

**RADIO PROGRAMMES AND THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA: AN EVALUATION OF “ROUND TABLE” ON FRCN, ABUJA**

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**Abstract**

*This study “Radio Programmes and the Fight Against Corruption in Nigeria: An Evaluation of “Round Table” on FRCN, Abuja” examines the role of broadcast media in the war against corruption in Nigeria. The study is anchored on the tenets of Agenda Setting Theory while the survey research design was adopted with questionnaire as instrument for data collection. Findings from the study reveal that “Round Table” plays information and whistle blowing roles, has a positive influence in combating corruption and that through its information dissemination role combat corruption effectively. The study thus concludes that the programme “Round Table” is a veritable platform for information and whistle blowing against corruption practices and persons in Nigeria. Based on this findings and conclusion, the study recommends that the broadcast media should be placed in the forefront of anti-corruption campaigns and anti-graft agencies such as EFCC, ICPC and the relevant authorities should pay attention to the programme as it can serve as a good source of information in curbing corruption in Nigeria.*

**Keywords:** Radio Programme, Corruption, Round Table, FRCN, Nigeria

**Introduction**

Nigeria, the most populated country in Africa has one of the world’s highest economic growth rates, averaging 7.4% according to Nigeria economic report released in July 2014 by the World Bank. The nation is known for its massive wealth and huge population to support commerce, a well-developed economy and plenty of natural resources such as oil in the south-south, lead and zinc in the eastern, granite and kaolin in the western and soda ash and limestone in the northern regions respectively. Despite all this endowment, Nigeria has been ranked high on corruption index by Transparency International and other notable organizations that monitor corrupt practices around the world.

Simply stated, corruption is a dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those in power, typically involving bribery. It is the illegitimate use of power to benefit a private interest (Morris 1991).

For some time, successive governments in Nigeria have been battling the issue of corruption and its attendant effects on our contemporary society. Nwaoobi (2004) posited that Nigeria is one of the very few countries in the world where a man's source of wealth is of no concern to his neighbor, the public or the government. Wealthy people who are known to be corrupt are regularly courted and honored by communities, religious bodies, social clubs and other private organizations. This implies that people who benefit from the largesse of these corrupt people rarely ask questions.

In Nigeria, traditional values of gift giving and tributes to leaders often lead to what Berger (1983) describes as "Polite Corruption". However, the extent of such corruption is relatively small. Some notable cases of corruption include the indictment of former Head of the Civil Service of the Federation, Mr. Stephen Oronsaye over an alleged N123 billion fraud. The ex-Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs, Mallam Atiku Abubakar Kigo, now a director in the Police Pension Office, his chief accountant, Mrs. Uzoma Cyril Attang and four others on an 18-count charge of conspiracy, breach of trust and embezzlement of N32.2 billion and several others.

The broadcast media in its social responsibility role have been instrumental in the coverage of corrupt cases in the various sectors of the Nigerian economy.

The cases of corruption are predominantly featured in the Nigerian media on daily basis as the trend continues to impoverish millions of people while very few privileged individuals continue to enrich themselves. The broadcast media particularly the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, FRCN Abuja through their programme "Round Table" is in the forefront of anti-corruption crusade.

The medium wields a pervasive influence in the society because of its ability to reach a large number of people and break the barrier of illiteracy apart from the education, information, entertainment and persuasive functions.

According to Pringle and Gonzales (1991), broadcast media particularly radio is advantageous since it reaches the grass roots, and it is portable; it has the character of immediacy in information dissemination as well as transmit a wide range of programmes.

Broadcast messages are not an end in themselves but a means to an end since through them the broadcast media communicates views, ideas and feelings to their targeted, large and heterogeneous audience members.

The broadcast media when properly used, proves to be the best and most effective medium of communication with a larger population (Onabanjo, 2002). Broadcast media messages enhance the chances of getting information across to a wide range of audience members.

To this end, this study evaluates the contribution of "Round Table" programme on FRCN, Abuja in combatting corruption in Nigeria.

## **Method**

The research method adopted for this work is the survey research design. According to Kerlenzer (1979) cited in Akuezuilo (1993) survey research may be described as that research in which samples are chosen and studied in a bid to finding out relative incidence, distribution and interrelation of sociology and physiological variables. In addition, survey research has certain advantages as stated by Wimmer and Dominic (1987).

The population for this study covers the FCT. According to the population figure by the National Population Census (2006), Abuja has a population figure of 1,406,239.

