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ETIOLOGICAL FACTORS OF CORRUPTION IN PERU**Jessica Paola Palacios Garay¹, Milagritos Leonor Rodriguez Rojas², Bertha Silva Narvaste³, Jean Pierre Wong Silva⁴, Flores Escalante, Jorge Luis⁵**¹Doctora, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, jpalaciosg@unmsm.edu.pe, Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2315-1683>,²Doctora, Universidad César Vallejo, mlrodriguezr1@ucvvirtual.edu.pe, Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8873-1785>³Doctora, Universidad César Vallejo, bsilvan@ucvvirtual.edu.pe, Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2926-6027>,⁴Doctor, Universidad peruana de ciencias aplicadas Perú, pccijwon@ucp.edu.pe, Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7247-178X>,⁵Doctor, Universidad Ricardo Palma, jorge.escalante@urp.edu.pe Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4942-5283>

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Abstract: Corruption is a multidimensional problem of great social impact given its consequences and negative implications in Peruvian society. In this sense, the objective of this study was to know the propensity of Peruvians with respect to acts of corruption in Peru.

Theoretical framework: Corruption is a psychosocial problem that resonates in different media and has an undeniable relationship with people's ethics. The reasons for the origin of this problem are closely linked to politics, which reverberates as a consequence in the different spheres of a government. The research approach was quantitative, non-experimental cross-sectional design, the method used was descriptive, the sample consisted of 354 Peruvians from Metropolitan Lima, the national corruption survey Proetica (2019) on the propensity to corruption was used.

The results: 42.9% of the sample presented an unacceptable level of corruption, on the other hand, the female sex (40.7%) considered the propensity to corruption unacceptable. In terms of age, between 26 and 42 years of age, 27.7% of the sample had a moderate level of propensity to corruption. In Peruvian society it is essential to develop and implement a civic conscience and respect for legal norms so that the population, the ruling class and the citizens introject that corruption is a criminal action that takes advantage of diverse needs for its own benefit.

Introduction

In recent years, the Peruvian nation went from being a nation with low economic income and high levels of poverty, to a sovereignty of average per capita income in approximately the second decade of this century according to the Central Reserve Bank of Peru (2018), reducing poverty in the same way.

According to the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI, 2015), life expectancy in the last 15 years has increased, i.e. Peruvian people will live an average of 74.6 years. These indicators show the improvement the country has had as a country in certain sectors, however, despite these figures, the concerns of the population have been displaced to what is now known as citizen insecurity and the problem mentioned in different media and casual conversations, corruption. The reasons for these factors standing out among all the other difficulties, especially the last mentioned problem, may be the abuse of the institutions that provide public services and the various forms of authority that are deplorable in terms of ethics, as well as other negative characteristics that incite Peruvians to be distrustful of the powers of the state.

Corruption is not a new problem in Peru, but has a relationship that can even be personal to Peruvian history itself. Starting with the well-known case of the consolidation scandal, a problem that was generated because of the falsification of certain bonds for an unjust economic gain. When Peruvians talk about corruption, they also think of the well-known ‘Vladivideos’ in the 1990s, in which politicians, managers and public officials were shown receiving money from Vladimiro Montesinos. Considering the current years, the repercussions of the ‘lava jato’ case, which comprised the investigation and even requests for the arrest of politicians and high-ranking officials because of their relationship with the construction company Odebrecht, is a resounding situation in the newspapers and on the streets. In the same way, the case of the white collars, among other scandals, has once again generated this discordance among the locals with the Peruvian state authorities (Arce & Incio, 2018).

Furthermore, Vivar (2020), in Peru, corruption is experienced when citizens cannot do their jobs or when political leaders take advantage of these situations to benefit from public funds and, as a result, Peruvian citizens do not receive quality services; in addition, the corrupt system overvalues the prices of products necessary for a country such as medicines or hospitalisation and gives benefits to private entities so that profit can exist above the real needs. Besides this, people sometimes know certain candidates who often run for public office, even though they have a history of corruption; however, they continue to offer their votes, which does not allow them to break out of this vicious circle. The same is true of the population’s interest in political life, as disinformation and social influences are the daily bread, and little or nothing is done to promote voting autonomy. Therefore the consequences of these acts of corruption have harmed society, the organisation and management of the state, because of the constant changes and insecurities that arise.

