Abstract. Numerous scholars have conducted interdisciplinary studies from theoretical and empirical viewpoints to tackle the complex corruption issue. Presenting opinions from other disciplines, this study provides a comprehensive and current analysis of the recent literature on corruption. More specifically, the writers clarified corruption by merging viewpoints from several fields, including criminology, psychology, and economics. Through an organized investigation of the origins and effects of corruption at the human, corporate, and societal levels, we may comprehend the elements that lead to corrupt behavior and its substantial influence.

Keywords: Criminology, Corruption Factors, Economics, Investigation, Interdisciplinary

INTRODUCTION

Studies on corruption have been conducted far more frequently in the past few decades, particularly regarding economic analysis and the detrimental implications of both source and result. Since anti-corruption organizations and rules have been established and because micro and macrodata are now widely available, corruption and its detrimental effects have gained more attention on political agendas. So, a more conscious and receptive public has forced government agencies to prioritize the problem and pushed policymakers to devise plans and tactics to stop widespread corruption. Because more data is now available, professionals have a more thorough understanding of the corruption process, leading to more varied measures.

Corruption is universally acknowledged as a severe threat to national security in developed and developing nations. According to Akhmad Faisal Lutfi and Herman Cahyo Diartho (2020), corruption encourages wasteful contract allocations, which suppresses productivity at the business level, discourages foreign direct investment, and impedes economic advancement. Vicki Febrianto (2020) highlights that corruption erodes community norms and values, hinders competition and inventiveness, raises concerns about general trust, and negatively impacts the public's perception of a community. Ironically, until the late 1990s, many forms of corruption—
like bribing foreign officials with money—were frequently accepted as ordinary and commonplace in many nations. In addition to highlighting the adverse effects of corruption on the economy, these arguments also highlight the moral ramifications of such behavior.

With the enactment of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention in 1999, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has conducted studies to quantify and describe instances of international corruption that have surfaced. According to OECD data, public officials from nations with high or very high human development ratings were bribed in 43 percent of cases analyzed. Most infractions involve management-level personnel or higher or are committed by them at the very least. According to the OECD, public officials are involved in roughly another 25% of all issues. At the same time, government companies—state-owned or managed enterprises—account for more than 25% of all difficulties. Shockingly, over eleven percent of the total volume of transactions about the offenses under investigation involved bribery.

According to these figures, there is an ethical component to corrupt conduct. In addition to material wealth, shared values and beliefs affect the entire community's well-being. Society's welfare will suffer when these values are broken, as in the case of bribery. Corrupt behavior, however, presents an ethical conundrum influenced by contextual factors and cannot be assessed exclusively in terms of its effects on the economy or society. A person's moral standards and expectations for appropriate behavior may vary depending on their country or culture. As an alternative, consider pertinent and applicable criteria in addition to institutional frameworks that are crucial in supporting deviant conduct. The authors believe it is crucial to address this subject from an interdisciplinary perspective because of the wide range of perspectives on corruption, ethical condemnation, and causative elements.

This paper aims to provide a systematic review of recent research by elucidating some fundamental ideas that, when viewed from an interdisciplinary perspective, explain the prevalence and diversity of corruption. Specifically, it addresses the reasons behind corrupt behavior at the individual, society, and organizational levels. The present study expands upon prior research, demonstrating that corrupt behavior can be either reduced or encouraged by external factors other than the immediate logical decision-making process. Research already conducted lends credence to the idea that institutional and social factors might account for a wide range of phenomena. Distinct assumptions, viewpoints, and forecasts frequently result from a multidisciplinary approach's inherent concept dichotomy. Behavioral conceptions and rational decisions differ from one another, for instance. This paper does not try to settle the debate over
which theory best explains corrupt behavior. Rather than that, it offers a thorough examination and synthesis of the most recent theories and data elucidating the origins and effects of corruption.

**METHOD**

To discuss the topics above, this paper uses a normative juridical approach. Researching the literature to examine theories about corruption is the first step in normative legal study. By analyzing pertinent literature directly related to the subject discussed by the author, this research approach adopts an interdisciplinary perspective and investigates theories concerning corruption. Secondary data for qualitative analysis, such as theory, meaning, and content, is taken from various literary sources. The information is then examined to conclude, supplemented by pertinent theories and professional judgment.

**DISCUSSION**

**Dimensions and Determinants of Corruption**

**Internal Factors: Rational Choice and Behavioral Perspectives**

Internal elements are conceptually limited because they focus on people's innate propensity to engage in immoral activities actively. Reasonable conduct and conduct that extends beyond the obvious are included in this component. Various points of view must be combined to enable a thorough investigation of the origins and effects of corruption. The author intends to accomplish this goal by beginning with an actor-centered perspective and progressing to a more comprehensive aggregate perspective after that is established.

Gary S. Becker's study, which looks at how people engage in deviant behavior by balancing the possible costs and rewards, is the source of the rational choice perspective in the context of crime. People make rational decisions based on their desire to maximize their utility, ultimately determining whether they participate in corrupt behaviors. The expected benefits and drawbacks of deviant activity are assessed during this process. These include missed opportunities and the potential for discovery or retaliation. The cognitive processes of those engaged in bribery, both givers and recipients, can be understood by applying this theory, which can shed light on specific illegal actions, most notably corruption. Decision-making is generally the same for all stakeholders, even though opportunity costs and risk assessment may differ. The pattern is as follows:
a) Time allocation opportunity cost: Each occurrence of engaging in illicit behavior reduces the amount of time available for legitimate activities. Therefore, opportunity cost shows money lost when choosing to take an alternative course of action.

b) Risk assessment: Evaluate the likelihood of being arrested or convicted. Some behaviors have a lower probability of being observed and prosecuted, which affects how individuals evaluate their own level of harm.

Increasing the likelihood of being found and enforcing higher fines are two more effective ways that these variables work to discourage corrupt actions. Studies demonstrate that, while more trustworthy empirical data supports the effectiveness of raising certainty, boosting punishment harshness and certainty is a successful technique for deterring criminal activity. Hannah Schildberg-Hörisch, Markus Schramm, and Ansgar Wohlschlegel Eberhard Feess (2018) assert that harsher penalties, such as the death sentence as it was implemented in China, may have unfavorable and ineffective effects. Judges may be expected to be more careful when imposing sentences in light of these facts. A mistaken decision could have serious financial repercussions for the judge and the criminal. Hence, aside from the detected instances of misconduct, it is plausible that the percentage of triumphant legal cases could decline, rendering more harsh penalties ineffectual or pointless. Perpetrators argue that increased deviant conduct can result from decreased expected cost of engaging in deviant behavior while maintaining the same potential benefit. As a result of a dangerous cycle that sees a decline in convictions and an increase in unreported cases, governments may eventually be driven to impose harsher sanctions.

Individual behavior is often constrained by the accuracy of the analysis used to make judgments and frequently deviates from logical reasoning. Though real-life experience demonstrates substantial moral importance, as noted previously, the purely rational choice method overlooks moral debates that could influence the decision-making process. However, moral standards are not universal; they also differ among societies and between people and contexts, particularly when emotions are involved. Incorporating each of these components is essential to obtaining a thorough internal perspective.

To offer thorough explanations of aberrant conduct, including corrupt behavior, behavioral techniques have been added to models in recent years by the inclusion of psychological elements and biases and a logical viewpoint. It is asserted that an individual who makes logical decisions might yet display blatantly irrational conduct, influenced as much by external circumstances as by elements that can be determined rationally. To produce a more realistic portrayal of human
behavior, this research has broadened the set of possibilities accessible to "homo oeconomicus" to incorporate factors like reciprocity, emotion, social image, and similar considerations. There is no doubt that the growing array of techniques is an addition to the rational choice approach—rather than a replacement.

Reasonable decision-making concerns might need to be revised to account for the current state of corruption. Rational choice theory produces two seemingly incompatible outcomes, according to Lambsdorff: one with corruption and one without. Since criminal activity is mainly driven by reason, we will see corruption more frequently, notably when lacking standards, values, and other comparable elements. Bribery's appearance is a surprise, given that it does not fit the description of a subgame of the ideal Nash equilibrium. The fact that reputation typically has minimal bearing in bribery cases suggests that the person receiving the money has no incentive to take revenge for the briber's acts. Therefore, the individual presenting the bribe anticipates that the recipient will act dishonestly, such as depositing money without performing the agreed-upon service.

The contact will eventually come to a stop, even in repeated circumstances, and this provides what is called the final effect. It follows that the one being bribed will eventually break the terms of the reciprocal arrangement. Hence, the briber will decide not to offer a bribe when using reverse induction. According to the current study, a person's decision-making process is greatly influenced by their peers' social context and conduct despite these seemingly contradicting outcomes. Both theoretical and experimental research have suggested that social proximity to peers affects the impact of behavioral contagion. Social interactions play a significant role in shaping an individual's traits and behaviors. It is via social interaction that these qualities are learned and refined rather than being intrinsic. Constant external influences might cause these patterns and values to shift and develop over time. Furthermore, according to the currently available research, reputation in recurring gaming scenarios and societal norms and values are significant factors in explaining corrupt behavior. "Reputation is a powerful catalyst for strengthening and expanding moral values".

The fundamental basis for explaining corrupt behavior is found in numerous aspects of the internal domain. However, internal factors do not always play a significant role in a person's decision to participate in corrupt activity. Internal reality is subordinated to or has less of an impact on interaction with the social environment. In general, and immoral action in particular, it is improbable that behavior is driven exclusively by self-interest because social human nature encourages a propensity to value the association and reputation of peer groups.
Meso Factor: Criminology and Sociology

The meso factor is mostly centered on interpersonal communication and social engagement. We can surmise that, in addition to personal tendencies, several factors such as prevailing values, regulations, and social conventions in a particular culture significantly influence a person's choice to engage in corrupt behavior. Various sociological circumstances, criminological characteristics, and theories can influence the level of corrupt behavior.

a) Criminology

From the criminology perspective, corruption is central to common crimes because it facilitates committing large-scale crimes. An interdisciplinary approach is at the heart of the criminological perspective on aberrant behavior. Sociological factors significantly impact criminology since they affect overall crime rates, affecting how common corruption is. Examples of these factors include culture and education. It also indicates a strong connection with internal elements in logical decision-making.

The differential association hypothesis, first presented by Sutherland and Cressey in 1960, contends that social connection with other people frequently serves as a breeding ground for criminal behavior. Elements including social class, race, and unstable family dynamics increase the probability of committing crimes. These factors also raise the probability of associating with people who share similar characteristics. The empirical study explicitly examines the relationship between criminal activities, law-abiding conduct, and social learning, supporting this notion. On the other hand, social learning encompasses a thorough comprehension of society overall, transcending small communities or geographical areas.

In 1938, Merton developed the tension theory, highlighting the role of social structure and societal constraints in expressing criminal conduct. At the time, the consensus was that criminal behavior resulted from biological predispositions. Stressful situations that test a person's self-control arise when they believe that society is mistreating them, for example, by denying them access to high-quality education. This theory states that people may tend to create goals that are at odds with cultural norms and values and to subvert the objectives that society has set forth. When deciding to engage in illegal activity, they typically follow the theory that ends justify means. Basic strain theory has changed over time, becoming a more complete theory.

Nevertheless, people are more prone to engage in hazardous illicit activities even when they have stable personal environments, such as well-paying and stable work. Subjective self-perception impacted by biases may give rise to this behavior. Despite their high professional rank
and degree of education, Benson contends that highly educated white-collar workers frequently underestimate the criminality of their unethical actions. On the contrary, they view themselves as committed workers, justifying their behavior only by citing the need to further the company's prosperity.

This theory is appropriate, particularly to senior-level employees who bear heavy obligations and may tend to act corruptly to preserve their employment status at the expense of others. Both dishonesty and disparate moral views might lead to this distorted self-perception. Terms like bribing and donating have different meanings in different countries and are contingent on the context. Even so, rationalization is a universal process visible in all civilizations and contributes significantly to corruption and white-collar crime, notwithstanding the disparities in viewpoints among these nations. Ethical behavior can be rationalized, replacing feelings of shame and remorse and rendering immoral actions ethically acceptable when backed by several good reasons. As per the social learning theories previously introduced, it can be concluded that working in such circumstances is highly detrimental.

The decision-making processes of other employees may be impacted if the supervisor partakes in corrupt actions without feeling guilty. Therefore, further research into the massive financial losses linked to white-collar offenses is essential. Even if some cases have resulted in significant losses, quantifying and prosecuting such crimes is still tricky. The precise effects still need to be clarified. Furthermore, inadequate institutional frameworks combined with high levels of corruption pervade society, which drives increased crime rates overall. As a result, a hostile environment was created, and additional corruption flourished.

b) Sociology

Culture-specific norms can significantly impact an individual's propensity to participate in corrupt practices within a nation. Husted (1999) found that corrupt nations have cultural profiles marked by high degrees of power distance, masculinity, and uncertainty avoidance. Husted studied the effects of several cultural variables. Later research has obtained similar results. For instance, Volkema and Getz's analysis of power distance and uncertainty avoidance showed a strong positive correlation between these cultural factors and corruption levels.

Two aspects of national culture, individualism and power distance, impact the relationship between corruption and human flourishing. This idea still holds true even when values and conventions are migrated from one culture to another. Some trace effects were discovered by Eugen Dimant, Tim Krieger, and Margarete Redlin (2015). As a result of continuing with their
regular business operations, destination countries see a short-term reduction in institutional quality and an increase in corruption. Nevertheless, research indicates that immigrants will take time to adapt to their new surroundings.

The predisposition toward corrupt behavior is one of the cultural characteristics education helps reduce. Higher education generally results from a nation's economic progress, and higher education also helps lower corruption levels. Studies examining the relationship between education and dishonest behavior were conducted in Nepal. Positivity toward denouncing unethical practices and turning down modest payments strongly correlates with higher education. Additionally, studies have demonstrated that the distribution of genders in powerful positions moderates degrees of corruption. For instance, David Dollar, Raymond Fisman, and Roberta Gatti (2001) discovered an adverse relationship between the proportion of women in parliament and the level of corruption. Cross-country examinations frequently yield results similar to these. Women are less inclined to engage in corrupt activities because, on the whole, they are more likely to follow societal standards and are not willing to take significant risks.

**External Factors: Economic, Legal, Political, Historical, and Geographical**

a) Economy

Economic variables largely influence the degree of corruption. For instance, the overall standard of a nation's governance is one of the factors that has been extensively studied. Because it makes "quick money" more accessible, an ineffective bureaucracy fosters an environment conducive to corruption. This technique aims to get around regulatory organizations that are in the way. Regulations that could be more efficient prevent businesses from delaying the commencement of their operations. Therefore, their resort to hastened payments is encouraged by a combination of inefficiencies, possible financial losses, and decreased revenues. The risk of public officials abusing their power for personal benefit and disregarding the general welfare of the public increases when they have extensive decision-making authority and intricate administrative procedures.

Corrupt practices typically develop in nations with high levels of protectionism and significant trade obstacles. However, historically, less corrupt nations have a long history of free commerce. According to empirical data from cross-national comparisons, the amount of political and economic freedom and the degree of corruption are inversely correlated.
b) Law and Politics

Establishments ensure a robust legal system and facilitate seamless corporate activities. They establish the social norms or the boundaries that shape interpersonal relationships in a community. When the power structure is imbalanced, some people may take advantage of the system and engage in abnormal conduct that is detrimental to society. Deficient establishments frequently lead to inadequate law enforcement and diminish public confidence.

Enforcing laws and regulations that control the economic environment makes political institutions crucial in the fight against corruption. Through the passing of legislation, political institutions can exert influence on essential variables, including economic development, competition, and trade openness. Since public officials are more prone to commit fraud in an environment that supports free expression and democratic elections, transparency and accountability are crucial in keeping them from doing so. Press freedom, democratic stability, parliamentary systems, and the presence of democracy have all been linked to a constant decline in corruption, according to a study by Lederman (2021).

Research indicates that decentralization of institutions is essential. A strong correlation exists between the spread of corruption and governmental autonomy and their ability to use this power. Gerring and Thacker (2004) found that a centralized form of administration had a significant deterrent impact against corruption based on their cross-country research. Based on cross-border indices, these results show a direct relationship between fiscal decentralization and corruption.

c) Historical and Geographical

Historical and geographic considerations can strongly predict a nation's degree of corruption. A nation's history of colonization significantly impacts how that nation develops. According to Acemoglu (2002), colonialism played a significant role in the spread of corruption during the previous 500 years. It demonstrated higher richness than North American, Australian, and New Zealand civilizations or the southern cone of Latin America, Meso-America, the Andes, India, and Southeast Asia. This trend was successfully reversed by European engagement. This fact is essential to comprehending the last 500 years of political and economic history and evaluating different long-term development theories.

