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**MATRIC NUMBER: 17/SMS09/057**

**COURSE CODE: IRD 320(POLITICAL THOUGHT)**

**ASSIGNMENT**:

Read the Chapter on Rawls (Full Name is: John Rawls) and write short explanatory notes on:

1. John Rawl's First Principle;

2. The Second Principle: Distributive Economic Justice;

3. The Original Position;

4. Summarize John Rawls Idea of Justice

1. **John Rawl's First Principle**

Johns Rawl’s first principle is called **equal basic liberties**. The main aim of the theory of justice originally was to give and persuade people of their rights, freedoms and duties. This did was not achievable and it did not take place, until ten years or a few years after.

The link between the two theories is that countries who are democratic in nature see individuals as free and equal. These two powers make citizens on the same level. This is seen to be the main focus of the idea of the theory.

There is an issue that has to make coercive power legitimate and this is political, some citizens will have rights over the others whenever a society is formed together. Rawl thinks that all citizens can agree to reasonable fair conditions. There is a consignment that has to be reached, ignorant of people’s characteristics, position, race, ethnicity, culture, socio-economic class. Principle have to be decided upon in order to guide the basic principles in which can be accepted.

**What does the first principle of justice state?**

Each person has the same claim to a fully adequate scheme of equal basic liberties, which scheme is compatible with the same scheme of liberty for all. That is, each person is to have a right to major basic liberties compatible with a similar liberty for others.

The first principle has to protect basic liberties things cared about in ones political life and they are:

* Freedom of conscience
* Ability to form opinions about good ways to live one’s life
* Ability to think about the way forward
* Right to vote
* Freedom of participation
* Freedom o personal association
* Equal ability to hold public offices
* Freedom of speech

This has to be secured in the constitution of the country.

Here, liberties cannot be traded for other goods, it is to be secured equally for everyone. It should not be trampled upon. That is, one cannot not try to get more of the second principle in exchange (at the expense of) for his basic liberties. The first principle is to be fully satisfied and protected.

This principle is seen to secure political liberty and equality. The value of freedom and equality is cared for and individuals should get the most protection they can. Liberties and opportunities should be maximized and inequalities should be minimized. Personal interest of individuals should be left aside and a communal view should be present.

It is believed that there should be good interest and a sense of justice. He claims that it is only in a democratic society that this is allowed to take place. there cannot be peace and harmony in a society until there is freedom of speech.

1. **The Second Principle: Distributive Economic Justice**

Johns Rawl’s second principle is called **Distributive Economic Justice**.

The social and economic inequalities are to be arranged in order to satisfy two conditions:

* They are to be attached to offices and positions open to all under condition of the equality of opportunity
* The are to be the greatest benefit of the least- advantaged members of the

society.

To explain this, when someone game is more political power this has to be under conditions where anyone in the society has an equal opportunity to hold office. The second part, situation in which the rich get richer and the poor get poorer, this is to say, any inequality that allows the people at the top to gain the most must also increase the situation of the least advantaged.

Rawl believes that people are born differently and no one is responsible for this. This is seen to be at some people’s advantage and others at a disadvantage.This could be seen to be a major source of inequality. Based on the idea of democratic equality of opportunity having good quality at no cost of individuals is right thing to do. Also trying to make people less on equal especially citizens and workers. Although, equality of opportunity can never be achieved.

The main point of this principle is to satisfy the standard of mutual benefits and reduce differences between two classes. They can be inequality in society but so far change for betterment can be achieved. Financial inequalities is supposed to help the society as a whole. This principle is reasonably expected to be at everyone’s advantage. Equal opportunity is attached to positions and offices and it is open to all. This is supposed to love discrimination or relevant factors such as speech, knowledge and many others.

1. **The Original Position**

It can be seen to be very similar to the state of nature. Not arguing in the same view but saying that politics can begin from an original position. Not historical and has neither primitive. Hypothetical situation in which no one has knowledge of their own such as class status, socio-position. Wealth (material wealth), distribution of assets and personal attributes. From the original position how can the principles of justice be established. Its use the name Justice as fairness. Justification is settled by walking out a problem of depression the theory of justice connects with the theory of rational choice. It is not impartial. In the original position, knowledge, veil of ignorance and fairness are present.

* **Knowledge**: no relevant facts about society economics’ and politics.
* **Veil of ignorance**: no one knows their place in society natural abilities and propensities this will yield the conception of good.
* **Fairness:** everyone is saying to be equal there are no contingencies that affect choice.

There should be an understanding between people and groups, people I’m not meant to know certain things in order to work together for everyone’s advantage. If certain things are known it will lead to a partial society.

In the choosing of principles it is to be ensured that everyone cooperates, everyone must benefit from the arrangement. How the society should be constructed. Some have legitimate power over others and some don’t. Principles should be reasonable in order for people to completely agree with these and reach a fair bargaining situation. If people all agree on some basic rules, then any use of power that seems from these rules is legitimate. Role-plays are allowed in order to know the outcome of deliberations, it’s a way of reasoning. Want to spend their entire lives with the principal chosen that is whichever principle is chosen.

All the influence of power and bias should be bias. There should be a bargain on how to structure the society. It is an arena of deliberation and decision about principles of justice. The original position is a compelling reason for ranking the two principles of justice originating from John Rawl. These principles as seen above are the principle of equal basic liberty and the principle of distributive economy justice. Original position was created to support the principles. Not knowing setting things in order to choose the principles fairest to all.

1. **Summarize John Rawls Idea of Justice**

John Rose idea of justice is considered to be a very complex one guiding principle of his justice is to bring about three and rational person is this principle is the same basic rights and duties to individuals. These duties and rights are to be equal and fair to all individuals. Justice here is considered as fairness. Rawls principles are based on the basic idea of thinking. The principal of justice and those principles seem to be free, rational, self-interested and equal. In deciding principles there should be political activity, speech, thoughts, poverty and rule of law. These theories of justice do not have specific terms and are not acceptable or accredited theories of critical moral justification. Rawl never ranked and prioritized the first principle over the second, he began to think of a new theory based on both the favorable and unfavorable accusations. Although it is said that one cannot trade yeah busy qualities for economic distributive equality. Equal basic rights or liberties are to be fully satisfied and protected. In the principal of justice John RawI in the principle of justice dreams of equality. People should have freedom of conscience, rights of vote, right to speech, right to hold political positions equally right to own property. John Rawl wants people stop thinking about themselves and think about their society as a whole in order to work things out and be developed. He wants equality in societies and people should have secured and protected rights.