It is also known as a phenomenon that harms an entire society in both the public and private spheres. Likewise, Malem (1996 cited by Estévez, 2005) stated that corruption is any act that makes up passive or active violence, of non-compliance with some specific functionality, developed discreetly with the exclusive purpose of obtaining any personal benefit. It is the transgression within a normative framework being the violate of both informal and formal rules (Gill, 2014). Corruption can then be conceptualised as that phenomenon that invites public personnel who are driven to act in a manner that is inconsistent with the standards set by the rules of a system, in order to get a personal or special interest for a reward.

In addition, through the Proética National Corruption Survey (2019), in a range within the period of the previous 6 years, it was determined that corruption is one of the main problems in the country, having a reception and increase within 20 points in percentage, being more specifically, 44% in the year 2013 and 62% in the year 2019, as a result, the crime rate in corruption is only four points behind crime (66% in 2019), occupying the first place in which corruption is concerned, there are no indications that show certain behaviours in people's priorities. 73% of citizens infer that corruption will continue to increase in a referential range of the 5 years following this year, likewise in terms of experience of corruption, it is recognised that 13% of the population have paid a bribe at least once in the last twelve months when in contact with police, education, health, judicial or municipal authorities, this value is down from 16% in the previous edition in 2017. The reporting rate has not decreased because only 7% of bribe-takers reported this. The main reason for not doing so (33%) shows that it is useless. In relation to this, the evaluation of complaints by the group of respondents is mostly negative: 71% of people think that reporting corruption has little or no effect.

According to the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI, 2019-2020), the least trusted institutions include political parties (3.5%), the Congress of the Republic (4.7%) and the Judiciary (10.4%). State corruption is one of the many existing forms of corruption, which involves civil servants. According to INEI (2020) during the rolling six-month period from October to March 2019-2020, 3.7% of surveyed households reported that their family members were asked to "pay extra" when a public agency performs procedures or requests services. The Lima province and Tacna region reported the highest percentages of "extra payments" with 6.9% and 6.8%. 0.4% of households in the Amazon state reported this situation. The aim of this study is to understand the prize of corruption in Peru, as well as the impact that this problem has on the psychological and social environment of individuals. It is important to understand this issue broadly, based on a survey of Peruvians on their propensity to corruption.

Conceptualisation of corruption

Guillen (2016) stated that corruption is a serious obstacle to progress in the consolidate of democratic systems, threatens political stability, and produces a loss of credibility in government and public institutions. It hinders the full exercise and enjoyment of human rights, as it stresses social inequalities by making available and efficient management of a country's available resources impossible. In Peru, there are all kinds of corruption at all levels and in all regions. From the point of view of Shack et al. (2020), corruption in Peru is characterised by two spheres: on the one hand, the abuse of political power and public function; and on the other, the materialisation, i.e. the appropriate of public resources (Levin, 2019).

According to Begovic (2005), corruption is the intentional breach of the principle of impartiality with the purpose of deriving from such behaviour a personal benefit or benefit for related persons. Finally, from a more philosophical point of view, Nizama (2018), corruption is a problem that generates a serious impact on human development. This is because it is one of the greatest problems of postmodernity because of its amoral and generalised character that directly affects the state and the institutions in charge of it. This generates an atmosphere of mistrust between the population and the government that is to ensure optimal development.

Explanatory theories of corruption

Theory of planned behaviour

Azjen and Fishbein (1980) present the theory of planned behaviour, which tries to explain and predict the different behaviours of human beings based on the internal and external aspects of the person, which lead to an action, and this is how this theory proposes the predictability of behaviour based on a person's intention, which is later represented by an action; This model originated because of the limitations of the theory on which it was based, i.e. the theory of reasoned action, as it had limitations in explaining those behaviours that are not cognitively controlled in the subject (Campos-Ramírez *et al.*, 2019).

In addition, Regalado *et al.* (2017) explained that a person's intention to perform an act, as explained by the theory, will have three factors as requirements that are related and will significantly influence the individual when performing a behaviour. These authors show that the first factor is the attitude towards the behaviour, which can be positive or negative; the second factor will be the subjective norm, which refers to the impression that the person has about the social opinion that is present in their environment in relation to certain

behaviour; there is behavioural control, which involves the person's personal appreciation of their own ability to self-control, they will ask themselves if they can control themselves to express the behaviour or not.

Labelling theory

During approximately 1960, Howard Becker studied deviance in relation to a behaviour, and later proposed the Labelling Theory, postulating that deviance expresses most society that negatively labels the behaviour of minorities, understanding in this way that, when one is labelled, one becomes the worst of society, so one will only limit oneself to relate to people who are going through the same thing, so this leads to the labelled one's repeating these deviant actions (Reyes Calderón, 2007, as cited in Hikal, 2017).

