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REVIEW OF CHAPTER 15

The word pressure signifies force on someone or something in a form to persuade

or compel the person to do something. The pressure group is known as functional

representative. They seek to influence government with their decisions which makes

it an organization with common interest with the aim to influence government

policies.

According to Anifowose pressure groups are protest or interest groups their main

aim is to influence government to meet their demand or change their policies and

even to determine the government should be formed. We have example s of pressure

groups like Afenifere, Academic Staff Union of Universities known as ASUU,

Oodua People’s congress from the Yoruba side which is ethnic we also have Nigeria

Bar Association of Nigeria known as NBA even Nigeria Labour Congress. Political

groups are interested in government while pressure groups are interested in

influencing government decisions they are narrow in nature. Political parties are

more formal and accountable. They relate together to achieve changes.

Pressure groups try to check democracy but sometimes it could be disadvantageous

when it wants to become dominated by the few, it can monopolise when it isn’t

compromising and even pressure the government to change or alter their decisions

for their selfish interest for government to adhere to their requests.

We have different types of pressure groups

The interest group that represent the society like trade units, Convention on Business

Integration known as CBI, Voice of Business in Nigeria.

We have the anomic group who behave according to situation in the society they

have no rule guiding them they could be violent or cause riots which would bring

pressure.

Cause group are promotion group like groups that champions social movement to

avoid abuse it is aimed at achieving a single objective even if they are not organized

or formal. Insider group and outsider group is also a type of pressure group the

insider group is accessed by the government like the NBA they influence

government vision and mission they have a high or low profile. They change from

time to time based on government in power, while the outsider group have no

connection with government like Earth Liberation Front.

Lastly associational and non -associational group they are registered by authorities

while the non- associational group have formal organization they are gathered by

kinship or social traditions.

Functions of pressure group

They serve as link between the government and people.

It serves as information to the government.

It promotes participation in government.

They engage in lobbying with governmental official.