In this study, the research selected a sample size of 100. This sample was adopted with the hope that generalization or inferences about the population would be made based on it. According to Emeka (2015), drawing inferences or generalizations about the population based on the data obtained from the sample is of primary concern in any scientific investigation. This study is however not an exception hence generalization will be made at the end.

The research employed the simple random sampling technique in the study. According to Hasan (2013) this technique is employed so that each member of the population will have an equal chance of being selected. To achieve this, the researchers segmented the population into five segments namely. Area One, Bwari, Deidei, Karu and Lugbe where copies of the instrument were administered based on the population.

In summary, the researchers distributed 100 copies of the questionnaire to respondents for the purpose of data collection.

The research instruments used in this study were the questionnaire and interview. Obasi (1999) describes the questionnaire “as data collection instrument whereby respondents are given standardized questionnaires to complete in written form”. To Kvale (1991) interview as “an interchange of views between two or more people on a topic of mutual interest, sees the centrality of human interaction for knowledge production, and emphasize the social situatedness of research data.”

To effectively utilize these instruments, the research administered (100) copies of questionnaire containing (15) questions with the help of research assistant through face-to-face approach within a period of one week. The essence of face-to-face approach was to enable the researchers clear any misconception that may arise from the respondents in the course of completing the questionnaire. The questionnaire administered contained two sections namely; sections A and B. While section A contained demographic details of respondents, section B on the other hand, contained general questions designed to elicit data that is used to answer the questions raised in the introduction.

The researchers interviewed 20 respondents with the aim of eliciting data one-on-one from respondents

Primary sources were employed in obtaining data for this study. For the primary sources, the questionnaire designed to elicit data from respondents formed the primary sources while library materials such as books, journals and online sources formed the secondary source of data collection.

The data collected from primary source through questionnaire was statistically presented and analyzed using simple percentage, expressed through the use of tables.

The validity of the research instrument was done using the content validity approach. Content validity, according to Ofo (2001), can be determined by expert judgment. As a result, after the questionnaire was designed and the researchers presented copies to the supervisor for necessary corrections and inputs, thus, the instruments were validated by the supervisor after a thorough examination.

The researchers administered 100 copies of the instrument however only 94 were completed and returned. The remaining (6) formed the mortality rate of the total number administered.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Broadcast media is the use of radio, television and other electronic devices to transmit information to the public. According to Head and McGregor (1998), it is the electronic instrument of radio and television station use to disseminate information to the audience members.

Broadcast messages though transient in nature are often presented to the target audience through individual performance known as a programme. A programme as a message offered to the public to communicate ideas or feelings. Fedler, Bender, Davenport and Drager (1997) in his argument posit that, a programme is a message which broadcast organizations transmit to justify the reason for their existence and in fulfillment of their social existence.

The implication is that broadcast messages are not an end in themselves but a means to an end since through them the broadcast media communicate views, ideal and feelings to their target, large and heterogeneous audience members. Broadcast media exert a lot of influence on members of the society. Udeajah (2004) posits that they are known to be able to contribute positively to societal development through their programmes. Communicating scholars and national development ascribed particular strength to broadcast media in this regard.

The broadcast media basically service the information needs of the audience as its basic function in the society. In the words of Onabajo (2002), the broadcast media informs, educate, entertain as well as sensitize the audience members on issues of public importance.

In whatsoever form, corruption is an anti-ethical behavior, which is detrimental to development in any society; this is evident because it pursues the selfish interest of the individuals in the society. Klitgaard (1998) broadly viewed corruption as misuse of office for unofficial ends. According to him, a “catalogue of corrupt acts includes – but not limited to – bribery, extortion, influence peddling, nepotism, fraud, the use of

“speed money” (money paid to government officials to speed up their consideration of a business matter falling within their jurisdiction), and embezzlement”.

Corruption is efforts to secure wealth or power through illegal means, private gain at public expense or a misuse of public power for private benefit (Lipset & Lenz, 2000). In addition, corruption is a behavior which deviates from the formal duties of a public role, because of private gains. This definition includes such behavior as bribery, nepotism and misappropriation (Banfield, 1961).

In addition, Dike (2009) observes that corruption is an anti-social behavior conferring improper benefits contrary to legal and moral norms, and which undermine the authorities’ efforts to improve the living conditions of the people. Corruption causes a reduction in quality of goods and services available to the public, as some companies could cut corners to increase profit margins. Corruption affects investment, economic growth, and government expenditure choices; it also reduces private investment (Pezullo, 1998).

