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**MATRIC NO: 19/LAW01/260**

**COURSE CODE: GST 203**

**ASSIGNMENT**

**In about 2 pages review chapter 15 ‘an overview of the idea of pressure group’ in salient issues in government and Nigeria’s politics, pages 194- 200.**

**A REVIEW OF CHAPTER FIFTEEN**

To mount pressure to persuade someone or coerce a person into doing something is want makes a pressure group a formal or organised 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 into its advantage.

According to Anifowose (1999) pressure group is described as ‘interest groups or even protest groups’. Pressure groups came into 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 does their biddings.

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 governmental powers; while on the other hand, pressure groups do not seek to gain power. Rather, their aim is to influence political decisions. Second, political parties have a range of policies, whereas pressure groups narrow their goals. Also pressure groups are not accountable for any of their actions while political parties do account for their actions.

**TYPES OF PRESSURE GROUPS**

* **Interest Groups**

This group is also seen as sectional groups, representing the people in the society.

* **Cause Groups**

These groups are promotion groups, which seek to promote particular causes For example, charities and environmental groups. Any group that champions social movement is also seen as ‘cause groups,’ even though the group lacks formal structure.

* **Insider Groups and Outsider Groups**

Insider groups are regularly consulted by government. They have regular access to ministers or legislators. On the other hand, outsider groups have no access or links 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 make 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, constitution and so on. On the other hand, non-associational groups are pressure groups without formal organisation.

**Functions of Pressure Groups include;**

* It links the government to the people
* It promotes participation in government
* It serves as a source of information to the government
* It curtails dictatorial tendencies
* It promotes the interest of the minority
* It influences legislation