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**19/SMS02/018**

**ACCOUNTING**

**SMS**

**ASSIGNMENT**

**CHAPTER 15**

Pressure groups are simply defined as persuading or coerce a person into doing something. Anifowose described pressure group in 1999 as interest group, lobby groups or even protest groups. Pressure group came into existence to complement, enhance or even to protect the interest of their members or groups (oyeleye,1998).pressure group seek to achieve is to ensure that the government does there bidding and with some pressure through the right channel and means pressure group are able to make the government listen to them. Pressure group influence public policy, administration and even go a long way to determine political structures of the society and forms of government. These groups can be religious, business like, gender sensitive or social among us, some examples of pressure groups are ASSU (ACADEMIC STAFF UNION FOR UNIVERSITY, NIGERIA LABOUR CONGRESS (NLC) etc.

Pressure group and political parties’ activities may somehow sometimes appear similar, but they are somehow different from each other. Political parties seek to gain government power while pressure group doesn’t want the power but aim to influence political decisions.

Secondly political parties do account for their actions but pressure groups are not actually accountable for any of their actions. Political parties are formally more organized than pressure groups.

Pressure group came into existence to checkmate and make democracy better, to compensate for the tyranny of majority of people in the society. While pressure groups have their benefit the also have their own downside. Sometimes due to selfish interest pressure is mounted to alter the direction of government decisions, while not considering government limited resources.

**TYPES OF PRESSURE GROUP**

**INTEREST GROUP**

This group is a sectional group, representing the people in the society, for example we have the CBI (CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY) they are known for their voices in Nigeria or trade unit.

**CAUSE GROUPS**

These groups are promotion groups which seek to promote particular causes for examples charities and environmental groups.

**ATOMIC GROUPS**

These groups are not guided by an appropriate behavioral style or rule and they may sometimes be violent. Protesting, rioting strikes and sometimes revolution are some of the means through which they mount pressure.

**FUNCTION OF PRESSURE GROUPS**

**LINK THE GOVERNMENT TO THE PEOPLE**

One of the functions of pressure group is that it serves as a link between the government of the day and the people it governs. Pressure groups stay up to date on relevant information.

**PROMOTES PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT**

It promotes public participation in the activities of government of the day. Some pressure group engages in demonstrations and other measures to put their views across to the government.

**INFLUENCING LEGISLATION: They** are instrumental in the mounting of pressure on government so they can implement policies that are to benefit of citizens