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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 influence government decisions and policies .The pressure group is referred to as “The Functional Representatives’’. Various pressure group represent different sector of the society based on their functions.

Pressure is described as the interest group, lobby groups or even protest groups according to Anifowose (1999). Pressure group seeks to achieve that the government does their biddings. Pressure group could be religious, economic or social, educational etc among others.

Pressure groups and Political parties’ activities may sometimes appear similar but differ in from each other in so many ways. Political parties seek to gain government powers, while on the other hand, pressure group do not seek to gain power but rather aim to influence political decisions. Political parties are also more organised than pressure groups. Political parties and Pressure groups are similar in a way, in the sense that they relate together to achieve certain social changes.

They are various types of Pressure groups which includes;

\*Interest Groups: This group is seen as section groups, representing the people in the society.

\*Cause Groups: These groups are promotion groups which seek to promote particular causes.

\*Insider Groups and Outsider Groups: The insider groups regularly consulted by the government while the outsider groups have no access or links to the government and its machineries.

\*Anomic Groups: They have unpredictable actions and behaviour as they work based on the moment and situation in the society.

\*Associational Groups and Non-Associational Groups: Associational groups are usually registered with appropriate authorities in a state or country while Non-Associational groups are pressure groups 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 legalisation

PRESSURE GROUP LOBYING

Pressure groups may adopt a variety of strategies to achieve their goals. Pressure groups lobby with governmental officials directly.