**Be the change**

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Have you encountered a student paying his teacher just to have a higher grade? Or, in a company, that only uses their officers to to manipulate their positions for their personal gains?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, because it violates the right of being a moral human person, and it makes justice corruptible. 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. Building up citizen’s demand for anti-corruption and to strengthen their will to hold the government’s accountable is a sufficing approach for a better mutual understanding between the locals and the government. Being a voice to others, one should build up the strength to fight against corruption and to never allow yourselves to fall into dirty deeds. For those who are already within the grasp of dirty deeds there is still a chance to fight the conflict within yourself. Just like in the song of a legendary icon, Michael jackson’s man in the mirror, start with the man infront of the mirror, start the change within you and then goodness will follow to those who believe. Now, be the change!