Likewise, Hikal (2017) exposes that within an unequal society, the capacity of labelling is going to be of great importance and impact for people, as they will always look for a positive social reaction from the community faced with which they will always see fear, persecution, exclusion, rejection, violence, among other related variables, with which, minorities live day to day, and unfortunately are given few life opportunities. Then, relating the theory to corruption, Larrauri (1991, as cited in Barrionuevo *et al.*, 2019) explained that the delinquent will not be the one who does behaviours that define him as such, but will be the one that most of society has labelled as a delinquent.

Causes and consequences of corruption

The causes of corruption are the lack of capacity and potential of an individual to perform socially, i.e. the author suggests that there is undoubtedly an opposite relationship between corruption and competitiveness, so that when there is a low level of competitiveness this would lead to more corrupt behaviour. Gonzales (1985, as cited in Sanchez, 2018) mentioned that the causes of corruption are diverse, among them, underdevelopment, since because of this many people take advantage of the neediest people in order to get their own benefit; he also explains that another factor is the absence of norms (anomie) because it leads people who have some superior position to take that power and exploit it for their own interest, family or social groups; and finally, a deficient level of social discipline goes hand in hand with inequality. In relation to people's vulnerability, there is a proposal that refers to this. Julian, (2020) stated that uncertainty is an indispensable role in people's propensity to engage in corrupt activities, i.e., these researchers explain that when people do not know the level of exposure of their peers to corrupt issues, they are less likely to engage in corrupt behaviour. In the same way, Sánchez

(2018) showed that politicians are not the only ones to blame for this crisis; there are also the citizens who have a certain tolerance towards what is illegal and who therefore rarely dare to denounce, report or make the voice of the people heard in the face of an act of corruption that is only aimed at harming the country.

Regarding the repercussions of corruption activity, López-López *et al.* (2016) state that these consequences are serious in the vast majority of cases and occur mainly in four areas (a) politics, as it hinders good democracy because corruption directly attacks institutions in terms of the development of political leadership and their legitimacy; (b) the economic part, acts of corruption consume the wealth of nations to manage the investment of public resources in projects in order to benefit selfishly, i.e. they generate inequality in the people who have more purchasing power to raise their economic resources and it is more present in democracies, as it is done in a subtle way through fraudulent acts by power groups; (c) the consequences fall in the social area, since it places people's trust in leaders, systems and institutions in oblivion, making it difficult to build and establish a culture of peace; and (d) the environmental area, since the system of corruption expands environmental deterioration through the indiscriminate exploitation of resources, which generates severe and irreversible environmental damage. .

A View of Corruption in Peru

Peru and corruption have a close relationship since ancient times, as Ramón (2014) states that corruption is a serious problem that society has faced since the beginning of colonial times, with a negative impact on the proper development of democracy because it undermines political equality and common interests. Nothing seems to have changed recently, as the problem in the Peruvian country is latent for today's democratic institutions, which, together with the state, are weakened by corruption, causing these institutions to lose their trust and legitimacy in the eyes of Peru.

Acts of corruption are more present in public organisations, as they should be in charge of promoting and ensuring Peru's development. Alejandría (2015) showed that instead, the State does not do a good administrative job and that there are many cases in which this money is used personally to benefit those who abuse their power, when there are millions of Peruvians who work honestly to move the country forward, It is regrettable that in most cases, they only receive a sentence of a couple of years and even go unpunished before the evidence of their misdeeds, clarifying that there is no concern for the crisis that is situated and only worsening poverty, increasing social backwardness and seriously affecting the economy.

After the fall of the authoritarian government of former president Alberto Fujimori in 2000, an anti-corruption penal system was created in the face of complaints and reactions from the people. Epiquen (2019) showed that this method tried and attempted to investigate and punish corruption during those times, however, the reason there is still corruption to this day is because this system could not and cannot adequately address many of these crimes, but, although all of Peru is aware of this, it does not seem that everyone agreed that his rule was so detrimental to the country, as there are still people who support him and even want him to return. The author also mentions that the problem with this is that there is an inexplicable acceptance of a ruler, even knowing the levels of corruption he can reach, instead of preferring institutional mechanisms that guarantee democracy, and that faced with this, it is explained that one reason for this is that there is an inexplicable acceptance of a ruler, even knowing the levels of corruption he can reach, instead of preferring institutional mechanisms that guarantee democracy, It is explained that one reason why the people accept this type of ruler is the economic opportunism of the middle classes in the face of corruption, given that when the state decides to be corrupt it never works alone, it always needs help, and depending on the number of accomplices there is a greater likelihood of impunity and of covering for each other for a reward that benefits some people.