According to Stople (2008), United Nations Convention against corruption recognized corruption as a multi-faceted, dynamic and flexible phenomenon, and therefore does not define, but describe corrupt practices.

Corruption may not be easy to define according to Tanzi (1998), it is “generally not difficult to recognize when observed”. Corrupt acts require a minimum of two individuals from one or more communities, and either exchange or the promise of an exchange of money or services takes place; typically, secret, the pact benefits the dyad to the detriment of everyone else.

According to Salisu (2000), the simplest definition of corruption is that it is the misapplication of public resources to private ends. For example, public officials may collect bribes for issuing passports or visa, for providing permits and licenses, for authorizing passage of goods at sea/airport, for awarding contracts or for enacting regulations designed to create artificial scarcity.

Macrae (2009) defines corruption as “an arrangement that involves an exchange between two parties (the demander and the supplier) which (i) has an influence on the allocation of resources either immediately or in the future; and (ii) involves the use or abuse of public or collective responsibility for private ends.”

As Konie (2003) rightly observed, the two types of corruption, these are:

- (i) Vertical corruption, which involves managers and decision makers. This is more common in less developed countries and
- (ii) Horizontal corruption, which involves the entire official, informed, and laymen groups in the countries. The two types of corruption should be seriously addressed and eradicated if any meaningful economic or political progress is to be made.

Sternberg (2000) states that a “bribe is an incentive offered to encourage someone to break the rules of the organization he nominally represents and deliver an (unfairly) favorable outcome.” Corrupt acts are increasingly regarded as “unfair” and indeed criminal by many high-income countries because the bribe-recipient’s betrayal of trust with his employer, when practiced systematically by high-ranking public officials, compromises the “development of fair and efficient markets” (Boatright, 1999).

Acts of bribery are passive in that their voluntary acceptance offers an assurance of personal advantage (but misuse of public responsibility)

whereas extortion is proactive (aggressive) in its demand for something of value under threat of non-cooperation.

Corruption is a major issue in the world and the problem is crucial in most developing countries such as Nigeria. However, most observers in Nigeria are getting worried because corruption is fast becoming a way of life. A critical look at Nigeria’s political history from 1966 to date, according to Dike (1999), points to corruption as a reason put forward by the military for dabbling into Nigerian politics. For instance, the researchers further states, the Yakubu Gowon’s regime and the Shehu Shagari’s administration were overthrown by the military in 1975 and 1983 respectively, based on claims that these governments were corrupt (Dike, 1999).

According to the Transparency International Corruption Index ([CPI], 2012), Nigeria is rated 35th most corrupt country in the world. In the international community, Nigerians are perceived to be fraudulent and dangerous. Many scholars have argued that Nigeria has a long history of corruption which could be

traced to independence.

According to Dike, as far back as the 1970s, Nigerian officials were already stealing oil, loading same unto tankers with no bills of lading, selling the cargo abroad and pocketing the entire proceeds. He further adds that in the 1990s, petroleum export proceed account showed that 1.5 billion dollars had disappeared. In the same year, about 5 billion dollars in oil revenue recorded by the Central Bank of Nigeria did not go into the Federation Account as required by the revenue distribution mechanics.

The level of romance Nigerians have with corruption is so high that it is regarded as an indispensable factor of the Nigerian psyche. Today, the word “Nigerian factor” has been registered in the vocabulary of Nigerians to connote corrupt practices. James (1999) cited the Economist and put the seriousness of corruption in Nigeria thus “the parasite... has almost eaten the host”.

### **Causes of Corruption in Nigeria**

Several reasons have been adduced for corruption in Nigeria, one of which is the sudden disappearance of good moral and ethical values. Nwaobi (2004) posited that Nigeria must be one of the very few countries in the world where a man's source of wealth is of no concern to his neighbours, the public or the government. Wealthy people who are known to be corrupt are regularly courted and honoured by communities, religious bodies, social clubs and other private organizations.

This implies that people who benefit from the largesse of these corrupt people rarely ask questions. Sociological and/or cultural factors such as customs, family pressures on government officials and ethnicity constitute potential causes of corruption. In Nigeria, although traditional values of gift giving and tributes to leaders often lead to what Brownsberger (1983) describes as "polite corruption", the extent of such corruption is relatively small. Dandago (2008) revealed that traditional chieftaincy titles and membership of boards of directors of government-owned corporations are only for the 'influential' individuals in the society who have 'made it' economically or politically.

