

Programming Kit*



American
Spaces

Anti-Corruption



Suggested Activities

The attached two activities provide videos and discussion questions for discussing instances of:

- Corruption in Business
- Corruption in the Public Sector

Programming Formats

Please note that **programming formats can vary** for the attached two activities – a facilitator may choose to give an **English Conversation Talk with Q&A** using the suggested videos and discussion questions. Another programming format you may consider is organizing a **panel discussion** and inviting local experts or leaders with knowledge in this field to facilitate. These guest speakers can be **alumni** from U.S. government exchange programs. The guests can use the videos as a platform to discuss similar situations in your host countries.

Suggested Tips

We recommend that facilitators:

- **Watch the videos in advance** of the program
- Highlight any **key vocabulary or concepts** that you want your audience members to understand and discuss
- You may consider **replaying video segments** for points you wish to discuss or highlight
- Check to see that you are able to **stream the videos** for your program; if not, you may want to **download video content** ahead of time
 - o For instructions on how to download a Ted Talk, click here:
<https://blog.ted.com/two-ways-to-download-a-ted-talk-from-the-website-updated/>

* Activities provided in American Spaces Programming Kits are offered as suggestions and resources.

English Conversation Talk with Q&A: Corruption in Business – 45-60 minutes

- **SHARE AMERICA VIDEO: *Company Gets Unfair Access - What's the harm?*** [1 minute; published on Jul 24, 2017]
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4N5lx9EvXa0&feature=youtu.be>
- **TED TALK: *What really motivates people to be honest in business?*** [13 min 26 sec; talk given by Alexander Wagner, Professor at University of Zurich (PhD from Harvard, law degree from University of Linz, Austria), at TedxZurich; November 2016]
https://www.ted.com/talks/alexander_wagner_what_really_motivates_people_to_be_honest_in_business#t-796311

Summary from Ted Talk website: Each year, one in seven large corporations commits fraud. Why? To find out, Alexander Wagner takes us inside the economics, ethics and psychology of doing the right thing. Join him for an introspective journey down the slippery slopes of deception as he helps us understand why people behave the way they do.

Discussion Questions:

ShareAmerica video

1. Why is the title of this video called “***Company Gets Unfair Access***”?
2. The businessman says that he plans to offer the woman from the drug administration money to ban his competitors – he would “line her pockets.” He says “It takes money to make money, and we’re saving lives.” Do you agree with this statement?
3. Aside from these actions being illegal by violating antitrust laws that promote fair competition in the U.S. and most other countries, what additional harms do you see in these kinds of transactions?
4. Have you seen these kinds of “facilitation” payments in your communities? What has been the impact? What is being done to counter these transactions?

TedTalk video

Dr. Alexander Wagner states:

- ***Fraud committed by companies costs shareholders and society \$380 billion per year.***
- ***Honesty in business is still highly regarded***
 - ***Six out of seven companies remain honest despite temptations for fraud***
 - ***For many people, “a dollar received when lying is worth only 75 cents to them, even without any incentives put in place to behave honestly.”***

1. Does it surprise you that **one in seven companies commits fraud**? Does that seem high or low?
2. **Comprehension and Review** – Can someone retell the coin toss experiment and its findings? [65% of people do not act solely in self-interest]
3. Based on Dr. Wagner’s research, the majority of people want to promote honesty within companies. For example, he gives us several examples of **whistleblowers** at the beginning of his speech. How easy or tough is it to be a whistleblower in your companies or communities? What protections exist for whistleblowers?
4. We see there’s a very high cost to society when companies commit fraud. **What measures are our societies taking to promote honesty/transparency/good governance within companies?** In addition to recruiting the “right” people, what other steps, checks or incentives should an organization have to promote good governance?

English Conversation Talk with Q&A: Corruption in the Public Sector – 45-60 minutes

- **SHARE AMERICA VIDEO: *Police Officer Takes a Tip - What's the harm?*** [57 seconds; published on Jul 24, 2017]
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1maEQO0Xyl&feature=youtu.be>
- **SHARE AMERICA VIDEO: *Buying Votes - What's the harm?*** [1 min 11 sec; published on Jul 24, 2017]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HkEB6wh_M_8&feature=youtu.be
- **TED TALK: *How to expose the corrupt*** [15 min 25 sec; talk given by Peter Eigen, founder of NGO Transparency International and former Director of the World Bank in Nairobi for East Africa, at TedxBerlin; November 2009]
https://www.ted.com/talks/peter_eigen_how_to_expose_the_corrupt
Summary from Ted Talk website: Some of the world's most baffling social problems, says Peter Eigen, can be traced to systematic, pervasive government corruption, hand-in-glove with global companies. In his talk, Eigen describes the thrilling counter-attack led by his organization, Transparency International.

Discussion Questions:

ShareAmerica videos

1. Is there any harm to the police officer taking a tip or of Mr. Jeffries offering the mayor a “great sum of donations”?
2. Are these kinds of transactions common in our communities? Are there any measures or steps our societies are taking to counter these kinds of transactions?

TedTalk video

Dr. Peter Eigen states:

- ***Systematic corruption perverts economic policy-making in many countries, which can lead to poverty, conflicts, and violence.***
 - ***Many captains of industry say “This is not bribery, what we are doing. This is customary; it is what the cultures demand.”***
 - ***“Civil society rose to the occasion” – convinced countries to sign a convention on criminalizing foreign bribery***
1. What do you think about the statement “This is not bribery, what we are doing. This is customary.” Is this still a reality in many places around the world?
 2. Dr. Eigen states that many large companies now have strong policies against bribery, and this is largely possible because **civil society joined companies and governments in analyzing the problem, developing the remedies, implementing the reforms, and then monitoring the reforms.** Do you have organizations within your society who play some of these roles?
 3. Is it easy for civil society organizations (CSOs) to “get a seat at the table” to help play the roles mentioned above? Why or why not? What can help them get a seat at the table?
 4. What successes have you seen with CSOs fighting corruption in your communities? What challenges do they face?

Additional ShareAmerica Videos that can be used on this topic:

- **SHARE AMERICA VIDEO: *Politician Changes Laws for Personal Gain - What's the harm?*** [54 seconds; published on Jul 24, 2017]
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kssEedepNik&feature=youtu.be>
- **SHARE AMERICA VIDEO: *Security Official Takes a Bribe - What's the harm?***
[55 seconds; published on Jul 24, 2017]
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmqOI_BxdWU&feature=youtu.be
- **SHARE AMERICA VIDEO: *Journalist is Censored - What's the harm?*** [1 min; published July 24, 2017]
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qvh89xEy0eE&feature=youtu.be>