Materials and methods

The research was conducted under the positivist paradigm, quantitative approach, the design used was non-experimental, cross-sectional and descriptive research method was used.

The sample comprised 354 Peruvians aged 18 years and over, of all sexes, female (182-51%) and male (172-49%) living in Metropolitan Lima, the sample used was non-probabilistic by convenience, those Peruvians who wished to take part voluntarily by signing the informed consent form. Inclusion criteria were Peruvians aged 18 years or older, residents of Metropolitan Lima, male and female, university students and professionals of all socio-economic levels, and exclusion criteria were Peruvians who did not live in Metropolitan Lima, people under 18 years of age, active military personnel and people with cognitive limitations.

The data collection technique was the National Survey on Peruvian Perceptions of Corruption - Corruption Propensity Index (2019) developed by IPSOS on behalf of PROÉTICA, an NGO created in 2002 to promote ethics and fight corruption. The survey comprises 15 questions with a Likert scale. The Corruption Propensity Index seeks to measure proximity of the population to attitudes and experiences of daily corruption or transgression. It is constructed

from variables that respond to three dimensions: experiences of corruption, tolerance of transgressive behaviour, and self-perception of corruption. This research only sought to measure tolerance of transgressive behaviours.

Results

The tables of results of the research sample are presented below

Table 1. Levels of corruption propensity among Peruvians

Items	Never		Rarely		Sometimes		Almost always		Always	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Evading taxes if you know you won't be found out	55	15.5	99	28	97	27.4	103	29.1	0	0
Buying pirated goods or installing pirated services	53	15	114	32.2	92	26	95	26.8	0	0
Giving goods or paying a tip to have a fine forgiven or to expedite a process	102	28.8	81	22.9	75	21.2	96	27.1	0	0
Having an elected official put unqualified supporters in key positions	100	28.2	90	25.4	43	12.1	121	34.2	0	0
Not asking for an invoice to avoid VAT	72	20.3	116	32.8	62	17.5	104	29.4	0	0
Seeking a relative or friend who is a public official to favour him/her in a service	106	29.9	80	22.6	59	16.7	109	30.8	0	0
Asking for a sexual favour for a procedure or service	71	20.1	93	26.3	124	35	66	18.6	0	0
An elected official handing over contracts for major public works to a business executive.	107	30.2	45	12.7	74	20.9	128	36.2	0	0
A supreme magistrate influencing the decisions of lower-ranking judges or prosecutors to favour close associates	93	26.3	62	17.5	103	29.1	96	27.1	0	0
That a parliamentarian promotes laws in favour of those who financed his or her political campaign	104	29.4	47	13.3	74	20.9	129	36.4	0	0
A bus driver giving a tip to a police officer to allow him to continue driving despite an infraction.	82	23.2	90	25.4	64	18.1	118	33.3	0	0
For a merchant to pay a municipal official to keep a business open even though he has no permit.	88	24.9	73	20.6	90	25.4	103	29.1	0	0
Asking an acquaintance to hire a relative for a public office even though the relative is not qualified for the job	114	32.2	67	18.9	33	9.3	140	39.5	0	0
Tipping a security guard, city official or city inspector to avoid being reported for building an extra room on the roof of your home without a city permit	71	20.1	93	26.3	124	35	66	18.6	0	0
Asking an acquaintance who works in a hospital to get a bed or room for a sick family member	107	30.2	45	12.7	74	20.9	128	36.2	0	0

Table 1 showed that in the item evading taxes, 15.5% considered that they would never do it and 29.1% said they would almost always do it. On the item buying pirated questions or installing pirated services, 32.2% said they would rarely do it and 26.8% would almost always do it. On the item giving goods or paying tips to forgive fines and speed up procedures, 28.8% said they would never do it and 27.1% said they would almost always do it. On the item about an elected official placing unqualified supporters in key positions, 28.2% said never and 34.2% said almost always. On the item about not asking for an invoice to avoid VAT, 32.8% said rarely and 29.4% said almost always. In the question about looking for a relative or friend who is a public official to help them with a service, 29.9% said never and 30.8% said almost always. In the question asking for a sexual favour for a procedure or service, 20.1% said never and 18.6% showed that they would almost always accept it. On the question of an elected official handing over large public works contracts to a business executive, 30.2 percent said never and 36.2 per cent would almost always do so. On the question of a supreme magistrate influencing the decisions of lower-level judges or prosecutors to favour close associates, 26.3% said never and 27.1% showed that they would almost always accept it. On the item that a parliamentarian promotes laws in favour of those who financed his or her political campaign, 29.4% would never accept it and 36.4% would almost always accept it. On the question of a minibuss driver giving a tip to a police officer to let him continue driving despite an infraction, 23.2% said never and 33.3% said they would almost always accept it.

