

Political Leadership as Ethics of Care in Public Organization Management in Zimbabwe

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Abstract

This paper analyses the political leadership as ethics of care in managing public organizations in Zimbabwe. The ethical conduct of politicians is a critical ingredient in democratic governance as ethics may be viewed as the standards of accountability within public activities. Political leadership often has a larger portion in both organizational social and economic influence hence, it is neutral and inherently a necessary component of organizational functioning. Managing politically engenders mundane success of organizations as this fosters a democratic environment within organizations. This situation implies caring of other people's interest and encourages leaders to perform their duties and fulfill their responsibility of others. Politics can also be functional in ways that are beneficial for more than just a politically skilled and political motivated minority and provide a basis of organizational competitive advantage. Public organizations in Zimbabwe are perceived as the cornerstone of economic growth but, the interference of political elite jeopardizes the entire functional process. The study employed a qualitative analysis obtaining data from secondary sources from different research studies focusing on political leadership with ethics of care. Findings from the study revealed that political leaders' behaviors focus practically on self-interest and hypocritically spread an ethics of care word to the community. The study as a result recommended a wholesome approach in leadership with ethics of care. This paper suggests political leadership with ethics of care.

Keywords: ethics, politics, ethics of care, political leadership, public organization, economic development

Introduction

Political leadership as ethics of care accounts for significant differences across and within public organization in governance issues. The inseparable relationship between politics, ethics and care is of critical essence in public organizations management in Zimbabwe. In this regard, ethics of public organizations officials and integrity of governance are of fundamental nature in managing public organizations. It is the positive edge of political leadership that determines ethics of care in the management of public organizations. The prolonged negative environment in public organizations management in Zimbabwe has inevitably invited endless studies to encourage prioritization of good corporate governance for the benefit of the public and the nation at large (Beshi & Kaur, 2020; Rose & Wessels, 2019). In order to comprehend political leadership a critical consideration and analysis of beliefs, values characters, power relationship, ethical and unethical values, attitudes and actions of leaders and followers is of paramount importance (Nye, 2008). The comprehension of political leadership