

Fighting corruption in Zimbabwe: Making a case for community psychology towards the realisation of ZimAsset

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Abstract

Cases of corruption in Zimbabwe have reached astronomical levels. Recently, US\$15 Billion in form of revenues from the diamonds allegedly disappeared. This comes at the backdrop of the Zimbabwean government implementing a development plan- ZimAsset- to help harness all the natural resources of the country for the betterment of livelihoods. Cases such as the missing 15 billion are just an example of how the ZimAsset can be derailed by criminal activities. Crime remains one of the major threats in the realisation of the ZimAsset goals. This paper therefore seeks to explore how the use of the strategies and principles of community psychology can bring about possible ways to combat and prevent the crime to enable the full realisation of the ZimAsset goals in the short and long term future. An exploratory study was conducted with purposively sampled participants. Documentary search and key informant in-depth interviews were used to collect data. Data was analysed through discourse analysis.

Key Words: Bureaucratic, Corruption, Ecological, Empowerment, ZimAsset

Introduction

The government of Zimbabwe, as is expected of every government, has been responding to economic crises and opportunities by way of creating enabling policies. Unfortunately, a myriad of challenges ranging from poorly formulated policies, lack of resources, poor coordination at the implementation level and corruption have stood in the way of public policy success in the country. Studies abound which explain the causes and magnitude of policy failure as well as suggesting the way forward. This paper builds from the existing studies taking a different angle on how corruption can be nipped in Zimbabwe through the application of community psychology. The paper advances the

argument that, while there are many challenges that derail the success rate of policies in Zimbabwe.

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Bureaucratic corruption which Makumbe (1994) defined as the abuse of public office for personal gains at the expense of public good has been tolling high and poses major threats to the success of ZimAsset. Therefore, if the situation remains unchanged and without new methods of dealing with corruption, the success of the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (ZimAsset) remains in balance as political figures and senior civil servants violate established principles, regulation and ethical consideration. This study came at a time when corruption in Zimbabwe had reached unprecedented levels with the most recent example being the alleged disappearance of US\$ 15 billion in form of revenues from the diamond mining. As such all meaning citizens and every concerned Zimbabwean resident are grappling with the following questions: Where is the 15 billion? What happened to the 15 billion? Will the 15 billion ever be recovered? Therefore, the disappearance of the alleged US\$ 15 billion could just be a tip of an iceberg. The corruption of such a magnitude is taking place in a country where the majority are drowning into untold poverty and they are certain the money could have helped alleviate their conditions. All this comes at the backdrop of the Zimbabwean government crafting a development plan-ZimAsset to help harness all the natural resources of the country for the betterment of livelihoods (Government of Zimbabwe, 2013). Therefore, using the strategies and principles of community psychology this paper explores possible ways to combat and prevent the crime to enable the full realisation of the ZimAsset goals in the short and long term future.

The Concept of Community Psychology

Community psychology (CP) aims at promoting social transformation of marginalised groups. It is believed, it reduces the incidences of mental health problems within society compared to the traditional approach which aims to reduce prevalence (Albee, 1980). Crime prevention is also a primary concern of CP as it conceives of crime as socially constructed through inequalities in the community (Heather, 1976). It is argued that CP believes in empowering communities (Bulhan, 1985) to

have symmetrical lines of power through engaging communities in problem solving initiatives as well as creating partnerships and coalitions with various community groupings. Various strategies can be used to achieve the goal of crime prevention such as citizen participation, emancipatory education, and community mobilisation. In this regard, CP views crime as a socioeconomic problem whose solution challenges the social and economic patterns within the society (Arshad 1979). ZimAsset was crafted to achieve sustainable development and social equity anchored on indigenization, empowerment and employment creation which will be largely propelled by the judicious exploitation of the country's abundant human and natural resources (Government of Zimbabwe, 2013).