The item that a shopkeeper pays a municipal official to keep a business open even if he/she does not have a permit, 24.9% would never accept and 29.1% would almost always accept. The item asking an acquaintance to hire a relative for a public office even if the relative is not qualified, 32.2% said they would never and 39.5% showed they would almost always consider. On the item tipping a security guard, municipal official or inspector so that he or she does not report you for building an extra room on the roof of your house without a municipal permit, 20.1% never, 35% said sometimes. As for the question of asking an acquaintance who works in a hospital to get a bed or room for a sick relative, 30.2% said they would never accept and 36.2% would almost always accept.

Table 2. Levels of Peruvians' propensity to corruption variable

		Frequency	Percentage
Valid	Unacceptable	152	42.9
	Moderate	141	39.8

Acceptable	61	17.2
Total	354	100.0

Table 2 shows that in terms of propensity for corruption, 42.9% were unacceptable, 39.8% were moderate and 17.2% were acceptable to corruption.

Table 3. Levels of the variable propensity to corruption according to gender

		Sex		Total
		Female	Male	
Corruption propensity	Unacceptable	144 40.7%	8 2.3%	152 42.9%
	Moderate	38 10.7%	103 29.1%	141 39.8%
	Acceptable	0 0.0%	61 17.2%	61 17.2%
Total		182 51.4%	172 48.6%	354 100.0%

The table shows females have an unacceptable level of corruption propensity (40.7%), moderate level (10.7%) and no corruption propensity (0%), while males have an unacceptable level (2.3%), moderate level (29.1%) and acceptable level (17.2%).

Table 4. Levels of the variable propensity to corruption according to age

		Age			Total
		18 a 25	From 26 to 42	Over 43	
Corruption propensity	Unacceptable	61 17.2%	28 7.9%	63 17.8%	152 42.9%
	Moderate	21 5.9%	98 27.7%	22 6.2%	141 39.8%
	Acceptable	3 0.8%	50 14.1%	8 2.3%	61 17.2%

In table 4, the sample under 18 to 25 years of age, 17.2% presented unacceptable levels, 5.9% presented moderate level and 0.8% acceptable level, those aged 26 to 42 years presented 7.9% unacceptable level, 27.7% moderate level and 14.1% acceptable level and those over 43 years of age, 17.8% presented unacceptable level, 6.2% moderate level and 2.3% acceptable level.

Discussion

Regarding the research aim of finding out about Peruvians' propensity to corruption, the results showed that evading taxes, paying a tip to forgive a fine, asking favours from an official for a job without having the profile or paying a municipal official to keep your business open are acts of corruption that are carried out daily in Peru. (2022) corruption is a systematic and social phenomenon that has a comprehensive impact on the most vulnerable citizens. In Peru, acts of corruption have become internalised and normalised sometimes, transgressing established social norms, taking advantage of other people's property and harming the most vulnerable citizens.

Thus, Córdova (2017) carried out an investigate in Mexico into the corruption and how it affects state assets, especially in the sectors of water distribution, lighting, among others, clearly showing the high index in different statistics that corrupt acts originate in the political and administrative sectors, which technically should ensure the elimination and punishment of corruption, thus showing that it is a problem that plagues the world, generating general discomfort and social indignation.

In the survey of Peruvians on corruption, 40.7% of women said that it is an unacceptable act, while 17.2% of men considered it acceptable. Regarding the gender factor and the link between this and the tendency to corruption, Żemojtel-Piotrowska et al. (2017) carried out studies in which it was proven that female political workers were judged more harshly than men when they were unmasked after a corrupt act. This is related to another study by Fišar et al. (2016), which shows that women are less likely to offer a bribe, that they are less inclined to sanction corruption, and that the extent of corruption is greater than that recognised by men.

