

Corruption in egypt essay

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Having to live in an unjust society urges the citizens to use other ways to achieve their goals; for example, bribery. Could this possibly be the reason that made the citizens revolt and fight for their rights after living in silence for over 30 years under Mubarak's regime? We, the Egyptian citizens, were always promised a corruption free and secure environment that we can safely live in. We were promised to live in a democratic country where our opinions matter. Let's start with Hosni Mubarak. He is the former president of Egypt who was accused of corruption and put into prison. We were living in an unfair society where poor citizens are the most affected and the rich ones were living in another parallel world, excluding them from all the mess that the country is facing. According to Salesman (2011), "that is Mubarak's Egypt, where about half the population lives on \$2 a day or less" (Para. 12).

In a country controlled by wealthy and powerful people, this, without a shadow of doubt, makes perfect sense. In fact, believe that even more than half of the population is suffering from poverty nowadays. Even though the government had enforced a lot of anti corruption measures, Egyptian citizens continue to face increasing rates of unemployment and poverty. Furthermore, we were not only living in an inequitable country, but also living in an insecure environment. The relationship between the Egyptian police and the citizens was based on brutality and violence.

The Egyptian police was referred to as "Blatantly" for harassing and discriminating Egyptian citizens whenever they plead or fight for their rights. Egyptians rarely found Egypt as their safe home. Women were frequently sexually harassed; children were being abducted and their parents could not retrieve them due to financial difficulties. According to Andrew Updated

(2012), “ The government does not appear to have carried out any overall assessment of corruption in Egypt or mandated an experienced institution to do so”(p. 5).

In a country where there is a lack of censorship and discipline, this is evident to happen. Additionally, government laws were not enforced properly and were never taken seriously. With a simple bribe given to any government official, one can evade a law smoothly. These were just some of the main reasons that impelled the Egyptian citizens to revolt against his outrageously corrupt system. On January 25, thousands of protestors not only filled up every part of the Tahrir Square located in Cairo, but also jam-packed many other parts of the country demanding a change in their country’s corruption, brutality of the police, and discrimination. In other words, the Egyptian protestors demanded the overthrowing of the Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak. After revolting for 18 days the protestors got their wish and Hosni Mubarak finally resigned.

Egyptians thought that as soon as Hosni Mubarak retires, we were to live in a pure and corrupt-free country; however, this definitely was not the situation. Egypt has passed through a rough time during the revolution period. In fact, I even believe that the country became more corrupt and chaotic. A lot of institutions have been destroyed and burnt to the ground, the Egyptian museum had been looted and many objects were stolen, and protesters had attacked the police stations and stormed many prisons. All of this has caused a huge decline in the Egyptian tourism industry. Salesman (2011) points this out and its effects on Egypt national revenue: The capital outflows have been

accompanied by a sharp decline in tourism, another important source of foreign exchange.

Egypt Tourism Ministry has reported a “ loss” of \$2. 5 billion in tourism revenue since January 2011 compared to typical pre-revolution levels, and the World Economic Forum recently and devastatingly ranked the country as one of the world’s most dangerous destinations for tourists. (Para.

5) Well, it is not shocking to hear this. People will definitely be frightened to visit a country full of criminal activity. How would you expect people to react after hearing that a lot of institutions have been destroyed in a short period of time? This is why Egypt is known as one of the most vulnerable and unsafe tourist destinations. Few months after the revolution, Mohamed Morsi has been elected as the fifth Egyptian president.

He basically ruined Egypt. He vowed to eliminate corruption, yet he never did. He imposed a new transportation plan and vowed to improve public transportation; however, he failed to do so. Moreover, sexual harassment remained a significant issue haunting women all around Egypt. Additionally, bribery was used on a daily basis. I, personally, had to make use of bribery to obtain my driving permit. According to Updated (2012), in article 109 it is banned by the law for any individual to offer or take a bribe as it is considered an offence if anyone tries to do so (p. 7).

For example, not only is bribery used by individuals to avoid paying a traffic ticket, but it is also used by companies to evade taxes or issue a construction license. Whatever the article says is definitely not taken

seriously by neither the Egyptian citizens nor the government. In conclusion, believe that the country will continue to behave this way no matter which president is ruling it. Actually the problem lies within us. We need to start changing ourselves to see a change in the country. First, the government needs to be serious about the implementation of laws, and citizens should feel like it is their civic duty to abide by these rules to try to improve their community.

Furthermore, education systems should also cover teaching younger generations what is socially acceptable in attempt to create a better generation that will lead to a country flourishing with intelligent and patriotic citizens.