Aetiology of Corruption as a White Collar Crime

White collar crime is best described as those illegal acts which are characterized by deceit, concealment, or violation of trust which are not dependent upon the application or threat of physical force or violence (Sutherland, 1979). White collar crimes when broadly defined include corruption, fraud, embezzlement, money laundering, bribery abuse of funds and forgery. Most cases of corruption reported in Zimbabwe are linked to politicians. Examples of white collar crime by those in political power in Zimbabwe is decoratively scattered in the country's 36 years of independence namely the Willowgate scandal of late 1980s, War victim compensation Scandal, Grain Marketing Board (GMB) scandal, land grab scandal and most recently the scandals surrounding the indigenisation and economic empowerment programme. Corruption by politicians and public officials in Zimbabwe continually violates the trust (National Economic Consultative Forum, 2015) of the masses that elected them into power.

It is important to consider the potential influence of the characteristics of the political system when attempting to understand the impact of the organisation on promoting or deterring corruption. Corruption factors carry different risk or protective effects depending on the type of



organisation in which one subscribes too. The criminogenic conditions for white collar crime include a system which does not demand accountability (Shapiro, 1990) and does not deter the occurrence of such crimes. The ecological systems lacks protective factors to deter criminal behaviour as the system may not view it as a crime thereby the individual feels no remorse guilt or shame hence a crime is easily committed. As corruption takes roots as a culture or an act acceptable by one's organisation or society individuals are easily drawn into the web. Structural opportunities within the macro system continually provide motivation for occurrence of corruption (Coleman, 1987). The continued social control process of attributing such crimes to people in the lower social structure helps maintain patterns of misconduct amongst the elite politicians who are deemed untouchable.

Understanding of these aetiological factors is crucial in addressing white collar crime as all the prevention efforts will focus on multilevel starting with the individual to the macro and chrono systems, thus ensuring that there are developmental protective factors which help reduce development of criminal activities (Welsh and Farrington, 2012) and behaviour associated with corruption as a white collar crime at all levels. There are a number of explanatory approaches to white-collar crime in business, the rational choice approach in economics, the concept of individualism in sociology, the concept of narcissism in psychiatry, and the concept of behavioural self-control in criminology. Their study on how personality correlates to white collar crime Blickle, Schlegel, Fassbender and Klein (2006) concluded that psychological variables do discriminate between white-collar offenders and non-offenders. High hedonism, low integrity and high conscientiousness were cited as important features. And as such community plays a huge role in ensuring practises which promote low hedonism, high integrity and low conscientiousness are practised ensuring developmental and ecological intervention to white collar occurs.

Corruption in Zimbabwe: A Synopsis

Corruption in Zimbabwe has grown to unprecedented levels (National Economic

Consultative Forum 2015) which has seen the country ranked 150 out of 160- countries for corruption by Transparency International. Corruption has become a normal part of the country's socio-economic and political systems. Various reports have defined corruption as "cancer eating Zimbabwe", "Zimbabwe's man made tragedy". Despite its extensive occurrences which span from the general citizens to the public office holders and the private sector, corruption in Zimbabwe comes in different shapes, forms and sizes. At the highest level there is political corruption which Chimbganda (2013) described as "the greatest threat to good governance in many dictatorships and nascent democracies as it involves the use of power by politicians and government for illegitimate purposes." In the Zimbabwe National Competitiveness Report of 2015 corruption is indicated as one of the most problematic areas of doing business in the country. Public trust in politicians is at its lowest indicating that the majority feel their trust has been abused by those entrusted to provide solutions. The major outstanding cases in Zimbabwe, include the Willowgate scandal pitting Maurice Nyagumbo as early as 1985 followed by the Enos Chikore scandal at Grain Marketing Board (GMB) and later at the National Oil Company of Zimbabwe (NOCZIM) and currently the alleged abuse of office by the current Minister of Home Affairs, Ignatius Chombo, to fraudulently acquire more than 75 residential and commercial stands, 14 houses and flats throughout the country. For Minister Chombo, all this happened at a time he was serving as a Minister for Local Government entrusted by the Zimbabwean masses to create accommodation solutions for the burgeoning urban population (Magaisa, 2016). In political circles corruption has become synonymous with service as even opposition parties such as the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) during their tenure in parliament proved true what Walter Benjamin concluded was the cause for the failure of a proletarian revolution that capitalism can become deeply imbedded in the masses and they live to sustain it instead of fighting it. In the case of corruption those that spoke against it were enmeshed into its web as its ideologies are deeply imbedded in the

