Topics:

1. What is corruption?
2. Effects of corruption
3. Solutions to corruption
4. Real-life events about corruption
5. Persuasive essay about how people should be aware and go against corruption

Other contents:

* Short interview video of the members discussing about the effects of corruption
* Graphics

Corruption in the Philippines

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The Philippines; Our nation, known for its beautiful beaches, hospitable people, and diverse natural resources. To those looking for a cheap place to travel, this is the destination. Our country has great potential. However, there is more to what lies beyond the surface. Millions of Filipinos suffer from corruption every day. Year after year, we ask: when will poverty be alleviated? One of the big factors that contributes to poverty in Philippines is corruption, a problem that doesn’t seem to end. Because of these corruptions, funds are getting short for health, education, agriculture, and other important matters. Poverty in the Philippines seems to be a normal thing. Seeing men, women, and children living in the slums as we go to work or school has become a normal sight to our eyes.

According to a 2014 report by[Global Financial Integrity](http://www.gfintegrity.org/report/illicit-financial-flows-from-developing-countries-2004-2013/), the Philippines lost about $410.5 billion between 1960 and 2011 on illicit financial flow. In current exchange rates, the amount is about P19.34 trillion (without accounting for inflation). The vast majority of money flowing illegally into and out of the Philippines over the 52-year time span was done mostly through misinvoicing of trade. In effect, the P19.34 trillion lost to corruption could have been used for education, health or infrastructure. What happened to the Pearl of the Orient Sea? We have wasted so many years trying to make a change and yet nothing has happened. Each administration has been nothing but failure and more issues about corruption. It saddens me, as an individual of the youth that my parents and all other employees like them, have to pay taxes and see not progress at all.

We, as Filipino citizens, live in a country where deception and lies prevail. For those who are part of the Class E or people who reside in squatter areas, these numbers do not mean anything to them. They have been so used to this kind of lifestyle, that it has become comfortable. Although, the thought of being better off isn’t gone, they have accepted the truth.