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## **CHAPTER 15**

### **AN OVERVIEW OF THE IDEA OF PRESSURE GROUP.**

To mount pressure is to persuade someone or coerce a person into doing something. A pressure group promotes its interest regarding an issue ;it seeks to Influencing government decisions and policies.the pressure group is referred to as [ the functional Representative ] this is the idea that various pressure groups represent different sectors of the society based on their functions . according to Anifowse [1999] pressure group is described as [ interest groups ,lobby groups or even protest groups .] pressure groups came to existence to complement, enhance or even to protect the interest of their members or groups [OYeleye ,1998 ]. what pressure groups seek to achieve is to ensure that government dose their bidding. And with some pressure through the right path or channel and means pressure groups are able to make government listen to them .in addition to that , these groups influence both public policy, administration , and even go a long way to determine political structures of the society and forms of government . in nature these groups could be religious , business-like , educational , ethnic- oriented, gender-sensitive,economic or social among others . some examples of pressure groups, in Nigeria

are: ASUU [Academic staff union for university] , Afenifere, Oodua peoples congress[ representing the Yoruba tribe],Arewa consultative forum ,Arewa peoples congress[ representing the Hausa tribe] ,Nigeria bar association of Nigeria [NBA], Christians association of Nigeria [CAN] , Nigeria labour congress[NLC].

#### TYPES OF PRESSURE GROUPS.

**INTEREST GROUPS:** this groups is also seen as sectional groups , representing the people in the society .for example the trade units ,for instance , CBI [ confederation of British industry].

**CAUSE GROUPS:** these groups are promotion groups , which seek to promote particular cause .for example ,charities and environmental groups. For instance , we can see the Amnesty International, which campaign for the need to end human right abuse.

**INSIDER GROUPS AND OUTSIDER GROUPS :** insider groups are usually seen by the government . they have regular access to ministers or legislators . the Nigeria Bar Association[NBA] is an example of such groups .however,an insider to have to influence on governments mission and vision.

**ANOMIC GROUPS:** groups here have unpredictable action and behaviour as they work based on the moment and situation in the society this groups are not guided by an appropriate behavioural style or rule and they may sometimes act violently.

#### 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.

#### FUNCTIONS OF PRESSURE GROUPS .

1. Links the government to the people.
2. Promotes participation in government.
3. Serving as sources of information to government.
4. Curtailing of dictatorial tendencies
5. Promotion of the interest of the minority
6. Influencing legislation
7. Pressure groups lobbying.