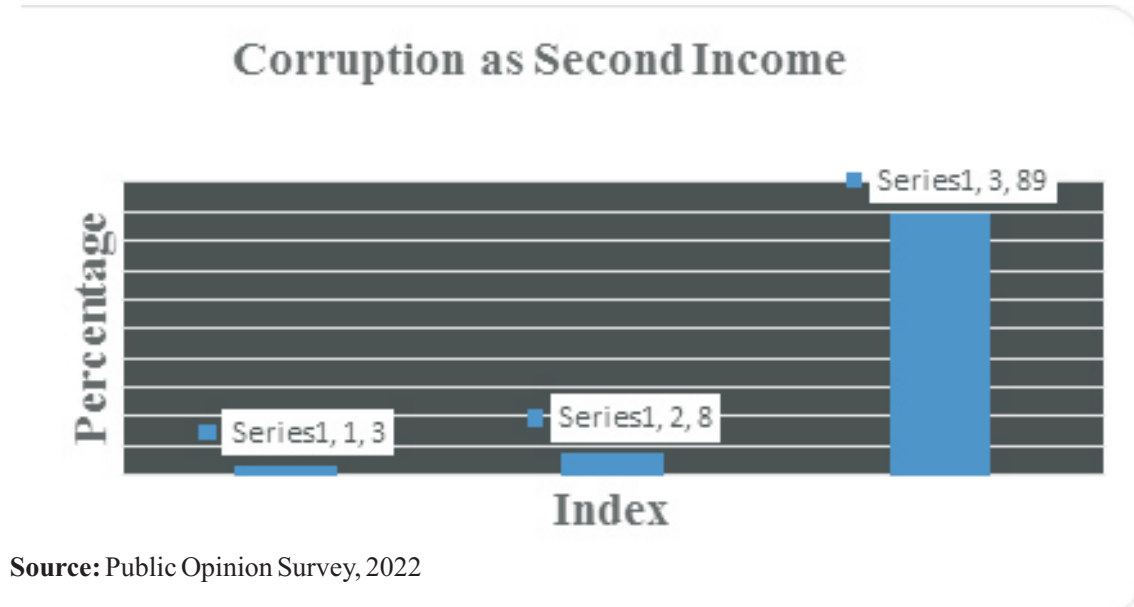
### **Methodology**

Survey design of quantitative research was used for this study. According to Creswell (2009), a survey design provides "a quantitative or numeric description of trends, attitudes or opinions of a population by studying a sample of that population." 500 public servants were selected from various ministries; from each ministry 50 respondents were drawn. This method was used to generalize the findings of the research study to all the other ministries in Nigeria. The survey method was cross-sectional. Data was collected from secondary sources; the data collection method employed includes documentaries, text books, journals and the internet, as well as questionnaires which were administered, and few interviews and scheduling were adopted. The questionnaire was a structured one on ministries in Nigeria, corruption and second income syndrome, and it was used in collecting data using the Likert type where the respondents were to tick on Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD) for each statement. Each respondent was expected to respond with a tick ( ) to each of the statements. Our data analysis therefore made use of simple percentage and textual analysis of information obtained from records and interviews. The data obtained from our multiple data gathering instrument were critically examined in order to test its authenticity. We employed a combination of qualitative and quantitative research in examining the material gathered in the study. A total of one hundred and twenty (120) questionnaires were distributed to various parastatals, ministries and public bureaucracies, 100 were retrieved and collated.

**Result**

The data presented and analyzed as follows:

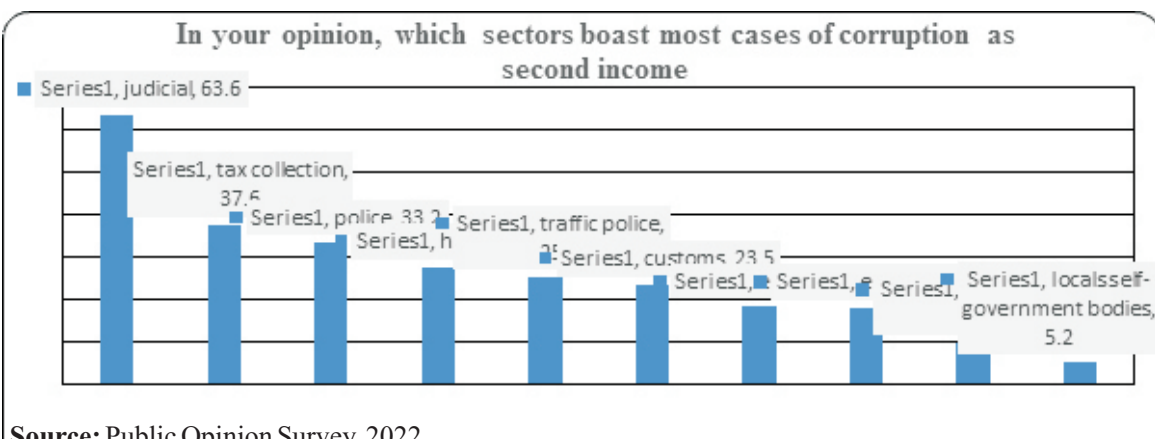
**Chart II**



**Source:** Public Opinion Survey, 2022

Chart II explains the perception of people on corruption as second income in Nigeria. Bar 1, 3% of the 100 respondents agreed; Bar 2, 8% agreed and Bar 3 indicates 89% of the respondents. Hence, we accept the opinion of respondents that corruption acts as second income in Nigeria.

**Chart III**

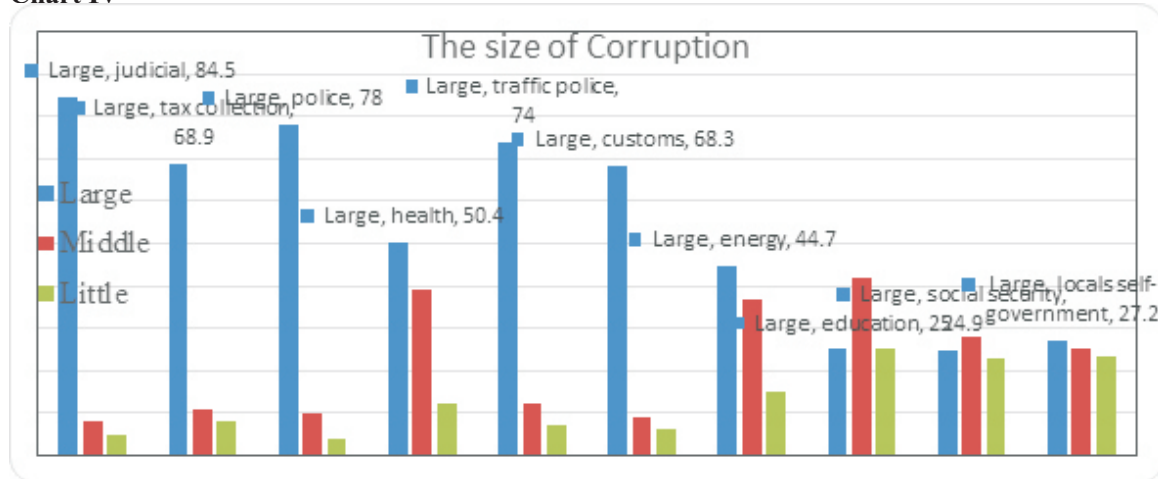


**Source:** Public Opinion Survey, 2022

In the opinion on which sector of the public bureaucracy boasts high mostly on cases of corruption, majority of the respondents represent 63.6% Judiciary, Tax Collectors 37.6%, Police

33.2%, Health 27.5%, Traffic Police 25.2%, 23.5 Custom Officers, Energy 16.2%, Education 18%, Social Security 9.5 and Inter-governmental Bodies 5.2%.

