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In about 2-pages review chapter 15, “An Overview of the idea of pressure group”, in salient issues in government and Nigerian’s politics.

Answers;

 A pressure group is a formal or organized body with a common interest whose fundamental aim is to put pressure on any governmental institution with the goal of influencing government policies and law to its own advantage. The pressure group is referred to as "The Functional Representative”. According to Anifowose (1999) pressure group is described as "interest groups, lobby groups or even protest groups." Pressure groups came into existence to complement, enhance or even to protect the interest of their members or group (Oyeleye, 1998). Pressure groups represent different sectors of the society based on their functions. This is usually done through professions. For example, the Nigeria Bar Association (NBA), represents the Lawyers and Solicitors, while Nigeria Medical Association (NMA) represents doctor's interests.

 Pressure groups influence both public policy, administration, and also determine political structures of the society and forms of government. . In nature, these groups could be religious business-like, educational, ethnic-oriented, gender-sensitive. Anomio, of social, among others Some examples of pressure groups, in Nigeria are. ASUU (Achiene Stal Union for University Nienifere, Oodua people's Congress (representing the YouTube) Nrwa Consultative Forum, Arewa People’s Congress (representing the Hausa tribe), Nigeria Bar Association of Nigeria (NBA), Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Nigeria Labor Congress (NLC). Pressure Groups and political parties have similar activities, but they are not the same as they have their differences also political parties are more formally organized than pressure groups. Political parties seek to gain power, while pressure groups do not seek to gain power instead their aim is to influence political decisions, political parties have a wide range of policies, meanwhile pressure groups narrow their goals. Pressure groups are not actually accountable for any of their actions, while political parties do account for their actions. While pressure groups have their importance place in the scheme of things in a nation, there is some downside. Sometimes, due to their own selfish interest, pressure is mounted to alter the direction of government decisions, while not considering government's limited resources. For example, when some professional bodies go on strike citizens suffer and government might be incapacitated due to shortage of funds to meet the requirements of these associations.

Types of Pressure Groups

Interest Groups: This group is also seen as sectional groups, representing the people in the society. For example, the trade units, for instance, CBI (Confederation of British Industry) known as the voice of business in the country, and in Nigeria, Convention on Business Integration (CBI).

Cause Groups: These groups are promotion groups, which seek to promote particular causes. For instance, we can see the Amnesty International, which campaign for the need to end human right abuses. Any group that champions social movement is also seen as "cause group," even though the group lacks formal structure. It is always aimed at achieving a single objective, protesting about the expansion of airport, Sport Date.

Insider Groups end Outsider Group: groups are regularly consulted by the government. They have Irregular access to ministers or legislators. The Nigeria bar Association NBA) is an example of such groups. Groups in this category are radical in nature because they are mostly denied by the government. However, the Insider and Outsider group changes from time to time based on the party or government in power.

Anomic Groups: Groups here have unpredictable actions and behavior as they work based on the moment and situation in the society. These groups are not guided by an appropriate behavioral style of rule, and they may sometimes act violently. Protest, rioting, strikes, and sometime revolution, are some of the means through which they mount pressure.

Associational Groups and Non-Associational Groups: Associational groups are usually registered with appropriate authorities in a state or country. Also, these groups have their own registered offices, constitutions and so on. On the other hand, non-associational groups are pressure group without a formal organization. Their arrangement and gathering are by virtue of kinship or even family attachment, social traditions, tribal or even race afflictions, just to mention few.

Functions of Pressure Groups in Government and the People

* Pressure groups promotes political participation and carries the citizenry along
* Serving as Sources of Information to Government
* Promotion of the Interest of the Minority