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

The 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 advantages. What pressure group seeks to achieve is to ensure that government does their biddings.in addition to that, these groups influence both public policy, administration, and even go long way to determine political structures of the society.

Pressure groups and political parties activities may sometimes appear similar, but they are different from each other. The first distinction is that political parties seek to gain government powers, while on the other hand, pressure groups do not seek to gain power. Rather, the aim is to influence political decisions. Second, political parties have a wide range of policies, whereas pressure groups narrow their goals. Also pressure groups are not actually accountable for any actions, while political parties account for their action. We have different types of pressure groups they go as follows;

**INTEREST GROUPS;** this group is also seen as sectional groups, representing the people in the society. For example, the trade units, for instance, CBI known as the voice of business in Nigeria. **CAUSE GROUPS;** the groups are promotion groups, which seek to promote particular causes; for example, societies and environmental groups. its always aimed at achieving a single objective. **INSIDER GROUPS AND OUTSIDE GROUPS;** insider groups are regularly consulted by the government. They have regular access to minister or legislators. On the other hand an outside group have no links or access to the government and its machineries. They have to use other ways to have impact. **ANOMIC GROUPS;** groups here have unpredictable actions and behaviour as they work based on the moment and situation in the society. These groups are not guided by an appropriate behavioural style or rule, and they may sometimes act violent. **ASSOCIATION GROUPS AND NON-ASSOCIATION GROUPS;**  association groups are usually registered with appropriate authorities in the state or country. On the other hand, non-association groups are pressure group without a formal organization.

Pressure groups have various functions; one of the function of pressure groups is that it serves as a link between the government and the people it governs , it promotes public participation in the activities of government of they day, serves of source of information to the government. Pressure groups may adopt a variety of strategies to achieve their goal including direct political actions .