**Chart IV**

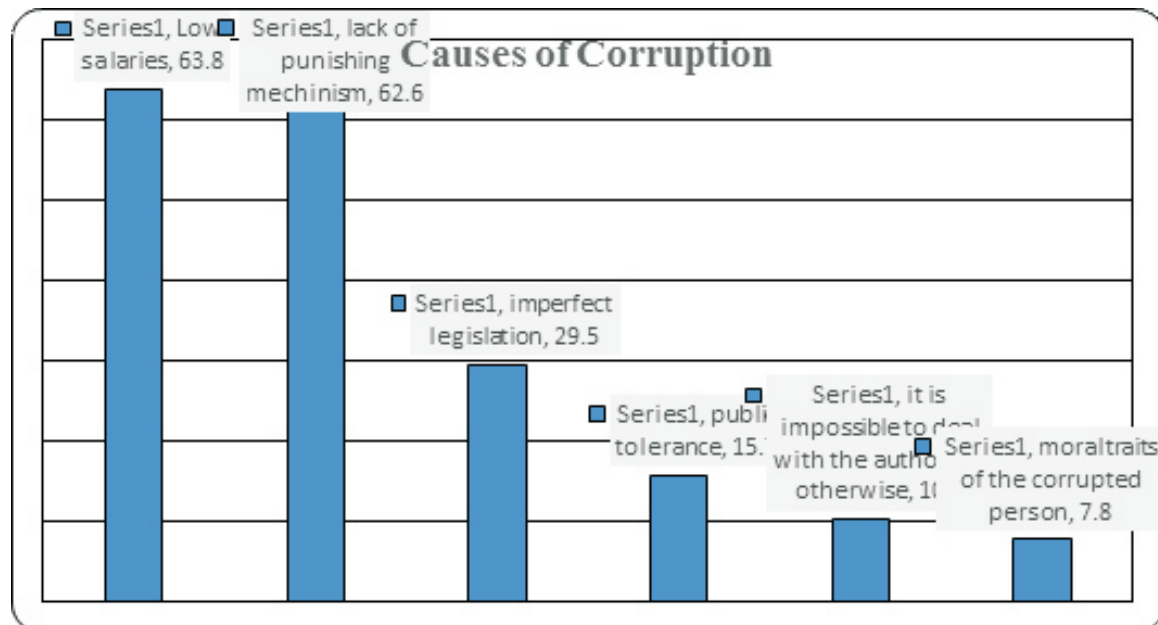


**Source:** Public Opinion Survey, 2022

For the severity of corruption, a total 100 respondents (84.5) shows that judiciary is the most corrupt; tax collectors (68.9), third in terms of second income syndrome; police 78%, second

most corrupt; health 50.4% corrupt; traffic police 74%; custom 68.3%; energy sector 44.7%; education 25%, social security 24.9%; and local self-government 27.2% second revenue syndrome.

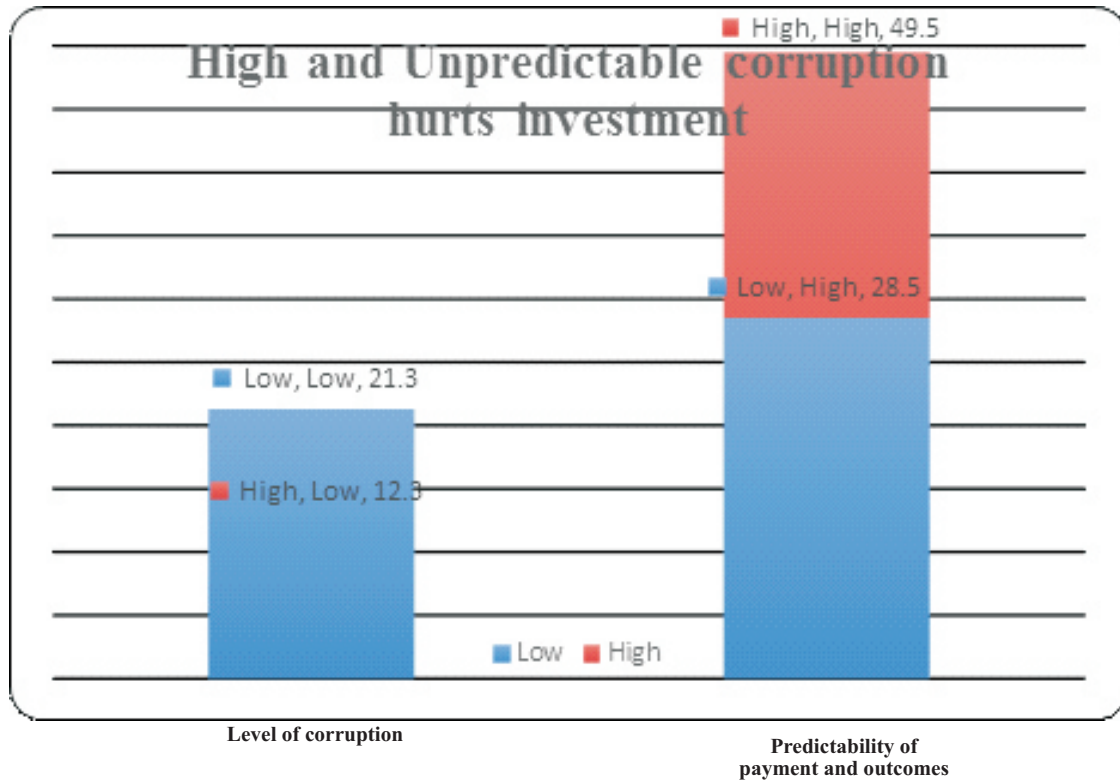
**Chart VI**



**Source:** Public Opinion Survey, 2022 Bayelsa State

Some causes of corruption include 63.8% low and poor salaries; 62.6% lack of punishment mechanism; 29.5% blemished legislations; 15.7% open residence; 10.2% impossibility to deal with authority; and 7.8% moral traits of the corrupt person.