country's system as a couple of cases of corruption were recorded against MDC Members of Parliament during the tenure of the Government of National Unity (GNU) between 2009 and 2013.

Magaisa (2016) examined a numbers of cases where senior public officials were caught in a clear web of conflict of interests in a manner that advanced and concealed corrupt undertakings. The cases of the then Harare Magistrate Chigodora and former Attorney General Johannes Tomana were found to be outstanding. During his time as a magistrate Chigodora unscrupulously granted bail to two people accused of car theft. Two months later after ceasing to be a magistrate he emerged in the same court as a defence lawyer seeking the relaxation of bail conditions he himself had delivered two month earlier. In another case as Magaisa (2016) pointed out, the former Attorney General Tomana was found wanting with regard to Nherera's case, who was accused of corruption as the Board Chairman of the Zimbabwe United Passenger Company (ZUPCO), the government owned public transport operator. In that case, it is alleged that Tomana, who was also a board member for ZUPCO and a Commissioner at the Anti-Corruption Commission stood in court defending Nherera who was charged with corruption. Although Nherera was successfully convicted and sentenced, a more startling development took place in 2008 when Tomana became the Attorney General. Nherera by thattime was appealing against both the conviction and the sentence and Tomana granted the appeal in shocking circumstances that led people to question how government would rescind on its earlier decision without clearly showing even an error that was committed in arriving at the conviction.

The first quarter of 2016 has seen a flurry of media reports on cases of corruption in most cases pointing to the abuse of office by public officials either through nepotism and patronage. The Auditor General's Report in this case is quite incisive. The Auditor General (AG) Mildred Chari

noted that Zimbabwe has been prejudiced of tens of millions of dollars in corruption scandals taking place within the country's

parastatals (The Daily News, 25 June 2016). The exposed entities include among others: the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA); the Zimbabwe National Road Authority (ZINARA); the National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ) and the State Procurement Board; the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA) Holdings; the National Social Security Authority (NSSA) and the Aviation Authority of Zimbabwe (CAAZ).

Few examples from the AG's report will suffice to bring to the fore the rot in national institutions. ZINARA for instance was accused of prejudicing the government of about 1 million United States dollars in alleged false input tax claims that were processed in 2014 and another \$ 1.2 million illegitimate Value Added Tax Refunds in 2015 and prior years. In addition, the officials at ZINARA could not avail to the AG payment vouchers of about \$2.4 million.

Background to the Adoption of ZimAsset

Following the attainment of its independence in 1980 after a protracted liberation struggle, Zimbabwe has gone through various socio-economic and political challenges. In 1999 the country after 19 years of independence adopted the Fast Track Land Reform Programme (FTLRP) which was concerned with the slow pace of distribution of land to the black majority under the willing buyer- willing seller agreement. The FTLRP also followed an impasse between the British and Zimbabwean government on issues of compensating the white farmers. The British Government under Margaret Thatcher had previously committed to financing the land distribution in independent Zimbabwe, a position which was later disowned by the Tony Blair led government of 1994 (Holland, 2008). Following this impasse the black majority became restless and the land invasion/ grabbing ensued with government coming in to regularise and endorse it.