Most of those people 'made it' through enriching themselves fraudulently but enjoy public respect and accolades. The most annoying thing is that honest and dedicated public servants, who have not accumulated dirty wealth, do not command much respect from the society. These attitudes serve to encourage a new breed of public servants who engage in corrupt practices.

A number of scholars like Wraith and Simpkins, (1963); Llyod, (1967); McMullan, (1961) have pointed out that Africans know the difference between a polite gratuity and a bribe and that traditional (Nigerian) culture does recognize that the community leader has a duty to his people, and that these bars systematic exploitation of office. Chabal and Daloz (1999) reasoned that in Africa, such factors as the obligations of mutual support, the imperatives of reciprocity, the importance of gift exchange, the payment of tribute, the need to redistribute, even the habits of cattle rustling, or, more generally, of plundering others, all have a bearing on the phenomenon of corruption on the continent today. There are also those who believe that modern bribery may not be seen as cognate with traditional gift giving since it takes place outside the context of a patron-client relationship.

According to Maduegbuna (2005) the benefits of corruption are greater than the consequences of being caught and disciplined. High incidence of poverty, which according to National Bureau of Statistics (2005) is put at 54.1% contributed in no small amount to the desperation of Nigerian to acquire wealth through any means. While the few employed received low wages, unemployment is high.

Scholars like Callaghy (1986), Nukunya (1992), Groenendijk (1997), Ruzindana (1998), Waliggo (1999), Osei (1999) and Rossouw (1999) traced the root causes of corruption in Africa to: prevalence of dictatorial rules, monetized or materialized economies, poor economic and educational empowerment of the citizenry, the “politics of the belly”, making the public sector as the “prime mover” of economic development and the absence of national ethical and moral values and true patriotism.

According to Stapenhurst (2000), the way in which media serves as an impediment to corruption can be divided into tangible and intangible effects. Tangible effects is made up of the readily identifiable way in which the news media perform these functions include those in which some sort of visible outcomes can be attributed to particular news story or series of stories on such subjects as: launching of investigation by authorities; scrapping of a law or policy that foster a climate ripe with opportunities for corruption;

impeachment or forced resignation of a crooked politician and firing of an official; launching of judicial proceeding and issuing of public recommendation by a watchdog body like Transparency International.

Staplehurst referred to intangible effects as those checks on corruption, which are inevitably the bye product of hard-hitting independent news and can be characterized by broadened sense of accountability amongst politicians, public bodies and institutions.

Kunle, M. (2011) researched on "The Assessment of Radio Broadcasting in Creating Anti-Corruption Campaign". The aim of the study is to assess how radio broadcasting has created awareness in anti-corruption campaign in Nigeria.

Anchored on the agenda setting theory, the survey research method was employed using the questionnaire as the instrument to elicit data from respondents. Findings from the study revealed that radio broadcasting played a major role in the awareness and campaign against corruption in the country.

The study concluded that the influence of radio broadcasting in anti-corruption cannot be overemphasized since the awareness created is key in the anti-corruption fight.

The study therefore recommended that radio broadcasting be employed in anti-corruption campaigns in Nigeria. The study is relevant to the present one since both studies are concerned with the role of broadcast media in anti-corruption campaigns. In terms of theoretical underpin, the agenda setting used in the former is equally considered for the latter.

Similarly, Ovie, K. (2015). In "An Evaluation of the role of journalism in the War against Corruption in Nigeria": The objective was to find out the extent to which journalism has enhanced the war against corruption.

The study utilized the social responsibility theory while the survey research method was employed to collect data from respondents. Major findings from the study revealed that journalism has enhanced the cubing of corruption and utilized as a tool to fight corruption to a very large extent.

The study concluded that the media has put government officials and other corruption officials on their toes as a way forward in anti-corruption fight. The study recommended that the media should be used often to win the war against corruption in the country. The study is significant to the present because both studies focus on media and corruption. In terms of methodology, the survey method used in the reviewed study is also considered in the present study.

This study is anchored on agenda setting theory and supported by the social responsibility theory.

Agenda setting describes a very powerful influence of the media – the ability to tell us what issues are important. As far back as 1922, the newspaper columnist Walter Lippman was concerned that the media had the power to present images to the public. McCombs and Shaw investigated presidential campaigns in 1968, 1972 and 1976.

