Fighting Corruption

Programming Kit

American Spaces

WHAT IS CORRUPTION?

Corruption is the **abuse of one's position** in an organization **for personal gain.** Corruption can come in various forms, including **bribery, misuse of funds or extortion.**

(State Dept./D. Thompson)

WHAT IS THE BIG DEAL?

Corruption is an obstacle to economic and social development. It harms all of society, particularly those in minority or vulnerable groups. It can have the effect of weakening governments, taking money away from public services and discouraging foreign investment.

PUTTING A STOP TO CORRUPTION

Report Corruption
Contribute to or start an anti-corruption website, or go to local or federal authorities to report corruption.

Keep Watch and Follow the Money
Keep track of when promises are not met, then follow the money to find out why.

Raise Awareness
Put up posters, hold an event, pass out fake money with anti-corruption messages, start a social media campaign... inform your community about how corruption affects them.

Form or Join a Group
Get together a group of people who are concerned about corruption and work together.

Petition and Protest
Petition for official inquiries into corruption or give your government citizen report cards.

THINGS TO DISCUSS

What are some types of corruption you have observed? In your local community? In your country? In the world?

How does corruption affect you and your community? What consequences has corruption had on the community?

Is there ever a time when bribery, misusing funds or extortion is acceptable? What if a bribe is the only way to get something done quickly or at all? Is it okay to give or accept a bribe in that situation? If yes, why? If no, how can you achieve your goal?

INTRODUCTION: CORRUPTION?

1. Show one or more of the ["What's the Harm"](#) or regional specific [Transparency International](#) videos.

2. Have the group discuss whether they think the situations described take place in their country.

(State Dept./D. Thompson)

INTERMEDIATE: THE FUNNIES
(Introduction + 30-60 min)

1. Introduce topic, with fact sheet or "introduction" activity.

2. Show some anti-corruption comics that are culturally relevant for your audience.

3. Split audience into groups of two or three, and have each group create a comic that could be an anti-corruption campaign in their community.

4. When comics are complete, groups can present and discuss how their comics can be used in stopping corruption.

• [ACTIVITY LINK](#)

ADVANCED: DEBATE (60 min)

1. Split group into two. Debate question: Is it possible to wipe out corruption in our country? Assign Yes and No groups.

2. Have each group spend 15-20 minutes researching and taking notes on their arguments.

3. 30 minutes for debate: Each team gets to make 5-minute constructive arguments, conduct 3-minute cross examinations, and give 3-minute rebuttal arguments.

4. At conclusion of debate, hold discussion with debaters and audience on issues raised.

5. **Optional:** Judges made up of staff or audience participants choose winner based on logic of arguments.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

[**Transparency International**](#) provides in-language videos and other resources for anti-corruption programming.

[**International Anti-Corruption Academy**](#) has many open access articles about anti-corruption efforts all over the world.

[**Anti-Corruption Kit**](#) provides creative ideas on how to fight corruption in different communities.

AMERICAN SPACES RESOURCES
E-Resources
• [Share America](#): Transparency