The results according to the propensity to corruption according to age, Peruvians from 26 to 42 years old showed that corruption is at a moderate level 27.7% and acceptable 14.1%, these results meant that corruption is normalised within Peruvian culture, these acts are committed daily. Therefore Diaz (2018) mentioned that corruption can be part of an environmental factor, of a learning process we pick up, human beings from the first years of life imitate what they see, this can be positive but also negative, especially when the behaviours that are learned are not good.

Regarding how power affects people, Bendahan et al. (2015), found that people, when in a position with these characteristics, changed their behaviour, acting out of self-interest and with a lower sense of guilt and this affected even those people with a great disposition of

honesty and optimism regarding the exemplary behaviour of the work organisation. Fischer *et al.* (2014) could also observe that the disseminate of images of politicians being cleared of all blame for corruption made it more likely that other people would imitate such acts without further repercussions through the law or responsible institutions.

In the survey conducted among citizens on the propensity to corruption, they pointed out that corruption is almost always committed within associations, companies or any other type of organisation, and that there is always a leader or group at the head, who play a fundamental role in the organisation. Hechanova *et al.* (2014) showed that this power handles the installation of corrupt behaviour at its centre and that it is important to identify whether these bosses know if there is corruption in their organisation, because if this is forgiven or overlooked, it is likely that employees will follow the same path. Besides this, for Fath and Kay (2018), organisations established mainly hierarchically are the ones with a higher level of corruption, since being many employees after a coveted promotion, the tendency to commit corrupt acts will be higher.

Another act of corruption carried out by Peruvians is asking an acquaintance who works in a hospital to get a bed or room for a sick relative Gorsira *et al.* (2018) showed that people's behaviour is subject to the rules and institutions that are in charge of them, and above all, how they perceive them, because if these people notice they are not being complied with, or sanctioned if they are not, their behaviour will increase. They conducted a study in which they add that the perception of a non-sanction for this negative behaviour is a fundamental factor in the psychology of the corrupt, regardless of whether the employee is in the public or private sector. In another study, Köbis *et al.* (2017) showed that people were more willing to commit a corrupt act when it was severe, rather than gradual, knowing in both cases that they would commit it. Dickel and Graeff (2018) concluded, after evaluation, that an enormous benefit, coupled with a small cost, was central to participants' decision to break a rule. It surprised that these authors concluded that even when the chances of the act coming to light were high; it did not change their corruptible tendency, more so when the time spent thinking about whether to commit the act was longer, as they perceived the consequences more deeply, and thus lowered the levels of illegal behaviour.

Finally, the corrupt act of asking a congressional representative to promote laws that help those who financed his campaign, Peruvians stated that it almost always takes place in Peru. Corrupt acts are strongly defined and conditioned by the socio-cultural context, where the

beliefs and values held by each culture will shape this tendency to corruptibility. Liang et al. (2016) mentioned that this occurs more easily where it is believed that morality in acting depends on the situation in which it is carried out, for this, they conducted studies that proved that high levels of self-esteem go hand in hand with lower levels of materialism, and therefore, corrupt acts, in the same way, they stated that having an orientation towards the permanence of a dominant hierarchical order, there is a lower awareness of corruption, a relationship established with the perception of unfair treatment; In conclusion, the studies mention that belief in justice reduces the perception of corruption and, in parallel, performing corrupt acts.

Conclusions

Corruption is the abuse of power of state institutions in order to get a particular benefit through some public office, although it can vary in different ways, affecting a society that shares cultural, political and economic ties, this psychopathology of the state is based on egotism, greed, conflicts of interest, inclination for what is easy and power; this is a conscious, intentional and voluntary problem. Peruvian citizens have learned to live with corruption, to the point of normalising acts of corruption, injustice, intolerance and inequality exist because there are Peruvians who are more interested in material things.

Corruption throughout history has affected many sectors, both private and public, and in different aspects, such as the appropriation of public resources, the abuse of power and all forms of corruption, which affect the world, as well as the poorest sectors of society, which is considered being the population most affected by these acts, to where the essence of attention is being lost. With Peru, this is a historical problem, but one that has been stressed in recent years in the collective of society, creating frustration, disenchantment and indignation. Although the laws are quite severe, it does not seem to reduce crime, and education and civic awareness are the pillars for the reduce of this social evil that afflicts the country so much.

It has been determined that corruption is a problem that can only be combated with a proper civic culture. The practice of positive values will help to improve the country's situation in all areas. Every citizen should contribute to the reduce of the present problem by practising good deeds. To bring about change, one must start with oneself, focusing on one's own behaviour.

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