In the research done in 1968 they focused on two elements: awareness and information. Investigating the agenda-setting function of the mass media, they attempted to assess the relationship between what voters in one community said were important issues and the actual content of the media messages used during the campaign. McCombs and Shaw concluded that the mass media exerted a significant influence on what voters considered to be the major issues of the campaign.

The relevance of the agenda-setting theory to this study is based on the fact that the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria through "Round Table" has set the agenda for public discourse on corruption in Nigeria.

Social responsibility theory allows free press without any censorship but at the same time the content of the press should be discussed in public panel and media should accept any obligation from public interference or professional self-regulations or both.

The theory lies between both authoritarian theory and libertarian theory because it gives total media freedom in one hand but the external controls in other hand. Here, the press ownership is private. The social responsibility theory moves beyond the simple "Objective" reporting (facts reporting) to "Interpretative" reporting (investigative reporting). The total news is complete facts and truthful, but the commission of the freedom press stated that "No longer giving facts truthfully rather than give a necessary analyzed or interpretative report on facts with clear explanations".

The theory helped in creating professionalism in media by setting up a high level of accuracy, truth,

and information.

The theory allows everyone to say something or express their opinion about the media. Community opinion, Consumer action and professional ethics. Serious invasion of recognized private rights and vital social interests.

Private ownership in media may give better public service unless government has to take over to assure the public to provide better media service. Media must take care of social responsibility and if they do not, government or other organization will do.

The theory is relevance to the study since the media particularly broadcast media lived up to the social reasonability function to report or expose corruption in the country.

The literature reviewed, enhanced the understanding of the broadcast media role in the campaign against corruption. Since a study of this nature is not holistic without a theoretical underpin, the researchers established a theoretical frame work and the study is anchored on agenda setting and social responsibility theories.

The analysis and presentation are based on data obtained from the questionnaires administered. Below are the tabular presentations of the data obtained.

**Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of Respondents**

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	57	60.7%
Female	37	39.3%
Total	94	100%
<b>Age</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
18-25	41	44.6%
26-35	30	32.0%
36-above	23	23.4%
Total	94	100%
<b>Marital Status</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Single	41	50.6%
Married	40	46.3%
Divorce	3	3.1%
Total	94	100%
<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Primary	8	8.5%
Secondary	12	12.7%

Tertiary	74	78.8%
Total	94	100%
Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Students	49	52.1%
Civil/Public Servants	30	30.0%
Trader	15	15.9%
Total	94	100%

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

Data in Table 1 above show the demographic characteristics of respondents. A total of 37 respondents representing (39.3%) are male while 57 respondents representing (60.7%) are females. The implication is that most respondents were females.

The data in the table show the age distribution of respondents. Respondents between the ages of 18-25 were 40 representing (43.6%), those between 26-35 were 30 representing (31.5%), while those above 35 were 23 representing (23.4%). The implication is that most of the respondents falls between the age bracket of 26-35 as affirmed by 40 respondents representing (43.6%) of the entire respondents.

The variable equally shows respondents' marital status. 41 respondents representing (43.6%) are single, 40 respondents representing (42.5%) are married while 3 respondents representing (3.1%) are divorced. The implication is that most of the respondents are single.

By educational qualification, data show that respondents with primary school certificate are 8 representing (8.5%), 12 respondents representing (12.7%) have secondary school certificate, 74 respondents representing (78.7%) have Degrees. The implication is that the respondents have a functional level of education to understand the subject matter.

By variable of occupation of respondents, a total of 49 respondents representing (52.1%) are students, 30 respondents representing (31.9%) civil servants, while 15 respondents representing (15.9%) are traders. The implication is that a good number of respondents were students as affirmed by 49 respondents representing (52.1%) of the entire respondents.

**Table 2: Whether respondent listens to FRCN**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	80	<b>84.5%</b>
No	14	<b>15.5%</b>
Total	94	100%

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

Variable in this Table 2 shows that 80 respondents representing (83.5%) listens to FRCN while 14 respondents representing (14.4%) don't. This shows that majority of the respondent with a total percentage of 83.5% listens to FRCN. The implication therefore, is that they are in a position to understand the issues discussed in this work.

