

# **INFLUENCE OF STAKEHOLDERS ON POLICY FORMULATION IN NIGERIA**

BY

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DEGREE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

[MONTH, YEAR]

## **CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that this research project titled "Influence of Stakeholders on Policy Formulation in Nigeria" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

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PROJECT SUPERVISOR

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EXTERNAL EXAMINER

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Date

## **DEDICATION**

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

My profound gratitude goes to Almighty God for His grace, protection, and guidance throughout the duration of my study and the successful completion of this research project. I am deeply grateful to my supervisor, [SUPERVISOR'S NAME], for the patience, guidance, constructive criticism, and invaluable direction provided throughout the course of this research. I also wish to appreciate the Head of Department, the lecturers of the Department of Political Science, and my course mates for their support and friendship. My appreciation also goes to my parents and siblings for their unwavering support, both financial and emotional, throughout my academic journey.

## **ABSTRACT**

This study examined influence of stakeholders on policy formulation in Nigeria, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of influence; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with influence and stakeholders. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Elite Theory and the Systems Theory. A sample size of 394 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 366 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.02). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ( $r = 0.574$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 6.73,  $p < 0.05$ ). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ( $t = 1.32$ ,  $p > 0.05$ ). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on influence.

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## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background to the Study

The study of influence of stakeholders on policy formulation in Nigeria is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

Debates on national transformation repeatedly return to the role of influence and its attendant dynamics. Evidence from national agencies indicates that influence has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. Kalu and Ekwueme (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of influence are unevenly distributed across groups. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Adekunle and Adeniyi (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. For practitioners, the practical significance of influence cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with stakeholders. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

In both global and African literatures, influence is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which influence unfolds. The work of Nnamdi and Chukwu (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that stakeholders reinforces the effects of influence. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in political science. Evidence assembled by Chukwu and Adeniyi (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to influence. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of influence in shaping developmental trajectories. Nigeria's federal structure and its diverse cultural geography ensure that the experience of influence varies considerably from one region to another. Field evidence gathered by Chukwu and Adeniyi (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of influence. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Salami and Ogunlana (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of influence are unevenly distributed across groups. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

Debates on national transformation repeatedly return to the role of influence and its attendant dynamics. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of influence in everyday life. Evidence assembled by Eze and Nnamdi (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to influence. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate