Corruption

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Have you encountered a student paying his teacher just to have a higher grade? Or, in a company, that only promote people who perform personal favors for their boss? All of these are example of corruption. What is the first thing that comes into your mind when you see the word corruption? Of course, all of us has this thought of political corruption as what we’ve seen and experienced in our daily life. But, what is the real meaning of corruption? It has many different meaning for us. Corruption is an unconscionable advantage, profit or gain of injustice through the abuse of authority and power (Ubani 2016). In other words, it is the misuse of an entrusted power for private or personal gain. It is not healthy for a country to have corruption. Is corruption bad for humans? Yes, of course, because it violates human rights, and dispose justice. It affects people, society and the economy. People will have lack of quality in service, and justice will no longer be experienced by many. Society may become weak because of the frustration, apathy and lack of trust in the rulers. People may not even respect the officials of the government. Corruption also discourages people to work together in common good. It demands bribery, social inequality, poverty and insecurity. While in economy, it has a great possibility that the foreign investments will decrease. It leads to the depletion of national wealth, and unbalanced economic development. How can we avoid corruption? The first tool is “education.” We must be educated to be aware and understand what corruption is, and to fully know our rights as a human being. Also, we need to reform the government process and finance management. Promoting transparency, openness and professional accountability is also one of the solution. And lastly, empower the citizens. Our voice is the powerful tool that can help this corruption to vanish. Strengthening citizens demand for anti-corruption and empowering them to hold government accountable is a sustainable approach that helps to build mutual trust between citizens and government. As a voice of the many, be a fighter of corruption and do not follow dirty acts not only of the government, but also of some people who can be the root of corruption. You can start the fight within yourself. Be the change that the world wants and others will learn a lot from you and will follow you. Now, be the change!