**Table 3: Frequency which respondents listens to FRCN**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Daily	77	81.9%.
Weekly	10	10.6%
Monthly	7	7.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

Table 3 seeks to find out the frequency which respondents listens to FRCN. A total of 77 respondents representing (81.9%) affirmed daily, 10 respondents representing (10.6%) weekly while 7 respondents representing (7.4%) monthly. This confirms that most of the respondents with 81.9% frequently listen to FRCN. The implication is that respondents have more understanding of the war against corruption by the “Round Table” programme.

**Table 4: Whether respondents are familiar with “Round Table”**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	80	84.1%
No	14	15.9 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

The variable in the table indicates that, 80 respondents representing (84.0%) are familiar with round table while 14 respondents representing (15.9%) held divergent view. This shows that, majority respondents with 84.0% are family with the “Round Table” program which means that they are able to give a perfect view on how round table has been in the forefront of fighting corruption

**Table 5: Roles of round table in curbing corruption**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Information	42	44.7%
Whistle Blowing	40	42.6%
A and B	12	12.7.%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

Date in Table 5 shows the role of “Round Table” in curbing corruption. Data indicates that a total of 42 respondents representing (44.6%) affirmed information, 40 respondents representing (42.4%) Whistle blowing while 12 respondents representing (12.7%). The implication is that the roles of round table in curbing corruption includes: information and whistle blowing.

**Table 6: Whether respondents have Knowledge of “Round Table” influence**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	64	75.6%
No	30	24.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

The variable in Table 6 shows that 64 respondents representing (75.5%) have knowledge of round table influence in curbing corruption while 30 respondents representing (24.4%) don't. The implication is that respondents have a good knowledge of round tables influence in curbing corruption.

**Table 7: Influence of round table in curbing corruption**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Negative	4	4%
Positive	78	83%
A and B	12	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

Data in Table 7 indicates that 12 respondents representing (13.1%) affirmed negative, 70 respondents representing (74.7%) affirmed positive while 12 respondent (13.1%) affirmed A and B. The implication is that “Round Table” has positive influence in curbing corruption.

**Table 8: Whether respondents have knowledge of how “Round Table” is curbing corruption**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	81	85.1%
No	13	14.9 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

Data in Table 8 indicate that 81 respondents representing (85.0%) has knowledge of how round table is curbing corruption while 13 respondent representing (15.9%) held divergent view. This means that most of the respondent has good knowledge on how the programme round table on FRCN is curbing corruption.

**Table 9: How round table is curbing corruption in Nigeria**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Less Effective	2	2.1%
Effective	60	63.8%
Very Effective	32	34.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field Survey 2017**

Date in Table 9 shows that 2 respondents representing (2.1%) affirmed less effective, 60 respondents representing (63.8%) effective while 32 respondents representing (35.1%) affirmed very effective. The implication is that round table is curbing corruption effectively in Nigeria.

**Table 10: Respondents Knowledge of the extent round table is curbing corruption**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	72	75.5%
No	22	24.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

Variable in Table 10 indicates that 72 respondents representing (75.5%) have knowledge of the extent round table is curbing corruption while 22 respondents representing (24.4%) don't. The implication is that respondents have good knowledge of the extent round table is curbing corruption in Nigeria.

**Table 11: Extent which round table is curbing corruption in Nigeria**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	4	4.2%
To a large extent	60	63.9%
To a very large extent	30	31.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2017**

Date in Table 11 indicates that 60 respondents representing (63.8%) affirmed to a large extent, while 30 respondents representing (31.9%) affirms to a very large extent, respondents representing (4.2%) says to some extent. The implication is that round table is curbing corruption in Nigeria to a large extent as affirmed by 60 respondents (63.9%).

### **Answering Research Questions**

#### **Research Question One:** What is the role of round table in combatting corruption?

Data in tables 2,3,4 and 5 were utilized to answer this question. The variable in Table 2 revealed that most of the respondents listen to FRCN. Data in Table 3 on the other hand revealed that respondent listens to FRCN frequently.

Table 4 data indicates 80 respondents representing (84.0%) are familiar with “Round Table” while 14 respondents representing (15.9%) held divergent view. This means that most of the respondents are familiar with the programme “Round Table” on FRCN, Abuja.

Data in table 5 shows the role of round table in curbing corruption. Data indicates that a total of 42 respondents representing (44.6%) affirmed information, 40 respondents representing (42.4%) Whistle blowing while 12 respondents representing (12.7%). The implication is that the role of round table in curbing corruption includes information and whistle blowing.

