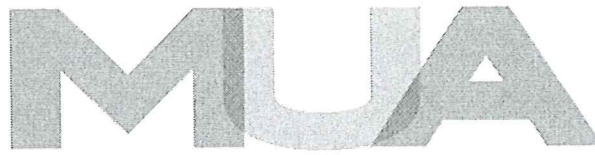


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UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

SWK 302 : SOCIAL BEING: POWER, STRUCTURE AND AGENCY

DATE: 31ST JULY 2023

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.**

QUESTION ONE

Read the case below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

SOCIAL POWER

Power relationships or the exercise of power in a social interaction process like in a policy making process is worthy of approval and depends on so many factors This includes resources and control of those resources. Notwithstanding, the exercise of power is also attributed to persuasion through arguments at different stages of policy making process. Likewise, in this case study two determinants of power exercise, availability of resources and persuasion through arguments, which enter the category of politics of policy making process, coupled with opposing values and interests of policy actors. Both factors determined the exercise of power during formulation of the policy.

With respect to availability resources, one of the government education officials asserted that lack of enough resources, both financial and human, forced the policy making authorities to dictate the nature of policy formulation process. In due regard, the process was, to some extent, selective of stakeholders' involvement and limited in terms of country's coverage. Moreover, lack of enough resources hindered the policy making authorities from considering policy alternatives, which would have otherwise not matched with available limited resources. Hence, it was necessary for these authorities to exclude some of the stakeholders' recommendations in the final policy document. " The sector's budget was not enough. Therefore, it was important for policy makers to be selective in collecting and prioritizing policy recommendations.

From the interviewees' viewpoints, it is clear that there was a lack of resources/constraints for budget choices in policy construction, which consequently limited decisions on policy alternatives to solve the problem. With an adequate budget, the chances for policy makers to influence on sound policy decision-making process become good. A sound policy decision will always approve what, in light of

ascertainable scientific facts, can be expected to be an enhancement to what society regards as 'good life'. The issue of prioritizing policy recommendations as stated by the interviewees was due to an inadequate budget allocated to the education sector. However, the chance for the problem being given high priority in policy-making forum is markedly enhanced if the problem is perceived to have involved potentially catastrophic effects to people and property. Thus, the government would take away resources from other issues and reallocate to the present policy problem, which has appeared particularly in an accentuated form. Likewise, issues of politics of policy making were also raised by some interviewees among determinants of the power exercise during policy formulation process. Politics of policy making entail a kind of policy process shaped by competing narratives informed by divergent interests and articulated by different discourse coalition based on power as well as their claims of knowledge. They exist as a rational technical solution as well as a political instrument for producing, contesting, implementing, and reforming public policies.

Required;

- a) Analyse power bases that are cited in the case study (10 marks)
- b) Examine two determinants of power that are presented in the case study (5 marks)
- c) Assess five factors that could hinder the effectiveness of the policy in the case study (10 marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) Evaluate five power bases (10 marks)
- b) Define the term social power citing the four things it depends on (5 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Assess five theories of conflict (10 marks)
- b) Analyse the meaning of the term agency theory (5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Evaluate five derivative organizations in a social structure (5 marks)
- b) Examine the five parts of a basal structure (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Assess five forms of citizenship (10 marks)
- b) Explain the meaning of the term social beings as applies to human beings (5 marks)

QUESTION SIX

- a) Discuss five dimensions of social inequality (10 marks)
- b) Examine the Symbolic Interactionist Perspective in sociology (5 marks)