



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS, PEACE, LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE
NMPM 112: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE
END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS
NOVEMBER 2021
LECTURER: MRS.EUNICE BERE
DURATION: 5 HOURS

Instructions

1. Answer one question
2. All questions carry equal marks
3. Your answers will be submitted to anti- plagiarism check and failure will attract disqualification
4. Upload your answers via Moodle platform

QUESTIONS

1. Illustrate with examples how the concept of separation of powers between the three arms of the state; the executive, judiciary and the legislature is an effective tool for advancing democratic governance [100 marks]

2. You have been assigned by the Election Management Body (EMB) in your country to review their mandate and conduct of elections.

a) Critically review their existing framework highlighting strengths and weaknesses

[50 marks]

b) Suggest a proposal to enhance their effectiveness in election management [50 marks]

3. Read the following case study and answer questions below;

The death of Anna Machaya (15) during childbirth at an apostolic church shrine in the Bocha area of eastern Zimbabwe has drawn global attention to an African mega church that allows elderly men to marry girls as young as nine years old. Machaya died on July 15 at a Johane Marange Apostolic Church shrine. Her death, however, became known only three weeks later, and caused a global outcry that prompted the government to take action. Investigations revealed that Machaya was buried at the church's shrine barely two hours after her death, in accordance with the sect's doctrine. Despite suffering birth complications for days, Machaya was not taken to the hospital because the church's doctrine is opposed to modern medicine (including vaccines) and education.

"This is a clear case of gender-based violence, child sexual abuse and violation of the rights of the girl child," said Women Affairs Minister, Sithembiso Nyoni. "Culture and religion cannot be used to justify such practices, which destroy lives of girl children [...] denying them the right to education, healthcare and well-being, throwing the girls into vicious circles of poverty. Several online petitions demanding justice for Machaya prompted the police and the Zimbabwe Gender Commission to investigate the death. The investigation has led to the arrest of Hatirarami Momberume, the 26-year old 'husband' of the deceased teenager, on charges of rape arising from having sexual intercourse with a minor. Momberume faces up to ten years in jail." It is rape because I don't see a 14-year old giving in to sexual consent and also giving in to marriage," Nyoni said. "A 14-year (old) is

minor who should be taken care of by the church - by the adults - not to be sexually abused. While practices of child marriages are prevalent in most parts of Africa, largely due to cultural traditions, in Zimbabwe this trend is especially rife among some indigenous apostolic churches - an evangelical group that fuses Christian beliefs with traditional African cultures. Members of the apostolic sect justify this practice as a pre-emptive measure to “protect” the girls from falling into permanent impurity that comes with indulging in pre-marital sex. The United Nations in Zimbabwe condemned the continued culture of child marriages saying it “notes with deep concern and condemns strongly” the circumstances leading to Machaya’s death. “Sadly, disturbing reports of the sexual violation of under-age girls, including forced child marriages continue to surface and indeed this is another sad case,” the U.N. said in a statement. The global body, which has 25 agencies operating in the southern African nation, highlighted that one in three girls in Zimbabwe was likely to be married before reaching the age of 18. Church leaders going under the banner of the Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations (ZHOCD) have demanded that an independent national inquiry be made into cases of sexual abuse of women and girls, which are said to be prevalent in churches. “The case brings to the fore the vulnerability of children at the hands of religion and culture,” said a statement from ZHOCD, which groups various Christian religious forums that include the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, the Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops Conference and the Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe. “It is now common knowledge that women and girls remain vulnerable before religious and other powerful figures whom they expect to provide them with support especially in times of social, spiritual, and economic need.”[Article by Cyril Zenda, <https://www.fairplanet.org/story/teen%E2%80%99s-death-draws-attention-to-child-marriages-in-zimbabwe/>]

1.a) Illustrate how the theories of public opinion and media are applicable in this story

[30marks]

b) Discuss the effectiveness of media influence on the different stakeholders highlighted in this article

[20marks]

c) Prepare a presentation on how you can contribute, through various media platforms, towards the creation of an African movement to influence action on Gender Based Violence. [50marks]

End of Examination