**Chart VII**



**Source:** Survey of Bayelsa State Private Sector, 2022

Chart VIII, on whether high and unpredictable second income hurts investment, 40.5% rated high, 28.5% high, while 21.3% and 12.3% low.

**Discussion of Findings**

1. From Nigeria's corruption index, it is ascertained that Nigeria is a very corrupt country, which also shows a sign of a failing state.
2. Also, the majority of the respondents agree that out of the 500 respondents, 52.4% see second income syndrome in any form of bribery and as the way of life in Nigeria.
3. The study attests that all sectors of the public bureaucracy boast in cases of corruption, with the judiciary 63.6% highest and tax collections 33.6%, the second highest, and this affects all sectors of the public bureaucracy.
4. The study found out that causes of

corruption include low salaries, lack of punishment mechanism, imperfect legislation, public tolerance and poor moral traits of corrupt persons.

5. The research also found that red tapism and corruption have hindered investors in Nigeria.
6. Majority of the respondents (80; 84.5%) attest that inequality between the rich and the poor is a major factor of second income syndrome in Nigeria.

**Conclusion**

No doubt, public service corruption as second income, a syndrome that has affected poor performance, is the basic feature of public administration in Nigeria. The Holy Bible says that the blind cannot lead the blind; in Nigeria, the case is that both are in danger of falling into the pit or more exactly are in danger of falling over the precipice and being smashed into pieces. You

cannot make a dirty piece of cloth clean by washing it in dirty water. The effect will be making the cloth dirtier (Ndu, 2016). The mere fighting of corruption by the EFCC is like cleaning the house when the house is falling. Bureaucratic Corruption and Second Income Syndrome is wide spread in Nigeria, due to impunity and get rich quick syndrome.

1. In order to tackle the second income syndrome, sincerely, there is a need for value re-orientation. The psychological perception of Nigerians towards the norm and culture of corruption as second income must be addressed. The religious bodies must be involved, such as mosques, churches, as well as National Orientation Agencies (NOA) and political parties.
2. The churches and all religious bodies must condemn in all totality the announcement and arrival of corrupt members, stop receiving their bribes and tithes from stolen wealth, and stop allowing them to sit in front of churches as honour.
3. We must win the war on corruption by fortifying the institutional balanced governance among the country's real social powers and partition power inside the administration.
4. The Nigerian political and bureaucratic leadership must begin by showing us good examples by freeing themselves from corrupt behaviours and avoid flamboyant lifestyles beyond their income.
5. Furthermore, those who live above their incomes should be arrested and investigated to know their source of wealth, beginning with those in authority. There should be orientation through enlightening campaigns, introduction of anti corruption in our school curriculums at all levels, as well as formulating and implementing people-oriented policies. This should aim at handling and reducing the menace of poverty and gross inequality, ensuring proper distribution of wealth and systematically bridging the gap between the rich and the poor or

between the political elites and the masses.

6. Also, there should be equitable or balanced developmental approaches, so that the majority of the people will be able to share adequately in the government of their area and tribalism or ethnicity will cease to be a divisive force and the tendency of who gets all and takes all will be reduced drastically; then, corruption can be fought. But at the moment, the future of Nigeria is bleak.
7. Another bureaucratic deterrent of second income syndrome would be well-paid public servants. It is a classical assumption in the economics literature that public servants maximize expected income. Economic incentives, carrots and sticks should be established so that public servants are not tempted to engage in corrupt behaviours (Dalstorm, Lapuente & Teorell, 2012).

There should be a systematic bridge of the socio-economic and cultural "gap" between the modernizing or ruling political elites and masses. There is no doubt that the gap between the ruling class and the masses is one of the many cleavages that characterize the Nigerian state. We suggest an equitable or balanced developmental approach to reduce the gap between the rich and the poor, by providing equal development. This will reduce, to a certain level, corruption as second income in Nigeria.

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