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**PHARMACY**

**GST 203**

 **REVIEW OF CHAPTER 15**

Pressure group is a formal or organised body with a common interest who has aim of putting pressure on the government with the goal of influencing them. Pressure group is known as the functional Representative. The idea is that various pressure groups represent different sectors of the society. For example Nigeria Bar Association (NBA) represents the lawyers and Solicitors, while Nigeria Medical Association(NMA) represents doctor's interests etc.

 According to Anifowose pressure group is defined as interest groups lobby groups or even protest groups. Pressure group came to light to complement, protect the interest of their members of groups. The main aim of pressure group is to achieve that the government do their part. Some example of pressure groups are ASUU(Academic Staff Union for University), Nigeria Labour Congress(NLC), Christian Association of Nigeria(CAN). Political parties and pressure groups have differences which are political parties seek to gain power while pressure groups do not. Secondly, political parties have wide range of policies while pressure groups narrow their common goals. Political parties are accountable for their actions while pressure groups are not. Both pressure groups and political parties have to achieve some certain changes. Existence of pressure group is to checkmate and make democracy better.

 Types of pressure groups are; Interest Groups: The group is also seen as sectional groups, representing the people in the society. For example, the trade unit. Cause groups; These groups are promotion groups which seek to promote particular causes. For example, charities and environmental groups. Insider Groups; They are regularly consulted by the government. They have regular access to ministers or legislators. Nigeria Bar Association is an example. Outsider group; They have no access or links to the government and its machines. Example is Animal Liberation Front. Anomic groups ; These groups have unpredictable actions and behaviour as they work based on the moment and situation in the society. Associational group are registered with appropriate authorities in state or country. Non-associational groups are pressure group without a formal organisation.

Functions of pressure Groups

* Links Government to the people:
* Promotes participation in Government
* Serving as sources of information to Government
* Curtailing of Dictatorial Tendencies
* Promotion of the interest of the Minority
* Influencing Legislation

Pressure Groups’ Lobbying. There is Lobbying of elected officials, media advocacy, and direct political action. Some pressure groups influence the other groups. For example, civil rights groups, trade unions, and professional associations.