The land reform was widely criticised and condemned by the western community leading to the imposition of economic sanctions on Zimbabwe. The sanctions ushered in a serious economic and social crisis in Zimbabwe (Government of Zimbabwe, 2013). The economic sanctions, bad governance, high levels of corruption, political violence, successive drought

seasons and many other white collar crimes saw Zimbabwe reel into an economic depression. Industry is now functioning below 50 percent capacity utilisation, roads are dilapidated the health system is falling apart and the people are under threat from limited access to drugs, water and food (<http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/zimbabwe/overview>).

In light of all the above mentioned social, economic and political struggles Zimbabwe is going through, the Zimbabwean Government under the supervision of the incumbent leader President Robert Gabriel Mugabe formulated the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic transformation (ZimAsset) which is a national development plan adopted from October 2013 to December 2018 in pursuit of accelerating economic growth and wealth creation of Zimbabwe (Government of Zimbabwe, 2013). ZimAsset is a cluster based plan as it aims to promote a results based and accountability culture within various government ministries (Government of Zimbabwe, 2013) and the clusters involved are

- Food Security and Nutrition Cluster whose thrust is to ensure sufficient food for the country as well as surplus. A position the Country has struggled to maintain due to Lack of resources, abuse of funds, Misappropriation of funds as well implements, equipment, and livestock and produce theft. Poaching is also a major threat to this cluster as wildlife such as elephant remain endangered.
- Social Service and poverty Eradication Cluster whose biggest role is to improve the living conditions of the Zimbabwean citizens through improved public service delivery in public institutions such as schools and hospitals. Low morale among the staffers owing to the vacancy freeze in public service following the ghost workers phenomena where salaries were being deducted for non-existent employees have led to deplorable services. Abuse of funds as evident in the NSSA scandal, and famous

Salary gate PSMAS debacle.

- Infrastructure and utilities cluster tasked with development of new infrastructure and rehabilitation of old infrastructure as well as recovery of utility services. Corruption has been and still stand as a big threat to this cluster as bribery is the order of the day and tender

processes are flouted as well as substandard materials are accepted as evident in many roads in new suburbs most of them are cracked up.

- Value addition and Beneficiation cluster aimed at promoting private sector involvement in the implementation of ZimAsset by providing support through funding and executing various activities. This cluster is under threat from white collar crimes as many aspects here lack standardisation and are left to the line minister's discretion which can lead to corruption, abuse of funds and misappropriation.
- Macro-Economic Cluster which has two sub clusters namely fiscal reform measures and the public administration, governance and performance management which are aimed at mobilizing resources for the realisation on ZimAsset goals as well as effective administration which is good governance to allow for proper monitoring and evaluation.

The ZimAsset national development plan has been lauded as a brilliant economic blueprint and many government departments have since adopted it, previously government has formulated development plans equally as brilliant as the ZimAsset and all these have failed to reach fruition. One of the reasons why the country has failed to achieve its goals is the level of crime which derails the government's effort, whilst arrests have been made in an effort to reduce and deter crime and criminals it has not been enough for the combating of crime.

Applying Community Psychology in the Context of ZimAsset

ZimAsset is mainly concerned with



restoring the country's economy into its former place (Government of Zimbabwe, 2013) and most of the strategies involve availing inputs, resources, loan facilities and training services. As a whole ZimAsset offers primary prevention to crime as it seeks to empower vulnerable and marginalised groups by improving access to education, ensure food is available to all and basic human rights of all individuals are met. Therefore, as a national development plan one of the strengths of the ZimAsset is its aim in addressing primary issues which could lead to the occurrence of crime in Zimbabwe if left unaddressed such as development of human capital through education. This is developmental intervention under the risk factors model of Tony and Farrington as well as Brofenbrener's ecological model.

Adopting the community psychology approach to crime prevention for the attainment of the ZimAsset goal will focus more on political organisation and public officials whilst acknowledging that the problem is widespread. As the common English saying goes a fish rots from the head and if those in positions of power are engaged and mobilised to fight corruption the prevention efforts will be a success. White collar crime also bears huge excessive financial losses (Holtfreter, Van Slyke., Bratton and Gertz, 2008) for the country as a whole. The criminal justice system focusses more on street crime in comparison to white collar crime but white collar crime stand as the major obstacle which can hinder the success of the ZimAsset. Crimes like assault and theft look minuscule in the face of the giant white collar crime.

