

Democratic Deficit: The Dark Side of Weberian Bureaucracy in Nigeria

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Abstract

This article examines the Max Weber's theory of bureaucracy and its application to the Nigerian public institutions. Through this perspective, the paper identifies the discontents and problems associated with Weberian model of bureaucracy in Nigeria, and argued that these dark sides is associated with lack of democracy in the decision making processes of public organisations. In this regards, there was no room for democratic input in decision making processes, and employees were bound to carry out a policy once it had been hierarchical imposed. The paper however envisions that strengthening democratic values in the management of public service will help to tackle the moribund challenges associated with weak institutional mechanisms, corruption, wastefulness and inefficiency, and usher capacity building and strong institutional framework that will enhance the ability of Nigerian public institutions to achieve its developmental goals and handle the problems associated with modern governance of large scale, diversity, and technical complexities in a sustainable way.