Treisman (2000) says religion impacted colonization and offers evidence to support this argument. There is a direct correlation between corruption levels and geographic layouts. Research indicates that corruption is indirectly influenced by the availability of resources,
agricultural factors, and production aspects, all of which significantly affect economic development. Another example of how the availability of resources negatively impacts the economy and lowers per capita income in nations like Venezuela is provided by Bloch and Tang (2004). Plentiful resources can frequently lead to severe income inequality, widespread governmental corruption, and infringements on private property rights. These factors typically result in criminal action because they encourage people to participate in more advantageous rent-seeking activity. Additionally, Goel and Nelson (2010) present evidence suggesting that nations with higher proportions of their population living in metropolitan regions also tend to exhibit lower levels of corruption. The authors note that corruption is greatly discouraged because of the greater possibility of detection and the heightened social disapproval in highly populated areas.

d) Interdisciplinary Perspectives and Empirical Fact Finding

As in the rest of the piece, the author does not draw parallels between various methods in this part. This article presents a comprehensive viewpoint on the significant factors in making immoral decisions. An emphasis on multidisciplinary approaches is highlighted by prior research that demonstrates a range of known theories that can account for corrupt behavior. Despite providing a basic framework, the author does not intend for this essay to explain the underlying mechanism by which all thoughts are connected and develop from one another. Instead, the experiences of people impacted by multiple related fields are prioritized in this article. Internal rationalizations, the social or microenvironment of which one is a part, and the external institutional framework all impact an individual's decision to participate in corrupt actions. By doing so, we can incorporate theoretical and conceptual frameworks that look at both individual players and group perspectives.

Decisions are significantly impacted by behavioral factors and systems of rational choice inside an individual, which combined create a basic propensity for engaging in corrupt behavior. As we have demonstrated thus far, corruption cannot be adequately explained by applying conclusions drawn exclusively from rational choice theory. It is crucial to understand that although acting corruptly originates from within, outside influences influence an individual's decision-making.

As such, views focused on specific actors must be integrated with those of external forces, primarily assessed at the collective level through empirical study. A further dimension to the decision-making process is provided by the social and criminological components that comprise the meso factor. Several factors, including education, culture, and ethical norms, greatly
influence deviant conduct. Economic, legal, political, historical, and geographical factors are some of the characteristics that make up the external environment. To a limited extent, an individual may directly shape these forces; they affect them. Remember that these three levels are not distinct; they are interrelated and have reciprocal effects.

When participating in corrupt activity personally, the rational self carefully weighs the advantages and disadvantages. Moreover, behavioral congruence is observed in peers who possess similar features, a technique used in psychological evaluation that lends weight to this claim. An assessment of the possible long-term effects of such activity on the welfare of society may be necessary since engaging in deviant behavior may go against the norms, values, and moral principles ingrained in a person. Therefore, a more careful assessment of the action's effects can produce better outcomes, even while corrupt activity may seem reasonable and justified when considering maximizing one's interests. This reasoning aligns with the body of current research, which indicates that corruption is consistent with the predictions of rational choice theory.

CONCLUSION

The writers conclude this paper that, while corruption is discussed, there needs to be more understanding of the underlying causes of corrupt behavior beyond irrational decision-making. The importance and influence of moral and ethical considerations on corrupt behavior is one feature of the author's interdisciplinary approach that is stressed in several areas. The rational choice method ignores this component and fails to explain the lack of corruption, as already discussed in internal forces' limitations. A more balanced picture of the causes and effects of corruption can be produced by including ethical factors.

In this essay, the authors contend that moral and ethical issues— influenced by and apart from the political, legal, and economic environments in which people live— motivate people more than cost-benefit calculations. In order to comprehend the growth of corruption at the micro, meso, and macro levels, moral considerations must be taken into account. Higher awareness and self-control and a decreased probability of initially engaging in unethical behavior are potential outcomes of being more attuned to ethical considerations and the effects of one's actions on others. However, ethics sets humans apart from other animals, and a lack of ethics can encourage a pattern of systematic wrongdoing.
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