Various legal instruments have been put in place to curb corruption such as the Prevention of Corruption Act (1983), Ombudsperson Amendment Act (1997) and the Anti-Corruption Bill (2004). With such legal instruments in place bureaucratic corruption has continued to rise with no convictions and this has made the bureaucrats more circumspect in their execution of their aberrant exploits (Makumbe, 1994).

Adopting a community Psychology approach entails mobilising and engaging the people to fight corruption as a crime. . A holistic approach to crime prevention is critical in the fight against corruption

(Bennet and Graham 1995). Community psychology crime prevention takes a whole new approach as it deals with the community efforts to reduce crime and criminal behaviour using epidemiological model of Brattingham and Faust, ecological model of Brofenbrenner and risk factors model of Tony and Farrington. These models have recorded successes in reducing street crime in neighbourhoods, with neighbourhood watch communities showing how citizen participation can help reduce crime significantly in conjunction with law enforcement. The models recognises that crime and criminality are socially constructed and that crime is a political struggle propelled by economic inequality and economic marginalisation (Heather 1976) Factors which exposes communities or individual to criminal activity are considered and explored and to allow for intervention to stop crime before it occurs. All the above mentioned models empower communities to prevent crime before it

occurs as they become active members in crime prevention opposed to being passive members in tackling crime.

The risk factors model has developmental intervention which is aimed at preventing development of criminal potential in individuals, community prevention to change the social condition that influence crime in communities and situational prevention which reduces opportunities for committing crime A central tenet of developmental- ecological theory of Bronfenbrenner is that individual development is influenced by the ongoing qualities of the social settings in which the individual lives or participates and the extent and nature of the interaction between these settings (McLaren & Hawe 2005)

Both the ecological and high risk model offers what the epidemiological model of crime prevention which borrows from the public health model would call primary prevention which is directed at the modification of criminogenic conditions in the physical and social environment at large, secondary prevention aimed at early identification and intervention in the lives of individuals or groups in criminogenic circumstances and tertiary prevention focussing on re-offending. For crime

prevention to succeed it is important to capture the importance of community mobilisation and engagement in the prevention of crime for sustainability as. Crime prevention is everyone's business as such the role of prevention should not be left to police but organisation and communities have a role to play in ensuring reduction in white collar crimes such as corruption. The following community psychology strategies are crucial in the fight against bureaucratic corruption in Zimbabwe for the success of the ZimAsset.

Community Mobilisation. It is a tool for ensuring participation in the processes by allowing community groups Abbot (1995) to carry out, organises, plan evaluate and participate in crime prevention programmes to raise awareness through facilitation and collaboration. Citizens and professionals must commit themselves to programmes of public and religious education that inculcate moral norms and values in the people, such that law-abiding decision making and behavioural standards are internalized. Such as the recently introduced national pledge one of the line reads "I commit to honesty and the dignity of hard work". The recital is done by children as young as three years as a way of mobilising to honest and hard work. Such practises help instil high level of integrity and prevent occurrence of low integrity which is a correlate of white collar crime (Blickle et al, 2006). Community mobilisation brings about psychological empowerment in individuals as well as community empowerment within communities as they gain confidence and mastery to deal with their own issues (Rappaport, 1987). Community mobilisation also brings one to an awareness on their importance in determining course of event. As consciousness raising takes place, community members are more conscious of corruption and its effects as expert knowledge fosters liberatory practises and is mediated by communities (Habermans, 1984). Sometimes white collar crime becomes part of an organisation's culture and illegal activities are performed without guilty so it is important to make members of the community aware of how embezzlement, fraud and corruption form part of the reasons why Zimbabwe as a nation is struggling. The

process of consciousness raising also emanates from awareness campaigns so that members of the community can realise how white collar crime has directly affected their bread and butter issues as many people tend to think white collar crimes do not concern them. Therefore, it is important that members of the community realise how white collar crimes have contributed to economic collapse and has affected service delivery and created more crime in the societies as people are unemployed, uneducated and poorer. Consciousness raising makes the community more aware of the problem and empowers them to make decisions. It can also help members involved in white collar crime to be conscious of the consequences of their behaviour hence shun white collar crime.