#### **Research Question Two:** What is the influence of round table in combatting corruption in Nigeria?

Data in table 6 and 7 combined to answer this question. Data in table shows 6 that 64 respondents representing (75.5%) have knowledge of round table influence in curbing corruption while 30 respondents representing (24.4%) don't. The implication is that respondents have a good knowledge of round tables influence in curbing corruption. Table 7 on the other hand indicates that, 12 respondents representing (13.1%) affirmed negative, 70 respondents representing (74.7%) affirmed positive while 12 respondent (13.1%) affirmed A and B. The implication is that round table has both positive and negative influence in curbing corruption.

#### **Research Question Three:** How has the programme “Round Table” curbed corruption in Nigeria?

Tables 8 and 9 were utilized to answer this question. Data in table 8 indicate that 81 respondents representing (85.0%) has knowledge of how round table is curbing corruption while 13 respondents representing (15.9%) held divergent view. This means that most of the respondent has good knowledge on how the programme round table on FRCN is curbing corruption. Table 9 shows that 2 respondents representing (2.1%) affirmed less effective, 60 respondents representing (63.8%) effective while 32 respondents representing (35.1%) affirmed very effective. The implication is that round table is curbing corruption effectively in Nigeria.

#### **Research Question Four:** To what extent has round table helped in combatting corruption in Nigeria?

Tables 10 and 11 combined to answer this question. Table 10 shows that 72 respondents representing (75.5%) have knowledge of the extent round table is curbing corruption while 22 respondents representing (24.4%) don't. The implication is that respondent has good knowledge of the extent round tables is curbing corruption in Nigeria. Table 11 on the other hand shows that 4 respondent representing (4.2%) affirmed to

some extent, 30 respondent representing (31.9%) while 60 respondent representing (63.8%). The implication is that round table is curbing corruption in Nigeria to a large extent as affirmed by 60 respondents (63.9%).

### **Discussion of Findings**

The study was conducted to find out the role of “Round Table” in curbing corruption in Nigeria. In response to this objective, the study found that the role of round table in curbing corruption includes information and whistle blowing. The findings validate Shaw and McCombs Agenda setting theory postulation that “One of the most critical aspects in the concept of an agenda-setting role of mass communication is the time frame for this phenomenon”

The study was also conducted to examine the influence of round table in combatting corruption in Nigeria. In response to this objective, the study found that “Round Table” has positive influence in curbing corruption. The findings agree with Fedler (1997) argument that the broadcast media exert a lot of influence on members of the society.

The study also sought to find out how FRCN has used the programme “Round Table” to curb corruption. In response to this objective, the study found that round table on FRCN is curbing corruption in Nigeria effectively as indicated by data in Table 9 with 60 respondents representing 63.8%. The finding supports Stapenhurst (2000) observation that a critical element of a country’s anticorruption programme is an effective media which has dual role to play: it not only raises public awareness about corruption, its causes, consequences and possible remedies but also investigates and reports incidences of corruption aiding other oversight (and prosecutorial) bodies.

Finally, the study was carried out to ascertain the extent to which round table has helped in combatting corruption in Nigeria. In response to this objective, the study found that “Round Table” is curbing corruption in Nigeria to a large extent as 60 respondents representing 63.9% affirmed. This is in agreement with Ayoola (2008) opinion that the role of the media in sustaining anti-corruption campaign cannot be overemphasized.

### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the findings, the study concludes that the role of broadcast media particularly radio cannot be overemphasized as seen in the efforts of Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria through “*Round Table*” in combatting this menace in the society. FRCN through the programme “*Round Table*” is devoted to combatting corruption in the country to some extent as shown in the findings of the study.

Based on the findings, the following are the researchers’ recommendations: The broadcast media particularly radio should be placed in the forefront in anti- corruption campaigns subsequently, radio Broadcast should be employed as platform to inform and educate Nigerians on the dangers of corruption as this would go a long way in combatting this menace in the society. Furthermore, the Nigerian Broadcasting Commission should sensitize media stations in the country on how to effectively use radio as a tool to combat corruption, while anti- graft agencies such as EFCC, ICPC and relevant authorities should equally pay attention to this programme as it can serve as a good source of information on corruption.

### **Declaration of Ownership**

This article is our original work.

### **Conflict of Interest**

There is no conflict of interest to declare in this article.

### **Ethical Clearance**

This study was approved by the institution.

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