Emancipatory Education. This ensures collaborative and interactive transference of power as knowledge is seen as having been separated from the lower social classes. Muller and Cloete (1987) cited the Leninist model "handing over" knowledge in support of emancipatory education. White collar crime is treated less punitively than traditional common crime. The aim of emancipatory education is to "hand over" knowledge so the community realise the serious effects of community crime. For example if senior management gobbles up 80% of revenue on salaries the organisation will experience collapse and many left jobs creating a new Trail of crime from the joblessness such as

theft, assault, domestic violence. Many communities ignore white collar crime as it is considered victimless but it is the worst. Thus emancipatory education will bring people's attention to factors surrounding white collar crime and its consequences, such as how corruption is a major crime which can hinder the success of ZimAsset and the community can lobby and advocate against such bad practises to show displeasure and to prompt government to put measures to deter corruption (situational prevention). The general public remains unperturbed by white collar crime as their attitudes reflect indifference. Awareness should be raised on the gravity of white collar crime on the country as it has increased in intensity and the economy loses



billions of dollars leaving it bleeding.

Participatory Action Research (PAR). This involves including the members of the community or organisation in the process of creating knowledge with the participants while trying to change it. It is important, as Rosenbaum, Lurigo and Davies (1998) argue, that all members of the community be engaged and represented in various forums and platforms where the issues are discussed, the magnitude and effects of the crime highlighted and the possible causes and solutions as seen and understood by organisation and community members. PAR is important as it brings the members of the Zimbabwean community together to inform and guide the process of curbing corruption. The composition could include civil servants, youth, civic community, police, business executives, politicians, captains of the industry, religious group's men, women and even children to create knowledge together and understand their perspectives on corruption, its perpetrators, aetiology and prognosis as well as action plan. Participatory action allows for capacity building, emancipatory education and empowerment to take place and also guides and formulates process in dealing with corruption at all levels within the country. Focus groups can also be used during the participatory action research to capture views and opinions of the various diverse groups on corruption; this will help guide in formulating prevention programme as all voices are heard. A child may grow up thinking corruption is not bad and is likely to act it out as an adult; therefore focus groups can help understand the attitude and views of children on corruption and the prevention programme will ensure to address such beliefs and attitudes amongst the children for a sustainable and corrupt free future. Asset Mapping is also an important process during PAR as it involves identifying the resources that the community has in terms of infrastructure, skill, relationships which is crucial or can be helpful in curbing white collar crime such as corruption. It is important to review structures available to deal with white collar crime such as the Anti-Corruption Commission, their successes, challenges and struggles, how they were safeguarding resources from theft. As this guides strategy

formulation and ensures success as ignoring the community's assets can lead to despondency and hence the plan's failure. It is also important to know what opportunities are available to enable and deter white collar crime within communities.

Social Action. is a radical approach to structural inequalities and unresponsiveness of political apparatus. Seedat, Cloete & Shochet (1988) Social action can be viewed as an outcome of consciousness raising, community mobilisation and emancipatory education. Bureaucratic corruption is committed by elite members of the Zimbabwean society who get richer by the day whilst the poor are sent to prisons. Social action is when the members of community rise to show displeasure by staying away or sitting in or active demonstrations against the powers be.

White collar crime remains elusive. Calavita, Pontel and Tillman (1997) as people who often commit the crimes deny criminality, feel justified for taking the money citing they deserved it or give structural and technical explanations of deviance (Benson, 1985). Considering white collar crime is usually committed by well off to do members of the society thereby prejudicing the lower class. Rosoff, Pontell, and Tillman (2002) who will be already marginalised and socially excluded from the mainstream development which in turn causes an increase in theft, Gender Based Violence (GBV), child abuse, assault, murder and people who commit these crimes are blamed for fuelling crime when paradoxically they are victims of white collar crime (Rappaport 1981). Economic crimes create a conducive environment for all other crimes to be committed as cooperation's close, projects close down after embezzlement creating unemployment which is a risk factor for crime.

Possible Challenges to the Success of Community Psychology Intervention

Identification of possible challenges to the success of any suggested policy alternative or problem solving strategy is vital. With regard to the success of community psychology there are three

outstanding challenges that need to be dealt with. Firstly, corruption in Zimbabwe has



become embedded in our culture- as part of normal life from individual level right through to the macro and chrono systems. This is because it has been decentralised to the lowest officer of every institution including those that are supposed to be fighting it (Makumbe 1994) as exemplified by the Tomana case referred to earlier. Therefore, if something becomes a culture, it becomes a defining feature of a people which cannot easily die away. Through the use of community psychology, leaders and members of influential institution should be identified and coordinated to combine their efforts.

Secondly, there has been a serious lack of political will as witnessed in the case of the Willowgate scandal where the first minister convicted following the Sandura Commission of inquiry was pardoned by the president barely 24 hours after his arrest. The current leadership crisis has further compounded the effects. The leadership crisis do not only relate to the national leadership but to every facet of life including the civil society, the church, the academia, the trade union, traditional institutions and other professional bodies that have been known for zero-tolerance to corruption.

Lastly, poverty will always militate against strategies that seek to restore sanity and social fabric of the society. Currently, poverty levels in the country have reached astronomical levels. A poverty stricken people is less likely to give allegiance to moral principles. According to Aristotle poverty is the mother of revolutions (Abenstein, 2002). This means that poverty pushes individuals beyond the limits of normal beings. As a result, the term community loses its meaning and the sense of community index is lower amongst individuals and they cannot successfully come together in one spirit to fight corruption as individuals will be advancing selfish gains at the expense of their communities. Instead individuals become highly individualistic a deviation from the collectivist norm African societies are known for as clearly indicated in the Nguni proverb *Umntu ngumntu ngabantu*. Therefore, the government should find ways of decisively arresting economy collapse. There is need for broad-based economic empowerment which will render corrupt options irrelevant.

Conclusion

White collar crimes are evidently the devil fighting the Zimbabwean economy. Even successful national development plans like the ZimAsset do not stand a chance against the huge face of white collar crime as evident in the fall of many parastatals such as NRZ and Grain Marketing Board. The political climate has been blamed as being protective to white collar criminals for its relaxed stance on such crimes. The government need to take a stand against such tendencies and fight white collar crime with the citizens. Whilst street crime is also prevalent and cannot be easily dismissed it is the white collar crimes within organisations. Which has fostered the growth of street crime and once white collar crime is addressed there will be a direct proportion in the fall of street crime.

It is important that Zimbabwe fight white collar crimes if it is to rise from the depth of the economic decline abyss and most importantly it should ensure that there is systematic attempt to foster and promote social justice among its citizens as it is important in building a new and sustainable Zimbabwe through the ZimAsset. The macroeconomic sub cluster of public administration, governance and performance management is important in the fight against white collar crime as it ensures good governance in all structures because a lack of good governance creates criminogenic conditions for white collar crime. The Zimbabwean system needs to employ second order change which involves change of context which continually contributed to the emergence and maintenance of the current problems of corruption. Hence a community psychology approach to solving the problem would be ideal as it captures all dynamics and explores the aetiological base on corruption and other white collar crimes.

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